



Borestone Primary School Newsletter



December 2019

Dates for your diary:

December

2nd- Parent Council Meeting @ 7pm
3rd- Powerful Play Nursery pm
5th- Powerful Play Nursery am
6th- Senior Citizens Christmas Concert @9.30am
6th- P5 St Columbus Church visit-Bubblegum & Fluff
10th&11th-School Christmas Concerts 1.30pm (Tues) & 9.30am (Wed)
11th—P6W Christmas Party
12th- General Election-school open as normal
13th School Christmas lunch
13th—P7 & P7/6 Christmas Party pm
16th- Class Assembly Christmas P4
16th—P2 Christmas party pm
16th-Nursery Christmas party am
17th Nursery- Hartbeeps pm
17th—P3& P4 Christmas party pm
18th—P 5 & P5/4 Christmas party pm
18th-Nursery Christmas party pm
19th—P1 Christmas party pm
20th- Primary School closes @ 1.30p.m. Nursery still open
24th- Nursery closes for holidays.

January

3RD—Nursery reopens
6th— Term 3 starts Scottish focus for two weeks
13th- Parent Council Meeting @7pm
13-17th P2 Parent open afternoon – day to be confirmed
17th—Celebrating Success Assembly
24th—P1-7 Burns Competition
28th—Parent Council Family Ceilidh (Evening event)

Dear Parents and Carers,

We went to the Pantomime early this year but all of a sudden Christmas is upon us. It was a fantastic trip to the McRoberts and the cast did not disappoint. Thanks to the Parent Council for funding the buses and to the school staff for supervising this whole school outing. It is a bit of a military operation but went really smoothly. The Christmas Post is in place and ready to go and the tree is up so we are all set for the festivities.

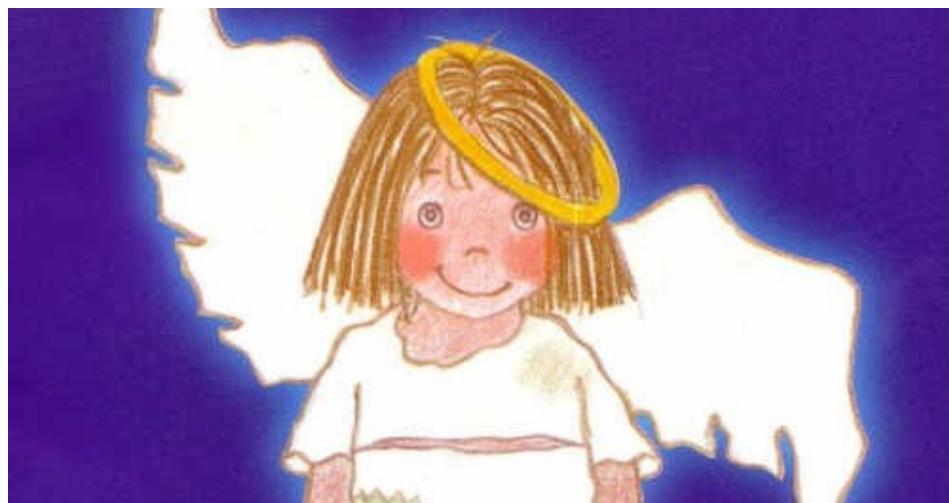
We had a visit from the Care Inspectorate in November and are delighted to share that we were awarded Very Good on both the areas of focus—Quality of Care and support and Quality of the environment. Well done to the Nursery team who are delighted with this positive feedback.

Thanks to all the parents who came to our Parents Evenings towards the end of November. We had a really good turnout and were able to share and consult with you around our plans for our school grounds. Thanks also for so many of you signing up to our new Parent-Mail which we have featured within this newsletter.

On behalf of all the staff at Boresotne I would like to extend to you our good wishes for Christmas and into 2020.

