

Blackridge Primary School

Main Street

Blackridge

West Lothian

EH48 3RJ

Tel. No. 01501 751223

November 18th 2014

Blackridge Primary School Newsletter

November 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

It’s that time of year again when the days are getting shorter and we are speeding our way towards Christmas time. In school our Nativity practices have begun with our Primary 1,2 and 3 children learning their lines and new songs. Please read all of the information in our newsletter and the Christmas dates on the back.

Mrs J Russell (Acting Head Teacher)

Class Dojo Feedback

Thank you to all parents who gave us feedback on Class Dojo at our Parent’s Evening. The majority of parents are enjoying using the website or the App and keeping up to date with their child’s Dojo points. Here are some of the comments we received.

*“I like the parent app as it lets us see how our children are doing throughout the week and being able to praise them myself.”*

*“I think it benefits greatly as we can see on a day to day basis how they are behaving and progressing in class.”*

*“I like to check every day to see how the kids have done. The kids also ask to see it daily.”*

**UNICEF: Rights Respecting Schools Award**

As you may be aware, Blackridge Primary School is working towards becoming a Rights Respecting School. This entails, amongst many other things, all staff and pupils being familiar with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and using rights respecting language throughout the school. We are busy working towards achieving Level 1 of the Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA). All classes have spent time at the start of the session agreeing and creating a class charter to adhere to. A Steering Group has been set up with staff, pupil and parent representatives who will help to co-ordinate our school’s journey towards our Level 1 award.

Outright Day is taking place on Thursday 20th November which is the 25th anniversary of the creation of the UNCRC. All classes will participate in activities in order to raise awareness of pupils’ rights.

There are more activities planned for throughout the year which we will keep you informed about.

The UNICEF Steering Group

Delivering Better Outcomes

West Lothian Council has to make changes to the way it provides services to meet an estimated budget gap of £30.4 million for the period to 2018. Your views on the priorities for the council and suggestions to help save money are very much welcomed. Please go on to the following website to complete the online survey by Friday, November 21st - <http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/yoursay14>.





Youth Champions

Our Youth Champions in Primary 7 this year are Keris Turnbull and Mark Nimmo. They will be meeting with other pupils in the Armadale Together for Health Group to think about healthy eating and keeping active. Keris and Mark will be working with staff and pupils here in school on new and exciting initiatives. As always the last Friday of the month is Fruity Friday and we get lots of great fruit in school to enjoy for our break.





Health and Hygiene

This is the time of year when some children get colds and sickness bugs. In school we all encourage pupils to wash their hands on a regular basis to prevent the spread of germs. Please speak to your children to encourage them to get into a good routine, hand washing at school and at home. If your child does have a sickness bug they should stay off school for 48 hours after the symptoms have ceased.

Parking

Can all parents and carers please note that Farquhar Square should not be used for parking. If you are bringing a car to school please park on the road at the front of the school and walk up the school brae.

Dates for your diary:

November –

Friday November 21st Primary 7 assembly 9.15am

Tuesday November 25th  Class photos

Friday November 28th Scottish Week Open Morning 11.00am – 12 noon

Monday November 24th P1 Application Checks 8.45am – 9.30am

 12.20pm – 1.00pm

December –

Monday December 1st P1 Application Checks 8.45am – 9.30am

 12.20pm – 1.00pm

Wednesday December 3rd Primary 7 to Forth Replacement Crossing

Monday December 8th Nursery Christmas concert – 10.00am and 2.00pm

Tuesday December 9th School Christmas dinner

Wednesday December 10th Flu Vaccinations

 Nursery Christmas lunch

 Nativity dress rehearsal (OAP’s only) 1.30pm

Thursday December 11th Nativity performance 1.30pm

Tuesday December 16th Nursery (am children) and Primary 1 to panto

Wednesday December 17th Nursery (pm children) and Primary 2 – Primary 7 to panto

Thursday December 18th Nursery party (am and pm children)

 Primary 6 and 7 party at 6.30pm

Monday December 22nd Primary 1,2 and 3 party

Tuesday December 23rd Church service in Blackridge Parish Church (9.30am)

Wednesday December 24th Holiday

January –

Thursday January 8th Staff and pupils return to school