



Borestone Primary School Newsletter



May 2018

Dates for your diary:

May

3rd—Parent Digital Workshop (Benefits of GLOW)
2.00-3.00pm or 6.00-7.00pm
4th—P1T Class assembly & Celebrating Success
Wk beg 14th—Languages and Digital focus week
9th—McTuff Assault Course (Parent Council)
16th—Class photographs (change of date)
17th—Parent Digital Workshop (What is Computational Thinking and how can I help my child?) 2.00-3.00pm or 6.00-7.00pm
25th—pm nursery sports 2.00-3.30pm
29th—am nursery sports 10.30-12.00

June

6th—School Sports pm & family picnic (note change of date from original calendar)
6th—Education Awards Finals, Glasgow
8th—2.15pm Celebrating Success Assembly
13th—Summer Fete 3.30-4.30pm
14th & 15th—Bannockburn High School transition
20th-22nd—Stirling High School transition
22nd—P1 Transition & children meet new teachers
27th—Nursery Garden Party (all children)
28th—Leavers' Assembly 1.30pm
29th—Borestone's Got Talent
29th—close 1.30pm

Information for full year is on calendar handed out in August. This is also available on our website.

Dear Parent/Carer,

It's been another very busy month at Borestone, and even though we only had two full weeks of April in school, we have loads to share with you.

We had our judging visit for Scottish Education Awards and will find out the result at the finals on Wednesday 6th June. Thank you to all those who returned questionnaires, as this helps our planning for next session's Improvement Plan. We've shared some of the key messages from the consultation in this newsletter.

I hope you have a good long weekend.

MacTuff Kids Wednesday 6th May

Our Parent Council have arranged for all children to take part in a fantastic sponsored MacTuff obstacle challenge.

It may be messy!
Children should come to school in old clothes with other clothes in a bag to change into afterwards.

Remember to return permission forms—without signed forms, children can't take part.

You can find out more and watch a video:
<http://mactuff.co.uk/outreach/>

Let us know asap if you need a replacement form.

Class photographs have been postponed to 16th May for obvious reasons!

Parents are welcome to come along and cheer on their children.

Timings are approximate.

9.15	Nursery am
9.40	P1T
10.00	P1Dy
10.20	P2
10.50	P3/2
11.10	P3
11.30	P5
1.15	Nursery pm
1.45	P5/4
2.05	PP6
2.25	P7

Keep up to date with us on



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<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/borestoneprimary/>

Annual Questionnaire

Thank you to everyone who completed our parent questionnaire. We would also like to thank you again for your level of support and commitment to the school. Working together with you with a shared aim of what we want to achieve for children undoubtedly improves outcomes for them. Some of the comments parents made about what we do well at Borestone were:

"Communication, providing after school activities and opportunities for children, open door for parents to speak to head teacher, friendly and inviting atmosphere."

"I feel Borestone gives my child the opportunities to further her learning and develop new skills to be the best she can."

"Communicate with parents. The shared learning events are particularly informative. My child loves being able to show what she has been learning."

"Treating children as individuals. Variety of learning styles"

You reported that you feel your children are making good progress with learning. 93% agreed or strongly agreed with this for both reading and numeracy and 94% for writing. We were delighted that 98% of parents now say they know some things they can do to support their child's numeracy development and that 88% of children are able to tell you how they use digital technology for learning. There's also a real increase in the number of children benefiting from wider opportunities—79% and in numbers who know about GLOW—89%.

