



Bishopton Primary School

Newsletter November 2018

Dear Parent, Carer,

Welcome to our November newsletter. As always the classes have been very busy participating in many exciting learning opportunities. We are in to the season of dark mornings and afternoons. Please help us to ensure our pupils are safe walking to and from school by wearing light or reflective clothing on the journey.

Head Lice

From time to time we receive reports of head lice within the school. Please be vigilant and check your child regularly. Information on how to spot and treat head lice can be found at <https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/skin-hair-and-nails/head-lice-and-nits>

Holidays in Term Time

We continue to see an increased number of requests for holidays during term time which is having a negative effect on our overall attendance figures. Renfrewshire Council is concerned at the increasing trend in the number of pupils being taken on holiday by their parents during the school session. As non-attendance during term time is a major contributory cause of underachievement every effort should be made to avoid family holidays during term. Holidays taken during the school session will be categorised as

unauthorised absence. We recognise that in some circumstances holiday during term time are unavoidable. In such instances please contact myself directly and a decision may be taken to record the absence as authorised.

School Uniform

As we have already welcomed a number of new pupils into our school since the start of term here is a reminder of our school uniform policy.

Navy blue/red school fleece, with school badge; **navy blue** or **grey** smart trousers/ skirt/pinafore with black school shoes; plain shirt with school tie or red school polo shirt and navy school sweatshirt; red school polo shirt, plain shorts and soft shoes/trainers for PE. Please note that, with the exception of the polo shirt, children are expected to wear their P.E. kit only for P.E. lessons, and to change back to their uniform afterwards.

Non uniform items (including leavers hoodies) should be removed before entering class and left in the cloakroom areas. We appreciate your cooperation in this.

Dogs in the Playground

Regretfully we have had a number of incidences of dog's dirt in the playground and on the pavements around the

school. As you know this can be very dangerous to young people and adults as it can cause disease. The council actively discourages parents from bringing dogs to school and dogs are not allowed in the playground. As well as the issue of mess some of our pupils are wary of dogs therefore can I remind you that you should not be bringing your dog into the school playground.

Cost of the School Day Visits

We like to enhance the pupils' learning experiences in school by offering a wide range of educational visits. These enhance the topics that are being covered in class. Each visit is subsidised by the school fund but unfortunately due to the rising costs of transport it is not always possible to keep the cost per pupil under £6 as had been done in the past. We will strive to give parents as much notice as possible of upcoming visits. If you wish to discuss this matter please call the office and make an appointment to see myself.

Wet Weather

On very wet mornings we will endeavour to open the doors at 8.50 to allow the pupils to come in

and stand in their cloakroom areas until the bell goes at 9.00. However, we cannot always guarantee that staffing will be at a level where we can supervise all children. Many of our staff live a distance from the school and the weather may also be preventing them from arriving early at school, therefore a decision will need to be made on the day. If the weather is really bad we would appreciate your help in minimising the effects by arriving at school just in time for the bell.

Book Week

As part of Book Week P1 will receive their Book Bug bag this week. P2&3 will receive their Read, Write, Count bags. Ideas for parents using these bags at home can be found using the links below.

<http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/bookbug/bookbug-bags>

<http://scottishbooktrust.com/reading/parents/read-write-count-bags>

Walk to School

As you will be aware as part of the Living Streets project we have a focus on walking to school. As part of this our Junior Road Safety officers have been out before and after school participating in traffic surveys. They will be analysing this and sending out a leaflet in the coming work.

Thank you to Mrs Davidson and to our parents Ms Grant and Mrs Joannides who supported our pupils with this.

Anti Bullying Policy

We are very pleased to be working with Brian Donnelly, formerly RespectMe, to update and revise our anti bullying policy. Brian has been gathering the views of pupils, staff and parents to help shape the direction of our new policy.

Thank you to all the parents who attended our events. We really appreciate your input in this very important matter.

If you were unable to attend and would still like to add your views please use the link below and fill in our short survey.

We will report back in the new year on the results of this consultation.

<https://bit.ly/2P3paMq>

Tummy Bugs

A reminder that if a child is absent from school due to sickness or diarrhoea, the recommendation is that the child should not return to school for 48 hours after their last bout. This is to help prevent the spread of infection across the school.

If your child develops an illness and you are unsure as to whether or not they should attend school please contact the office and they will advise on the current recommendations.

Pupil Profiles

As part of reporting to parents pupil profiles will be sent home shortly. If we have an email address for you they will be emailed out. If not you will receive a paper copy.

Please contact us if you have not received your child's profile by Friday 14th December.

Engineering Visits

As part of our partnership with Primary Engineer, Miss Burnett arranged for a number of engineers to come along and speak to classes about the various aspects of engineering. Thank you to all who came along and shared their expertise the pupils found it fascinating and I am sure many have been inspired to become the engineers of the future.

Staffing

Congratulations to Mrs McKechnie who was successful at interview for the Senior Clerical post within the school office. Also congratulation to Mrs Nugent who was successful at interview for the cluster Transition teacher post. Mrs Nugent will cover this post half of the week and we are delighted to retain her here for the other half of the week.

Dates for the Diary

17.12.18- P4-7 Movie Afternoon

18.12.18- Nativity 1

19.12.18- Nativity 2

20.12.18- Nativity 3

Yours Sincerely

Wendy McNaught
Head Teacher