



Blackridge Primary School

Main Street

Blackridge

West Lothian

EH48 3RJ

Tel. No. 01501 751223

22/04/2015

Blackridge Primary School Newsletter

April/May 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our April/May Newsletter. I hope you all had a lovely spring holiday and the pupils certainly appeared to enjoy the milder weather! As our pupils approach the last term at their current stage we remind them that hard work, best effort, enthusiasm and commitment are still very important as we maximise learning opportunities presented this term. While this is important for all our pupils it is particularly pertinent for our P7s as they look to take the next step in their education in August. It will be a busy and productive term for all and we plan to share this learning with you through class newsletters beginning this term and by populating our primary and nursery class blogs.

PRIMARY: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/wl/blackridgeps/>

NURSERY: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/wl/blackridgenurseryclass/>

Staffing Update: We are delighted to announce that Mrs Wynne had a healthy baby boy this month and both mum and baby are doing well. Mrs Gallagher will continue in Primary 1 with Mrs Traynor continuing in P4 until the end of this term. Miss McGarva was successful in the interview process for the permanent position of Principal Teacher at Blackridge Primary School and we congratulate her on this achievement.

If you have any questions, queries or concerns this term please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher, Miss McGarva or myself.

Mrs J Ross (Head Teacher)

**Rights Respecting Schools**

Last term all classes were involved in creating a Playground Charter. The Steering Group looked at all of the entries and are now busy creating a charter using all of the pupils’ ideas which will be displayed in the playground soon.

We are continuing to work very hard towards our Level 1 Award which we hope to achieve very soon.

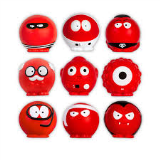
Nursery and Primary School Audit Questionnaires

Thank you very much to all parent/carers who completed our questionnaires during parents/carers consultations in March. All P4 parents/carers will have the opportunity to complete the audit at your appointment.

We use these results to evaluate the school’s progress for the year and to set priorities for next year and these reports will be shared in the autumn.







Comic Relief

Thank you to all who contributed to our Comic Relief Fundraiser. The school raised £331.02 in total!

Tuck Shop

Our Primary 7’s run a very successful tuck shop in the mornings for all children who haven’t brought tuck from home.

We kindly ask that parents give their children small change for this as we are always running out of coins when notes are brought to school.

Tuck Shop Prices

Cartons of Juice 30p, bottles of water 15p  
Geo-bars 20p and crisps 35p

Eco School Committee

Our Eco School committee is now fully formed with representatives from all classes Nursery - P7, Mrs Gardner, Ms Aitken from Beechbrae Community Project and me. All classes have helped to complete the school audit and we will be analysing this to write our action plans.

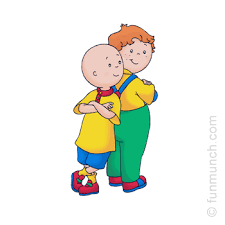


Buddy Process

While Primary Seven is four months away for our P6 pupils, they will be thinking about their roles and responsibilities for P7 soon as we begin our Big Buddy recruitment process. Soon our P6 pupils will be invited to apply for the post to support a new P1 in August. Interested pupils will submit an application and have an interview before being accepted on to the training programme run by Mrs Bell. Once trained they will be meeting their little buddy before the end of term.

Parent/Carer Consultations

Overall from Nursery – P7 (excluding P4 – appointments to take place Thursday 30 April) attendance for appointments was a very high 92%. We thank you for your support in your child’s education. For anyone who was not able to make the appointment please contact the office to arrange a mutually suitable time.







Gala Day

All pupils from Nursery - P7 have had the opportunity to put forward Blackridge Gala Day themes. The P7 Pupil Leadership Team gathered these ideas, presented the most popular to all classes and organised a vote. The votes were counted and the winning theme is ‘Frozen’. As a school we would actively encourage all pupils to walk in the Gala Day however all pupils must be accompanied by an adult as staff will have no responsibility for pupils on the day of the Gala.

Transition Information

Below outlines our transition timetable for this term.