Christmas Concert & Nativity

We have a great line-up of Christmas events happening in December. The Senior Citizen's concert is on Friday 6th December at 9.30am followed by the school concerts on the 10th @ 1.30pm and 11th @ 9.30am. There are two tickets available per family in the first instance and any remaining tickets will go on general sale on Monday 9th. Please see down the left hand column for class Christmas party dates and our school Christmas lunch will be on Friday 13th December. As if that is not enough we also have P4 providing our Christmas assembly on Monday 16th December and an early close for the Primary School on Friday 20th @ 1.30pm. Nursery will be open as normal until 24th.



Keep up to date with us on



@BorestonePrimarySchool



@BorestoneP



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

Parent Council –

Dear Borestone Parent,

Our Christmas activities are well under way, with Christmas card orders distributed out to children a couple of weeks ago, we hope your friends and family will enjoy receiving personalised gifts and cards with your children's xmas designs on them!

We are now looking forward to this year's Christmas Concert and Nativity, where we will be running our annual Christmas Raffle. Of course, there are 2 concerts (plus the senior citz concert) this year, so that will mean 3 separate raffles. **We would be very grateful for any donations to add to our raffle e.g. tins biscuits / chocolates / bottles etc. If you know any local businesses who would be able to donate a prize, that would be amazing.** Please hand in all donations to the school office. All proceeds from the raffle will go towards the cost of paying for the coaches for the whole school trip to the MacRobert Pantomime 'Rapunzel'.

On Wednesday 4th December the Parent Council we will be hosting a Christmas Fayre at Borestone PS, doors open 6-8pm, entrance on the door priced at £1 per adult. Entry for children is free, though all children need to be accompanied by an adult. All friends and family welcome, come along to join the fun and shop with local crafters. More information in this newsletter and on facebook @BorestoneParent.

We are already planning our next event which will be a **Burns Night Family Ceilidh on Tuesday 28th January**, and will include children performing their Scots Poetry during a break in the dancing. We have booked CeilidhKids (Edinburgh) to come along and host the ceilidh for us – they run regular school and family events including at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and it promises to be a great night. Please **SAVE THE DATE**, and look out for more details nearer the time.

We do much more than organising fundraising and social events. There is always lots of debate at our meetings, at our last meeting we discussed: The new Parent Mail communications app, Improvements to the School Playground and Outdoor Learning, school plans for the General Election and there was an update on road traffic safety. All parents and careers with children at Borestone Primary School are very welcome to come along and join our discussion. **Our next parent council Meeting is Monday, 13th January, 7pm** in school; we hope you can join us.

Thank you,

Lucy Fraser

Follow us on:

Twitter: @BorestoneParent

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BorestoneParents/

Email: borestonepc@gmail.com

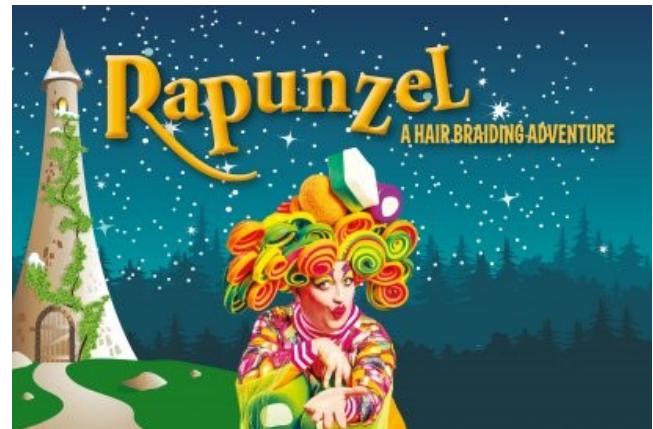
Panto

On Wednesday the 20th of November, Borestone Primary School attended the hair braiding adventure of Rapunzel.

We followed the life of Rapunzel, who's been locked in her tower her entire life, with no telly, no wi-fi and no dry shampoo! Her only dreams were to walk around the mythical land they called Tulibody, meet her one true love and to get her hair cut!

We all had a great time at this hilarious panto finding out if she would follow her dreams and leave with the bumbling prince or would she opt for a bob, a perm or go retro with Rachel at the hairdressers?

