 September 2018 Newsletter

**News**

All classes have **settled well** into their new session. They are motivated to learn within their new contexts and with their new teachers. You will have received the **class newsletter** which gives further details regarding this.

A large group of children very much enjoyed participating in the recent **archaeological dig** where thankfully the weather was kind to us! There were several interesting finds during the day which I am sure we will find out more about in the coming months. The **focus and motivation** from the children was commendable and the staff who accompanied children were very proud of their efforts.

We have enjoyed our first **Community Group** of the new session and would like to say a very big **thank you** to the parent/grandparent/friend volunteers who have supported this experience. The children enjoy the opportunity to work in these groups.

We welcomed back the **SSPCA** for workshop visits on Thursday 13th September. This was a very successful event last year which the children expressed an interest in future sessions. The friendly staff share information in a fun and informative manner.

The **Parent Council AGM** took place last week and we were delighted to see some new faces and welcome back previous members. This year our **Chairperson will be Franca Maugeri-Todaro** and our **Vice Chairperson will be Martin Shaw.** We are still seeking a clerk to record minutes. This role can be financially reimbursed. Please see below for a message from the 2018-2019 Parent Council.

*At the next Parent Council (PC) meeting which will be held at the 'Discovery Base' room at Braehead Primary school on* ***Wednesday 26 September*** *2018, from 18:00 to 19:30, Gillian Robertson, one of the Council's Lead Officers will join us at 19:00, to hear from the parents/carers what they are looking for, from a Headteacher for Braehead Primary. This is aimed at achieving a more inclusive recruitment process that takes the views of all parents willing to contribute.* ***You are welcome to attend the whole meeting or to come along just for the last half hour****.*

*This action follows from our last PC Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 5 September, when Carolyne McDaid, Service Manager at Stirling Council, joined us to give an update on the Headteacher recruitment for Braehead Primary school. The main points of that discussion will be in the PC minutes which will shortly be available (via email and on the school's website).*

***If you cannot come along but want to share your thought, please feel free to speak to one of the PC members, or to email to*** ***braeheadparentcouncil@aol.com***

*We look forward to your input.*

*Best wishes,*

*Braehead Parents Council*

Thank you very much to the **2017-2018 PTA Committee** who raised an impressive **£7050** over the course of last year. These funds are very much appreciated and utilised in a variety of ways within our school by the children. We appreciate your continued hard work, effort and enthusiasm in contributing to our school community.

The PTA also held their AGM this past Monday where the successful committee of 2017-2018 have decided to pass the baton onto a new committee. Currently we have an appointed **Treasurer, Ian Fleming** and some new members, however there will be an **EGM on the 25th September** at 6pm in the school to appoint the role of Chairperson and Secretary. All parents are welcome to attend.

Please check out our website for **recent pupil news headlines**. Thank you to the pupils from P5/6 and P6 who designed these pages this term. <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/braeheadprimaryschool/>

**School Improvement Plan**

The staff have formed **working groups** and have been allocated projects. The staff team are gearing up for our first conversations about the **skills** our children learn here at Braehead Primary. We have also considered ways in which we can teach **maths in a real life contexts**, develop **higher order thinking skills** through reading activities and we are striving to continue to develop **efficient communication** with our parent forum.

**Looking forward to**:

**Whyler Photographer** will be in to the school to take individual and family photographs on **Thursday 4th and Friday 5th October**. Photo proofs will be sent home for your perusal and order details included if interested.

**Primary 7** are preparing for the much anticipated excursion to **Dalguise** **on 8th-10th October**. Parents should have received some details in their children’s school bags. **Please complete and return relevant documents ASAP.**

On **Thursday 4th and Friday 5th October** our **P7**s will be working and learning together with their Bannockburn learning community peers at Bannockburn High School for a day and a half of fun and informative **transition events**.

Our newly appointed **House Captains** who will be leading our whole school assembly to set out their intentions for the school session. They are a very motivated and enthusiastic leadership team and the staff are very much looking forward to supporting the captains with their ideas.

Braehead Primary School will be participating in a project to offer **free sanitary products** to our pupils where appropriate. Our upper school girls will be finding out more about this over the coming weeks. Watch this space.

**Dates for your diary**

Our new **Primary 1 pupils** will have their photograph taken on **Monday 17th September** by **Stirling** **Observer**. Can we encourage parents to ensure all permission forms regarding the taking and sharing of photographs are returned to the school before Monday to ensure your child can be included if you so wish. We look forward to spotting their bright faces in the paper in the coming weeks.

Please find the **school calendar attached**. This will also be available on our website. Please note that dates/times/events may be subject to change and other events may be added. We will endeavour to inform you as soon as possible of any changes. Our school website, Twitter page and class newsletters will also remind you of events which are pertinent to your own child and also the wider school community.

**Paper copies are available** from the school office for those who would like one.

**Reminders**

Friday 14, Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 September is Stirling's 24th annual **Doors Open Day Festival**.  Family friendly, fun, educational and all completely FREE!  Booklets can be found in all libraries, Council offices and many other locations throughout the Stirling area.

The **school** **office is very busy** at the end of each school day, often increased by phone calls near 3pm asking us to relay pickup and end of school day arrangements to children. Please be aware that **we** **try our best** to answer calls but often find it hard to pass the message on in time for the end of the day.

We encourage all families to regularly check for **head lice** as this is a common concern across all schools including Braehead Primary and Nursery.