We asked what we should consider as our key priorities this session by asking you to order what you thought was most important. We tallied these up by allocating 5 points for what parents rated most important down to 1 point for 5th most important. Scores were:

Continued focus on raising attainment in literacy and numeracy.	317	3^{rd*}
Increasing opportunities for wider achievement.	203	5 th
Increasing opportunities for outdoor learning.	211	4 th
Introduction of whole school approach to improving emotional wellbeing.	462	1^{st*}
Reviewing approaches to homework.	137	6 th
Further developing play-based approaches to learning in P1.	67	7 th
Increased involvement of children in assessing their learning.	410	2^{nd*}
Increasing links to world of work across the school.	34	8 th

Following our School Improvement Planning day this week, involving school and nursery staff and our Parent Council Chair, we've agreed our priorities for next session will be:

LITERACY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Embedding Talk for Writing approaches across nursery and school• Broadening children's reading experiences• Linking Talk for Writing with Reflective Reading approaches• Read Write Inc phonics for P1 and P2
HEALTH AND WELLBEING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implementation of "Emotionworks" across nursery and school to support positive emotional wellbeing• Further work with Educational Psychology service on brain development, attachment and resilience• Increasing access to outdoor learning• Further developing wider achievement opportunities
CHILDREN'S INVOLVEMENT IN LEARNING	<p>This is a Stirling Learning Community priority, we will work with other schools and nurseries to agree a consistent approach. This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review of Learning Journey/Learning Logs/GLOW blogs• Review of homework policy• Consultation with children, parents and staff• Work with children on evaluating their learning

Some parents suggested other things they thought we could improve on. We'll give more feedback on this and what we plan to do in relation to suggestions in the June newsletter.

Nursery News

Powerful Play/Language is Fun Together Project (LiFT)

Thank you to all families who came along and supported their children at the latest Powerful Play/LiFT workshop. Feedback from parents tells us they found them useful to support their child's play and language and would like them to continue next session.



Transition activities



All families of preschool children have received details of transition activities. P5 and P6 buddies have started to visit the nursery children to get to know them. Nursery children are enjoying their

visits.

Play on Pedals

Mrs Poole has completed her Play on Pedals training and Miss Taylor will be trained during this month. They will be practising these new skills with ante-preschool children whilst pre-schoolers are on transition visits.



Sports Day

We have started preparing for our nursery sports days. Our daily mile has increased our stamina and we are now learning about racing each other in the school field.

Caterpillars and the Garden



Our garden has sprung into life now the warmer, sunnier weather is with us. We are busy planting seeds and plants and exploring all the minibeasts we are finding. We are still thinking about story telling and The Very Hungry Caterpillar and we have ordered our own painted lady caterpillars. We will watch them grow and change.

Kodaly Music

Clare from Kodaly Music is with us for four weeks. We are enjoying learning new songs, taking turns listening and displaying our sense



Think Dance

After weeks of rehearsals Primary 5/4 recently performed on the stage at the Macrobert Art Centre! The theme of the dance was 'The Scottish Wars of Independence' an exciting routine that consisted of marching, dancing, battles and remembrance of all who lost their lives.

"It was an amazing experience" Ellie

"We were brilliant" Jordan

"I was so proud of all the children, I had tears in my eyes" - parent.

P5/4 were the final act of the 10th anniversary of THINK DANCE and they certainly ended the show with a superb performance.

Many thanks to Angela Hunter and all from Active Stirling for their hard work and support. All the children had an unforgettable experience.

P3 Football Festival

Following a number of in school training sessions with Ben from Active Stirling, P3 recently gathered with other schools from our learning community to participate in a football festival.

Despite the showery weather everyone had a great time taking part in football based activities and games. There was lots of good sportsmanship on display and everyone showed a great ability to follow instructions.

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P4 Cricket

P4 have been enjoying taking part in cricket taster sessions with Active Stirling. We have worked on team building games and will begin to build skills in batting and catching.

"I like trying to bat the ball" Olivia

Parent Council – May 2018

We are VERY EXCITED that the **Mactuff Kids Obstacle course** will be at Borestone Primary School for this year's **Sponsored Event on Wednesday 9th May**. Please check school bags for sponsor forms, if you haven't received this information please speak to your class teacher. The Mactuff Kids course will be set up in the school grounds; it is fully adjustable in height – and every child from nursery to P7 who has handed in a signed **Declaration of Participation and Waiver** will be given an opportunity to join in. Please sponsor your child to take part; the money raised will go towards new Digital Technology in school as well as to support activities and resources for whole school learning. You can find a short video to get an idea of what the course will be like (WOW!) on our facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/BorestoneParents>

As you may know, Borestone Climbing Club is run by a group of volunteer parents who have been trained by ClimbScotland and are members of Mountaineering Scotland. From August to April the club were able to offer all children from P1-P3 an opportunity to take part in Fab Friday Climbing Skills. This term Borestone Climbing Club is offering a Tuesday lunch time club session on the Traverse Wall at school; all children from P4-P7 have been invited to join the sessions; and there may be availability for the P1-P3 to drop-in on a Tuesday lunchtime too.

