



NEWSLETTER June 2016

New P1 children There are 45 children coming to join us in August. We are looking forward to them being part of our school family.

Holiday Dates	Wednesday 29 th June	Finish for summer holidays
	Monday 22 nd August	Staff back
	Tuesday 23 rd August	Pupils back

Leaver's assembly This will take place on Tuesday 28th June at 9.00am – all welcome. Please remember that we need all children in school uniform on this day.

Staffing update

Leaving us at the end of term -

Mrs Newton Stott has already started her maternity leave

Mrs Thacker will start her maternity leave at the end of term

Mrs O'Neill will start her maternity leave around the September holiday

Miss Buchanan will start her maternity leave around the October holiday

Starting with us in August –

Miss Napier will be remaining with us in a permanent position

Miss Preston, Miss Potter and Miss Brake will start with us in August

Acting Principal Teacher Post

Following interview on Tuesday 31st May 2016 Miss Armstrong was appointed as Acting Principal Teacher.

Health Fortnight/Outings

This runs in the last 2 weeks of term and there are some outings planned. Please make sure that your child comes with appropriate clothing – joggers / sweatshirt so that they are prepared to go out. Also look at the weather forecast and put suncream on your child in the morning if you think they need it as the weather is unpredictable and we will be outside a lot. Feel free to put suncream in their bag for them to 'top up' later.

Annual Data check forms

Can these please be returned as soon as possible. We need up to date numbers to keep you informed of events in school through Groupcall - but also in case of emergencies.

Classes for next year

Our school structure will change for next year due to the make-up of the numbers. We will be having 12 classes next session – 4 of which will be composite (2 stages in the same class). We are starting to look at this although we are not fully staffed yet.

West Lothian Council Policy on Composite classes is available on our Blog and the West Lothian Council website. In the 14 years I have been here we have always had composite classes each year. The name of the class has no impact in the learning that goes on in each classroom as we meet needs – not what the child should do as say a P6 – as our Scottish curriculum states. In determining how classes across the any stage have been made up we have taken into account this policy and in particular :

- Keeping as few groups as possible in each class
- We look at reading in the first instance – and then at the other areas – taking full account of West Lothian Council's curriculum frameworks and advice
- The development needs of all the pupils across this stage – but most importantly how to meet these needs
- Allocation of class support to meet the needs of our pupils to make maximum progress
- Children attending Nurture Group sessions from classes
- Experience of class teachers at this stage of the school
- Our ability to work with all children in a stage when this is needed

Teachers do not in any class – whether a composite class or not - teach to a class all of the time. They look at the pupil's prior learning and then prepare learning to meet those needs. We hope to limit the number of groups to ensure that teachers have the maximum teaching time with all pupils.

In all classes when groups are being taught / assessed / prepared for their differentiated tasks pupil's will be working on tasks with and without support to allow this to happen. Teachers are very good at this classroom management and it is an everyday part of life in the classroom.

We will be having a 'Move Round' Day on Tuesday 28th at 12.15pm.

Parent Council We are hoping for lots of new members of the Parent Council next session. Our Parent Council is invaluable as not only a representative voice for parents but also as a fundraising group. The school seldom fundraises itself – allowing us to concentrate on our main job of learning and teaching. Without the Parent Council doing this we would not be able to subsidise buses, have the Fun Day, give gifts to P7 pupils etc. Please come and join – there are many ways of taking part. You don't need to be the chairperson – you can just attend the meetings – or even just say to the group to contact you for help at events – or indeed just support all the events they hold.

Fun Day

The pupils will be taking part in our Fun Day on Friday 24th June. This is a pupil only event – however if you would like to volunteer on this morning please contact the school office as soon as possible to allow us to make contact with you. As there will be large equipment can you please send the children to school on this day wearing joggers/sweatshirts etc. Most of the equipment is outside – so wrapped up warm !

Bathgate Procession – Saturday 4th June

It has been a very busy but extremely productive year for Boghall Primary. Remember without your support at home your child will not do as well as they could.

Have a great holiday and we look forward to seeing everybody back safely in August – remember that pupils do not start back until Tuesday 22nd August.

All Staff at Boghall Primary

