



Bishopton Primary School

Newsletter January 2017



Dear Parent, Carer,

Welcome to our January newsletter. I hope you all had a restful break. Everyone here has settled back in to routine and we are looking forward to lots of hard work and learning in the coming weeks. We have been welcoming our new starts into school for the first time as it was P1 enrolment earlier this month. If anyone has still to enrol please contact the school office as soon as possible.

Staffing

Mrs Polonis has been in touch to say she has settled well to life in the USA. We have welcomed Miss Cauley to our staff and she will continue in P6P for the remainder of the session.

Staffing, particularly in times of staff absence, continues to be an issue nationally. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to remind you that, in times of emergency, classes may be rearranged temporarily to ensure all pupils have access to a teacher.

Parking

Parking continues to present an issue at both ends of the school day.

We have had visits from Health and Safety and the police to help us address these issues. Please continue to support us in our efforts to keep our children safe by keeping the zigzag area clear, ensuring children are not walking through the car park area or parking in a manner that forces pupils to cur between parked cars.

Please also be considerate of our neighbours and avoid blocking access routes or residents' driveways.

Roots and Wings Cafe

Our intergenerational café kicks off today with Pupils from P1 hosting, assisted by the P7 house captains. If you are aware of any older members of our community who might like to come along, please get in touch. Future dates for the café are 22nd Feb, 22nd Mar and 31st May. Each café will be hosted by a different year group. Our pupils are very much looking forward to this and we will update you

Festive Events

A big thank you to everyone who supported our school events over the festive period. Your generosity at these events has benefitted both the school and charity.

£280 was donated to Save the Children as a result of the Christmas Jumper day. £500 was donated to Erskine Hospital from the donations at the Nativity performances. The school fund also benefitted to the sum of £500. This will be used to subsidy trips and school events throughout the remainder of the session.

BPPC

Once again our thanks go to the BPPC for their help and support over the festive period. They supplied goods for the infant parties and the P4-7 cinema event and organised a very successful Fayre. This is a small group who work tirelessly to support the school and are always happy to welcome new members. If you feel you could support the BPPC in some small way please come along to the next meeting on Monday 20th Feb at 7.00 p.m.

Dates for the Diary

02.02.15 - BPPC Meeting

06.02.15 - Teacher In-service

19.02.15 - February Holiday

10.02.15 - February Holiday

11.02.15 - Pupils return

12.02.15 - BPPC Valentine Disco

20.02.15 - Basketball

Festival- Park Mains High School

31.03.15 - Parents Evening

01.04.15 - Parents Twilight

Mobile Phones

We have had a rise in the number of pupils wishing to take their mobile phones into the playground at playtime and lunchtime. Renfrewshire council have a policy on mobile phones which is noted below.

The benefits of mobile phones are recognised. Many young people and their parents regard them as an essential means of communication. Mobile phones can continue to be brought into schools however the following limitations will apply in Renfrewshire schools and establishments:

- All phones should be turned off and kept out of sight during the school day within the school campus.
- Photographing or recording of sound or images of staff, other pupils or visitors to the school is not allowed at any time within the school campus or on school transport.
- Mobile phones may be confiscated where these rules are broken.
- Any recordings made on school premises or school transport found on confiscated phones will have to be deleted on their return.

- Any photographs or recordings of staff in any situation, whether taken on school premises or elsewhere, found on confiscated phones will have to be deleted from phones on their return.

- Education and leisure services expects that schools will, through normal collegiate procedures, develop or review existing policies on the use of mobiles phones that take account of the views of all staff, parents and pupils.

- Schools should ensure that pupils, parents and staff are aware that should a pupil breach the policy they will be disciplined in line with the school's positive behaviour/discipline policy.

- Individual school policies should clearly state for the benefit of staff, pupils, parent and visitors any variations from the restrictions on use of mobile phones set out below.

- Pupils and parents should be notified that mobile phones will be confiscated where these limitations are breached.

- An increasing range and variety of mobile phones possess the ability to access the Internet and to use Bluetooth technology to communicate. These technologies provide unparalleled sophistication and complexity which can provide access to a wealth of online resources and possibilities. Pupils and parents should be aware that this also leaves pupils open to dangers such as Cyberbullying, grooming and access to inappropriate material. Reference should be made to Renfrewshire's anti-bullying policy for further guidance in this area.

- Staff should not delete photographs or recordings from confiscated mobile phones.

When staff confiscate mobile phones or other devices they should ensure that these are retained in a safe place that cannot be accessed by others. This may be a lockable drawer or cupboard, a base area or a delegated area in the school office. Confiscated mobile phones should normally be passed to the school office or senior member of staff as soon as possible after confiscation.

In response to this policy, pupils will not be permitted to access phones during playtime and lunchtime. Mobile phones should be stored in school bags or handed into the school office for safekeeping.

Parent Helpers

We are always on the lookout for parent helpers to assist in variety of ways within the school. This may be accompanying a class on a visit to the library, sharing your skills at masterclass, attending an educational visit or helping in the school garden.

If you would like to become involved in any way big or small please contact Mr Collins and we will be glad to welcome your support.

Burns

January sees a focus on Scots culture within the school. We hope you have enjoyed helping with the Scots poetry and learning a bit about our home culture. We will round off these events when our P7 host their ever popular Burns Supper for their parents and invited guests and also at our Burns assembly on Friday when our poetry champions will be crowned.

Yours sincerely

Wendy McNaught

Head Teacher