



Braidwood Primary School

October Newsletter 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families well. It was lovely to see so many of our families at Parents' Night recently. After the October holiday we will be inviting you in for our Open Morning to work alongside your child in class. More information regarding this will follow, but keep the morning of Wednesday 19th November free if possible. We have had a busy first term back and have lots to look forward to in the run up to Christmas. Please enjoy reading about what's been happening in school and note some dates for your diary.

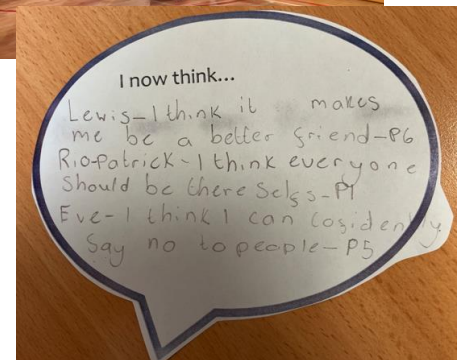
Celebrating Success – 'Hear Their Voice' Award

We are delighted to have been awarded our next Attachment Award – 'Hear Their Voice'. This recognises all the work that goes on in school where pupils are asked their views, opinions and how they are involved in making changes within our school. Well done everyone!

Rookie Rockstars

We had an amazing time over a few afternoons working with the Rookie Rockstars. Pupils enjoyed singing, dancing, laughing at staff doing challenges, and learning about friendships and being yourself confidently.

The evening show was a wonderful night, and the pupils performed brilliantly up on stage. We hope you enjoyed the night as much as we did!



Pupil Voice and leadership

Our School Captains and House Captains have now been elected. The School Captains have been busy gathering the views of the pupils. Our Captains will be taking on the role of 'Young Leaders of Learning' and have some exciting work ahead of them with Our Lady and St Anne's Primary in Hamilton.

School Captains

Baker McCulloch
Amy McMaster

Vice School Captains

Llyr Davies
Alexa McIvor
Logan McFarlane

Baird House

Captain – James Benyon
Vice Captain – Beth Bridges

Burns House

Captain – Elise Graham
Vice Captain – Lochlan Harrop

Murray House

Captain – Andrew McCafferty
Vice Captain – Jorjie McMillan

Wallace House

Captain – Chloe Smith
Vice Captain – Rosie Stuart

Be the best you can be!

Improvement Planning - Participatory Budget

The PB group are up and running and have gathered views of the staff and pupils. Thank you to everyone who returned the slip with your choice of project to be funded from our Participatory Budget. These votes have been added to yours, and the winning project is 'class trips'.

Inquiry Based Learning

For the first few weeks of school each class worked on a 'Big Question'. Each class were given the same question and could explore it in any way the pupils decided! They were asked to go outside and then look up. The question was 'What is up above you?'. The range of ideas from the pupils was amazing. They then voted as a class on which one to learn more about. The classes chose to inquire about:

Primary 1/2 - How are rainbows are made?

Primary 2/3 - How do aeroplanes and drones work?

Primary 4 - How were the planets in our solar system made?

Primary 5 - How games are made and online safety.

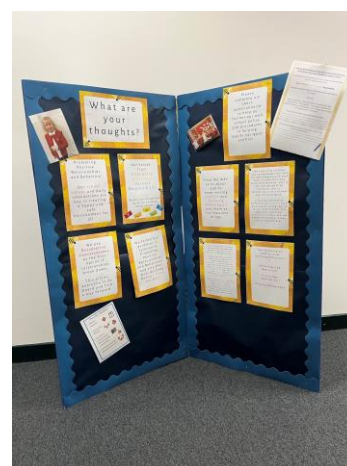
Primary 6 - Different culture's views on life after death.

Primary 7 - Investigate dandelion fairies!



Treat Me Well

If you attended Parents' Night, you may remember seeing this board in the hall. We shared information on South Lanarkshire Council's 'Treat Me Well' anti bullying guidelines. Thank you to those who managed to complete the short questionnaire regarding supporting pupils with conflict and bullying behaviours. This will be available to see again at our Open Morning in November, and another chance to give your views if you wish.



Parent Council

A huge thanks to everyone who managed along to the Parent Council meeting, and to those new members for joining us. At the Parent Council AGM the following committee was elected.

Chair Person - Claire Mackenzie

Secretary- Lorna McFarlane

Treasurer - Sharon Frame

Be the best you can be!



The Parent Council have arranged a Halloween Disco for all pupils on Wednesday 29th October. There is still plenty time to return the slip if your child would like to attend. The Parent Council works hard to plan and lead events over the year which raise funds for the pupils. These funds are used to pay for things such as Christmas party snacks and prizes. Your support is hugely appreciated, and if you are able to help out at any events over the year please get in touch.

Class Photographs

John Wilson Photography are coming back out to school on Thursday 20th November to take photographs of each class in the school. Please send pupils in on this day wearing full school uniform. Thanks.

Pupil Absences

As we get further into the Autumn/Winter season, the number of pupils absent with colds, illnesses etc starts to increase. Please notify the office in the morning if your child is going to be absent from school. This way we can ensure we know they are safe and understand why they are not at school. This allows the absence to be recorded appropriately. If we have not heard why they are absent a member of staff will call you to check their whereabouts. Thanks for your support with this.

We know and understand that ill health and injuries do happen but we always monitor our absences across the school and will get in touch with you if your **child's attendance rate drops below 90%** or if they are **often late** for school.

100% Attendance	0 Days missed	Gives a child and young person the best chance of success and ensures that their full potential is achieved
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 week and 4 days learning missed	Is likely to make it harder to achieve full potential and secure the best possible outcomes
90% Attendance	19 days of Absence 3 weeks and 4 days of learning missed	
85% Attendance	27 Days of Absence 5 weeks and 3 days of Learning Missed Almost half a term missed	Is likely to impact significantly on learning and progress which can lead to poorer outcomes in achievement, wellbeing and social and emotional development
80% Attendance	36 days of Absence 7 weeks and 3 days of learning missed Half of a term missed	
75% Attendance	45 Days of Absence 9 weeks and 1 day of learning missed Almost 1 whole term missed	

Be the best you can be!

Harvest and Foodbank Collection

We will be collecting for the Foodbank from now through to Christmas. Any donations you can make would be gratefully received. Please send donations in to school with your child.

We welcomed Lesley Ewing to school last week to lead our Harvest Service. Pupils have been discussing Harvest and linking it to the Rights of the Child.

**Theme:
Harvest/
food banks**


October Rights Of The Month

Article 6 (Life, Survival & Development)
The right to be alive.

Article 24 (Health, Water, Food, Environment)
The right to health care, safe drinking water, nutritious food and to learn about being healthy.

Article 27 (Food, clothing, a safe home)
The right to a safe place to live, appropriate clothing and food to eat.



Thank you for all your support this school term. We hope you have a lovely October holiday with your family.

Best wishes,

Gwen Sinclair

Mrs Sinclair
Head Teacher

Dates for your Diary

If parents and carers are invited along to a school event, it will state 'Parents invited' next to the event.



Friday 10th October- Taekwondo sessions for all classes
Friday 10th October – Finish for October Week Holiday
Monday 20th October – Return to school
Wednesday 29th October – Halloween Disco
Monday 10th November – Inservice Day (school closed to pupils)
Tuesday 11th November – Anti Bulling Week (activities in school)
Wednesday 19th November – Open Morning (info to follow)
Thursday 20th November – Class Photographs Day

Be the best you can be!