We are very pleased to be able to invite all families who have children attending gymnastics on a Wednesday after school to make use of our school library before and during the gym class, bring your own snack, read a story from one of our books and enjoy some quiet play; all siblings very welcome. The library was renovated last year and is a lovely comfortable space to relaxing in; it will be available from 3:15-5:45pm on a Wednesday for family use. If using the library at this time, we ask that you please use the disabled toilets near the P2 classroom. Please note that children will need to be accompanied by a responsible adult; this is not a childcare service.

And finally, we are delighted to let you know that Borestone Parent Council have recently been featured as a Success Story on ParentKind's website (Formerly PTA UK). We'd like to pass on a big thank you to all our parents for everything you do: digging us out of the snow, responding to questionnaires, volunteering for school trips and clubs, attending meetings, supporting us on facebook and twitter...etc... the list is endless. For anyone's who is interested a link to the full article is available on our facebook page.

If you have any comments, questions or ideas, please do get in touch with us via email or come along to our **next Parent Council meeting on Monday, 4th June, 7:00-8:30pm in school** - everyone is welcome.

Many thanks for your support!
Lucy Fraser

Follow us on:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BorestoneParent/

Twitter: [@BorestoneParent](https://twitter.com/BorestoneParent)

Language Week - 14th to 18th May

The whole school will celebrate cultures and languages from around the globe during the forthcoming language week.

Using the upcoming World Cup as a context, each class randomly drew a country to focus their learning on. The allocation is as follows:

P1T — Costa Rica
P2 — Tunisia
P3 — Morocco
P5/4 — Uruguay
P6 — Belgium
P7JS — Senegal

P1YD — Colombia
P3/2 — Argentina
P4 — Mexico
P5 — Peru
P7H — France

Children will find out about their country, participate in cookery sessions, learn a song, poem or dance, create art inspired by their country and use simple language phrases in either French or Spanish. Learning will be shared across classes with a showcase event at the end of the week.

P4 Triathlon Festival

P4 had a wonderful time when they gathered together with other schools from our local community to take part in 'P4 Triathlon Festival'.

Everyone had a great time and displayed some fabulous listening skills, commendable sportsmanship and outstanding behaviour!!!

"The P4 triathlon was awesome and I just want to do it again" Reece.



"I had a great time playing games with children from other schools and I even made some new friends" Emma.



Enterprise Group

Once again this term, the Enterprise group has been working incredibly hard. After our very successful bake sale in February, each member of the Enterprise Group was allocated a budget and asked to think of an idea which they could make to take forward to our Enterprise Market. The ideas included slime, sweetie pots, pom poms, Guess the Teddy Birthday, Guess the Sweets in the jar, biscuit decorating and funky photo competition.

A grand total of £116 pounds was raised which we have donated to the Lunchtime Club to purchase resources. This term we have had a fun session making pancakes to celebrate our hard work so far and will be continuing to explore different aspects of Enterprise over the coming weeks.

We are planning a great book giveaway to clear out the remaining books from the book sale. Pupils from the school and nursery will be invited to come along on the afternoon of Fri 18th May to help themselves to a book or two. We will be starting to create some products for our stall at the Summer Fayre, where we will also be selling some pre-loved good quality toys.

We hope to see you there!

Camera Trapping Project

A group of Primary 1-3 children have been working with Mrs Wells and Laura Livingstone (Bannockburn Heritage Centre) to create a three minute documentary about the animals that live in our school grounds.

