



Abernethy Primary School

Jan/Feb Newsletter

2014



Dear Parents,
Christmas and New Year are a distant memory now as our busy term continues. Classes have exciting experiences coming up linking to their learning.

P1 & P2 are focusing on life in the past and learning about this through researching Castle life.

P3 has worked closely with the nursery to learn about Chinese New Year and will be moving on to look at Inventors. a trip to Sensations planned. They continue with a block of Forest School work.

P4 are also delving into the past, by looking at Scottish history, Wallace & Bruce.

P5 are looking at the human body and having a science focus this block.

P6 have a very exciting time coming up as they are learning to become film makers as part of their Living Communities context. They have the opportunity to work with a real filmmaker to learn how to make and edit make a short film about their community. This film will go all the way to South Africa eventually to a link school there. In February Perth High School will be visiting South Africa and will be taking some of the Scottish poems and letters produced by P6 to establish the link with Bogani Primary School in a Black township in South Africa.

P7 are also having a science focus after their successful Burns topic.

Busy, busy, busy!



Achievements

- P6 children have been successful in entering the William Soutar competition. Our school had the highest amount of entries from any school. We have received a £100 book token as a prize. Well done to Jack Booth, Rachel Duncan and Ella MacElnea from P6 who were finalists. What an achievement out of 400 entries!
- Congratulations to our Burns competition winners from P4 -P7 who performed in front of a judging panel from the Abernethy Burns Society and the whole school! Winners received book tokens. The overall winner was Imogen Graham from P7. Well done!
- P1-P3 held their own mini competition this year and the winners were: Dean Thorne (P2) and Anna Smith (P1)
- P6 & P7 held a successful Burns Supper for friends and family. This was a great success. Well done to for all the hard work in planning and preparing for the event. It certainly paid off! Local businesses kindly donated to this event.
- Congratulations to Cameron Rodger(P7) and Heather Rodger(P5) who came first in their category for Scots poetry recitation at the Perth Burns Club annual competition. Heather also won first place for fiddle playing!
- Mrs Livingstone recently received her 20 year service award with Perth & Kinross Council - congratulations!
- Mrs Hepburn was successful in achieving her PGCE in Physical Education, well done!
- Well done to P3 & the morning nursery children who held an assembly to share their learning about Chinese

Library

As you know we are raising funds to develop our school library. Book shelves have been bought and more book storage and seating have been ordered. If you have any **good quality** books that you may be finished with at home we would welcome them for our library. Fiction or non-fiction welcome!

PARENT COUNCIL

The next Parent Council Meeting will be held on 5th February at 7pm. All welcome.

Reminder that tickets are available for the Fundraiser event, 80s Disco on 8th March. Please hand envelope to office. Thank you.

Bits and Pieces

- Four pupils will be entering the school gymnastics competition and we wish them well.
- House Captains have been arranging Fun clubs once a week at lunchtimes for different classes. Activities range from paper activities to music and parachute games. This is developing their leadership skills as well as providing an alternative activity during the week for playtimes.
- The House Captains from Farg held their first House Assembly this term, each House will have the opportunity to hold their own assembly. This will be to look at our School Values and Aims and ways in which each House can gain more points. This year Housepoints earned will count towards the House points collected on Sports Day!
- The Communications team have been busy learning how to access GLOW and get blogging.
- The Pupil Council have collated the pupil questionnaires and will be sharing their findings with the school. They will also look at what steps we need to take to take forward improvements and address some of the issues arising.
- P2 will be starting a block of football fitness in February as part of the Tesco Challenge with SFA coaches. They will have weekly sessions during school as part of their PE programme resulting in a mini tournament at MaDiarmid Park.
- P6 & P7 teams will be participating in the Perth & Kinross Cross Country event on 18th February.
- Can I please respectfully remind parents that there should be no parking in the turning circle area. This is only a drop off zone and area for taxis and buses. We are a Health Promoting School and encourage walking and cycling to school. Children who are walking or cycling to and from school need to be able to do so safely. Please be considerate and park away from the school car park and turning circle.
- Our Christmas Service collection from Church and the Nativity raised £185 for Macmillan. Many thanks to all who contributed.
- Lost Property - we have a number of items that have been in the box since after the summer holidays. If you have missing items could you please come in and check, if not these items will be put in a "Ragbag"

Nursery Staffing update

We welcome Michelle Duncan (ECP) to our nursery in the afternoon sessions as our numbers have increased beyond 20. We are now a 20/30 nursery with capacity for 30/30. We are pleased to announce that Wendy Kemp will be joining the nursery team shortly as our fulltime ECP. Miss Kemp hopes to start soon, bringing her expertise and skills from her previous posts. We look forward to welcoming her to the Abernethy team. We also welcome Marie O'Connor as our peripatetic nursery teacher who will visit the nursery once a week.

Dates for Diary

Parent Council Meeting: 5th February 2013, 7pm, all welcome
Parent Council 80s Disco: 8th March, Williamson Hall

School returns	Monday 6 January 2014	
	Wednesday 19 February 2014	<i>In-Service Day (4)</i>
	Thursday 20 February 2014	<i>Occasional Holiday (1)</i>
	Friday 21 February 2014	<i>Occasional Holiday (2)</i>
Term Ends	Friday 4 th April 2014, 3.30pm	
	Spring Holiday	
Start	Monday 7 th April 2014	
	Monday 21 st April 2014	Easter Monday holiday
End	Tuesday 22 nd April 2014	In-service day (5)
	Summer Term	
Start - Pupils	Wednesday 23 rd April 2014	
	Monday 5 May 2014	<i>May Day Holiday (to be confirmed)</i>
End	Thursday 26 June 2013	