

Bankton Primary School Newsletter

April 2018



Special Visitors from the Scottish Government

Last week Bankton Primary School hosted a visit from three very special visitors from the Scottish Government.

Graeme Logan, Learning Director, was accompanied by David Leng and Delina Cowley from the Scottish National Standardised Assessment Team. The purpose of their visit was to gather our views on the standardised testing programme during this first year. While they were here they observed P.1 and P.4 going through their assessments then listened to the P.7s giving their views. They were very impressed with the maturity of the P.7 pupils and their ability to talk about their strengths and next steps in learning. The views given by our Bankton P.7 pupils will help to improve the user experience for next year.

Thank you for sending your children in smart uniform – our visitors were very complimentary about our children and our school.

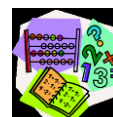
Transition

This is a very busy term at each end of the school! Our Nursery children begin their 8 week transition programme this Wednesday and Mrs. Lloyd and Mrs. Thompson are waiting to welcome them. Over the 8 weeks, our children grow in confidence, get to know their classmates and their teacher and are well set up for a positive start to school.

P.7 enhanced transition has already started – both to the Literacy Base for our dyslexic pupils and to the James Young High School for our confidence building group. There will be an Athletics Festival on 24th May and a Health Conference on the 17th May – both of these events are great opportunities for P.7 to work with other P.7s from across the Cluster who will be in their classes in S.1. The two day transition for all P.7 pupils takes place on 12th and 13th June.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Sutherland, the Nursery team, Mrs. Fraser and Mrs. Herman who have all worked extremely hard to make sure that progress information is passed on to allow a smooth transition for all.

PATPAL



As you know, Bankton Primary has been commended on many occasions for the quality of our family learning programme. Tomorrow we are hosting our latest PATPAL morning (Pupils as Teachers, Parents as Learners) All classes are excited to invite parents to our latest PATPAL session which links Art and Maths together. Teachers are planning fun activities for you to join in with your child. The PATPAL takes place tomorrow, 1st May over two sessions – 9.30 -10.00am and 10.00am–10.30am.

Scottish National Standardised Assessments (SNSAs)

All children across Scotland have to sit these standardised assessments in Literacy and Numeracy in P.1, P.4 and p.7. The information from the assessments shows each child's strengths and next steps in learning development. Teachers use this information to plan for literacy and numeracy and to track progress from one level to another. Our pupils have enjoyed the assessments and see them as a vast improvement from previous computerised assessments.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/wl/BanktonPrimarySchoolBlog/>

Have you visited our BLOG recently? Check out our latest posts complete with photographs of our exciting learning. Each week a BLOG Champion Class will be awarded a certificate at Assembly. Please comment on our posts!

Staffing



Here in Bankton we have been very fortunate to have stable staffing provision all year. When we have a teacher on maternity leave our priority is always continuity of learning for our pupils. This week sees a number of minor staffing 'tweaks' due to Miss Rodford's maternity leave:

P.4 will be taught by Mrs Hocknull on Mon, Tues, Wed & Mrs Sutherland on Thurs and Fri.

Mrs Fraser will now teach P.7 all week

Mrs Murdoch returns on June 10th as 0.5 PT and a further 0.5 PT will be appointed this week.

DIARY DATES - TERM 4



1.5.18 – PATPAL – Maths & Art

2.5.18 – Nursery transition begins

8.5.18 – In-Service day

9.5.18 – Pupils return

15.5.18 – Parent Council Meeting

17.5.18 – P.7 Health Conference

24.5.18 – Athletics Event – P.7

5.6.18 – Provisional Sports (weather permitting)

7.6.18 – Provisional Sports (weather permitting)

13.6.18 – Nursery / P.1 Assembly and Lunch with Parents

18.6.18 – HEALTH WEEK

21.6.18 – Fun Day

26.6.18 – Citizenship

29.6.18 – Last Day

DATE OF P.7 LEAVERS' PARTY TO BE CONFIRMED – see May Newsletter

Building a Reading Culture



Our partnership with McNicoll and Jackson, our school Reading Patrons, has been very successful this year, with many more of our children desperate to read. We have two new events with Badger scheduled for this term. The first event is a Poster Workshop on the 15th May – to design a poster to advertise the new Badger Book. The second is a P.7 / P.1 Buddy event to be held on the 25th May.

Please encourage your children to visit the Lanthorn Library regularly as they can take out 10 books at a time – completely free.

**TOGETHER WE CAN HELPOUR CHILDREN TO
DEVELOP A LOVE OF READING**

Emotion Works Family Theatre Event

As part of our Pupil Equity Family Engagement Programme we have organised a theatre event followed by Emotion Works workshops. M&M productions will perform the Wizard of OZ on 1st June 12.30pm – 3.00pm. Free Tickets will be available next month from Mrs. Sinclair. This is yet another brilliant opportunity to learn alongside your child and enjoy a high quality theatre experience together. You will also enjoy the related health and wellbeing activities at the Emotion Works workshop. Hope to see you all there!

Our new website is now LIVE on the link below.

<http://bankton.wlcschools.storm50.com/>