This is part of a national competition and the children submitted their entry on April 30th. The children have used an infrared camera in the playground to capture their videos. They then created their documentary using iMovie on the iPads.



Buddy Training

Primary 5 and 6 children have gone through a rigorous application process to become our buddies for session 2018-2019. They applied for the jobs, completed an initial training session with Mrs Lochore and successful applicants then went on to do a further buddy training session with a speech and language therapist to work on how they can communicate effectively with their buddies.

These sessions went very well and we are positive that this years buddies will be an outstanding bunch. Over the last few weeks they have been visiting the nursery in small groups and have been demonstrating their new skills very well.



Digital Schools Award

Two of our Digital Leaders (names chosen out of the hat) went with Mrs Lochore on Tuesday 1st of May to collect our Digital Schools Award from Shirley Anne Somerville—The minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science.



Advice for Parents from NSPCC—Fortnite:Battle Royale

We have been made aware of concerns about this game via the local Child Protection Committee. Although it carries an Age 12 rating, are aware that there are a number of Borestone children under 12 playing the game. We hope that the information below is helpful to parents.

The NSPCC and O2 have launched new advice for parents of young people playing the multiplayer action survival game **Fortnite: Battle Royale**. It comes amid concerns over a function in **Fortnite** which automatically allows users to speak to other players through voice and text chat functions. It means children can be contacted by anyone else who is playing the game.

Users can disable voice chat in the game via the setting menu, but the text chat function cannot be turned off. Research from NSPCC and O2 this week reveals that that one in four children have been contacted online by someone they don't know. The research is based on reviews by children and parents of the most popular apps, sites and games currently on the market, featured on the Net Aware app and website.

Today's Net Aware advice on Fortnite warns parents the game features cartoon violence, where players can use a variety of weapons, such as guns and axes, to kill other players, despite being rated as suitable for players aged 12+ by The App Store.

The NSPCC and O2 are offering parents the following advice:

Talk to your child regularly about what they are doing online and how to stay safe. Let them know they can come to you or another trusted adult if they're feeling worried or upset by anything they have seen. You can use our [conversation starters](#) to support you when starting these conversations.

- Explore your child's online activities together. Understand why they like using certain apps, games or websites and make sure they know what they can do to keep themselves safe.

Agree your own rules as a family when using sites, apps and games. You can use our [Family Agreement](#) template to help you get started.

- Manage your technology and use the privacy and parental control settings available to keep your child safe.

Laura Randall, NSPCC's associate head of child safety online, said "Apps, sites, and games such as Fortnite: Battle Royale can be great opportunities for young people to play and engage online.

"However, in light of emerging concerns about the risks children could be exposed to, we are urging parents to be aware of Fortnite's features. It is vital parents have regular conversations with their children about the games they are playing, and how to stay safe online.

"Anyone looking for further online safety advice can contact the O2 NSPCC online safety helpline on 0808 800 5002 or pop into an O2 store where an O2 Guru can help."

The Net Aware app can be downloaded for free from the App Store or Google Play. It can also be accessed online at www.net-aware.org.uk

ABOUT FORTNITE: BATTLE ROYALE

Epic Games, the developer of Fortnite: Battle Royale, says it does not direct the game to children under the age of 13 in the UK.

The PEGI rating for Fortnite: Battle Royale is 12-years-old. However, PEGI does not take chat features into consideration when rating games. You can find out more about age ratings [here](#).

The App Store says that users must be 12+ to play.

Players can add friends in the mobile game if they have an account with Epic, the game's developer. Friends can be added by username in the game's main menu.

There is a chat feature in the game that allows users to contact each other using voice or text. You can disable voice chat in the game by selecting the 3 lines in the top right of the screen, select the settings icon, choose the 'Audio' tab at the top of the screen and go to the 'Voice Chat' option, where you can select 'Off'.

There is cartoon violence in the game. You can use a variety of weapons to kill other players, such as guns and axes.

There are in-app purchases, which can become expensive.

Players can be reported to the [Player Support team](#) if you are concerned about activity or behaviour.