We would like to say thank you to the Parent Council for helping to subsidise the trip and providing us with the buses to get there.



Christmas Presents

At this time of the year there can be pressure from children to buy their teacher a gift. We would like to take the opportunity to say that while we are always really appreciative of parent's generosity, we would like to reduce your stress a little and ask that you don't buy us a gift. We thoroughly enjoy teaching your children and our job is a pleasure to do.

If your child still feels that they want to bring in something, a handmade card or a picture would be lovely. Thank you!



Nursery News

Dear Parents/Carers,

Have you signed up to our new Facebook page? We share lots of learning, information and updates on our page so please ask a member of staff how to join.

Care Inspectorate- Our recent Care Inspectorate Report has now been published and we are delighted to share that we received two Very Goods for Quality of Care and Support and Quality of Environment. Thankyou to all our families who shared their thoughts with our inspectors. The full report can be viewed online or see the copy in the nursery.

School Enrolment. (for Borestone Nursery children only)

- Reminder to all those who have pre-school children that our enrolment packs will be handed out for you to complete. Clare will hold appointments to enrol children between 8am-2pm on the following dates – 10th, 11th, 12th, 17th, 18th, 19th of December and 7th, 8th and 9th of January. To make an appointment please see Clare in the nursery office or a member of staff.

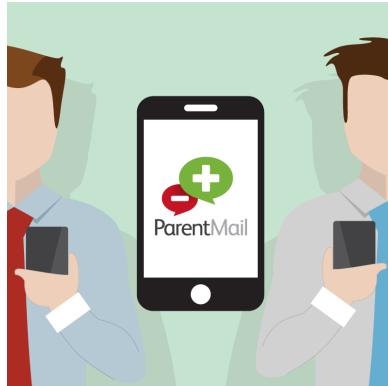
Concert - Children have been working hard to learn our Christmas songs along with learning Makaton signs, in preparation for the Christmas concert. We hope you come along to watch us on the 10th @ 1.30pm for Afternoon children and 11th @ 9.30am for Morning children. Two tickets per family will be available and any further tickets will go on sale on Monday 9th December if there are any tickets remaining.

Hartbeeps - will attend the nursery to provide children with a Christmas music and movement experience on the Tuesday 17th 1:30pm and Friday 20th 9:20pm. If your child does not attend on these sessions they will be invited along.



ParentMail

We are delighted by the number of families that have already signed up to ParentMail and hope that you are enjoying receiving school information quickly and efficiently. We notice from our stats that there are many of you who have not yet downloaded the app from the app store. If you do this then ParentMail filters your communications from your regular email account so emails don't get lost in the reams of communications that everyone seems to receive these days. You get direct notifications to the app which stores all school emails in one handy place. You can also use your settings to adjust the way you get notified.



We will follow up with families who have not yet connected with our app with the aim of getting 100% of our school community linked up so if you receive a link to join us we would encourage to do this.

If you feel that you are receiving emails in error then please contact the school 01786 237984 and we can rectify this.

Free School Meal Entitlement

Pupils are eligible for Free Meal Entitlement (FME) if their parents or guardians are in receipt of any of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Any income related element of Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, but not Working Tax Credit, with an income of less than £16,105*
- Both maximum Child Tax Credit and maximum Working Tax Credit with an income of less than £6,420*
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Universal Credit with a monthly earned income of not more than £610* (*2018/19 figures)



Family Cooking

A number of families have been meeting on a Tuesday afternoon to enjoy preparing, cooking and eating a meal together. It's been good to see families helping each other with food preparation and enjoying the food they have made. We are very grateful to the kitchen staff who kindly assisted us to cook the food. In the school kitchen.

The group will be taking a break over Christmas but we hope to run another 4 week session in the New Year. If this is something you would be interested in, please get in touch with Fiona McFarlane.



Front door security

We are proud of our welcoming ethos at Borestone and enjoy a number of visitors to the school on a daily basis. Our front doors are locked however for the security of our pupils and this is in line with all Stirling Schools.

We have put up some new signage at the front door to ensure that our protocols for visitors coming to school are followed. If already in the building can we ask that parents do not open the front door to others, even if this is a person that you are familiar with and please do not be offended if children who are in the school do not open the door to you.

On entering the building all visitors should report to the school office. A member of staff will attend to you and ensure that you get to your destination. You should both sign in and out of the visitors book when you attend the school for an appointment and this is so that we have an accurate fire record which is a legal requirement. If you are just dropping off e.g. money at the office, no need to sign in but can you use the window in the foyer rather than coming round to the office door. Many thanks.



P5/4 Author visit

P5/4W welcomed local author and poet, Padraig McNeil into school last week. Mr MacNeil shared stories and songs about William Wallace and The Battle of Stirling Bridge. The children had a super afternoon and shared their own knowledge with Mr MacNeil, learned through their topic on The Scottish Wars of Independence.



General Election

The school will be open as usual for the upcoming General Election on the 12th December. You should have all received notification around this alongside the arrangements the school has put in place to safeguard our pupils. If you have any concerns that you want to discuss further then please do not hesitate to contact the school.



Christmas Fayre

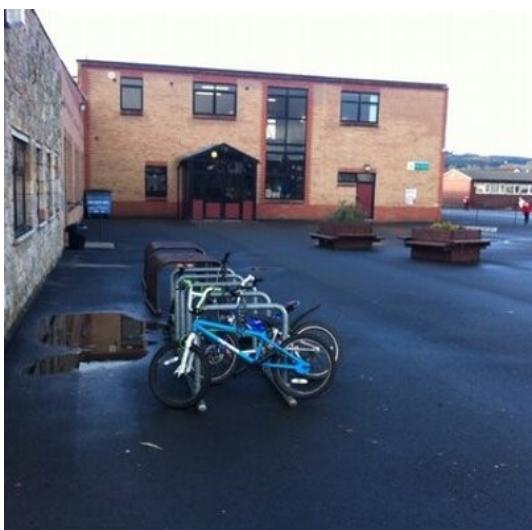
The Parent Council look forward to seeing you all at this festive event.



School Extension

The school will start to provide regular updates to parents on a small school extension that will be happening as our school continues to increase in population. With a number of new houses being built in the area there is a plan to extend the school building with the provision of a further two classrooms to the existing school structure.

We have a broad timeline for this which I am able to share with you. A design team will be appointed early 2020 with on site works planned for early 2021 and a completion date of August 2021.



Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas jumper day is on **13th December** which is the same day as our school Christmas lunch.

Children love to wear a Christmas jumper but we are very aware that this can be another add on at an already expensive time of year. Children are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper if they have one but we would also encourage children to decorate their school jumpers to make them look festive. No need to bring in any money but as we did last year we would invite children to bring in a donation of non perishable food for Start Up Stirling.

We would also like to invite parents to donate any Christmas jumpers that their children have outgrown. The pupil council can take donations any time now and redistribute to children who would like one.



School Enrolment

The 2020/2021 school year starts on 19 August 2020. This is the only date for beginning school education for that year.



All children who are five years old on or before 19 August 2020 are of school age and must start their primary school education on 19 August 2020, children who are five years old between 19 August 2020 and 28 February 2021 may start their primary school education on 19 August 2020.

If your child is starting their primary school education in August 2020 you must enrol him/her at their catchment school by 24 January 2020. Details of school catchment areas and further information on our enrolment procedures can be found by visiting our website www.stirling.gov.uk or by contacting us on 01786 233185. As part of the enrolment process we check the residency of all parents wishing to enrol their child at their catchment school, please bring your child's birth certificate, child benefit book/award letter, tax credit award letter, two recent household utility bills and a recent council tax bill with you when you enrol your child.

P1 Enrolment dates for Borestone Primary School are

- Tuesday 14th January 2020 @ 9.30am-11.30am
- Wednesday 15th January 2020 @ 1.30-3.30pm
- Thursday 16th January @ 9.30-11.30am

PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH ANYONE YOU KNOW WHO IS INTENDING TO SEND THEIR CHILD TO BORESTONE