Please contact the school if you have any questions about the arrangements for your child. If your child is starting P1 in August a separate letter is being issued with further details.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date | Event |
| Tuesday 12 May 8.45am | Nursery parents/carers transition coffee morning |
| Wednesday 20 May 12.15pm | Nursery parents/carers transition coffee morning |
| Friday 15 May | Buddy Applications due  Dress Down Days  Dress down days at the end of the month will no longer be taking place. We will be organising fundraising events throughout the year in order to boost our School Fund account. School Fund allows us the flexibility to pay for additional opportunities for pupils including coaches and activities for Health Week, Pantomimes, school trip subsidies, buses to Cluster and Authority events and Summer Trips. |
| Thursday 21 May, 1.30pm | Buddy Interviews |
| Tuesday 26 and Wed 27 May | Buddy Training |
| Fortnight beginning Monday 8 June | P7s to Armadale Academy |
| Wednesday 10 June – AM and PM | Buddy Visits to the Nursery |
| Monday 15 and Tuesday 16 June | Nursery/P1 visits |
| Monday 15 June 9.00am | P1 induction Parent/Carer meeting |
| Monday 22 June | 11.15am-12.00 midday  P2-P6 to meet the teacher in new classroom |

Breakfast Club

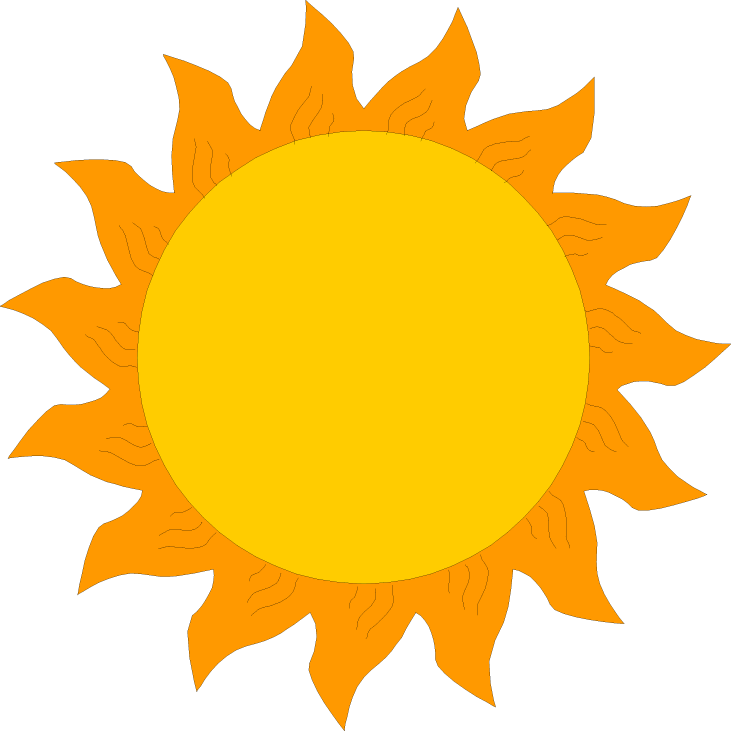
Due to the considerable number of children accessing our School Breakfast Club we had to reassess our Health and Safety Risk Assessment for this service. We thank the parents and carers who use the car park that now park in an identified space and escort their children into breakfast club. We request that all parents/carers accessing the car park follow this procedure to ensure the safety of all of our children. If this does not prove to be successful we will have to re look at parents/carers accessing the car park at all. We hope that this system will increase pupil and adult safety in this area. Many thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Sun Cream

Due to the change in weather I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that all pupils including our Nursery children go outside daily (weather permitting). On sunny days we advise that all children come to school already wearing sun cream and that Nursery children also bring a sun hat. For our Nursery children we do have some sun cream available for you to apply to your child if you forget! School and Nursery staff are not permitted to apply sun cream to children.

Further information can be found at:

<http://www.sunaware.scot.nhs.uk/>



Dates for your Diary

April 2015

Monday 27 April: P5 trip to Hopetoun House

Wednesday 29 April: Four P5s to Armadale for Cluster Athletics Event

Thursday 30 April: P4 Parent/Carer Consultations

May 2015

Monday 4 and Tues 5 May: Holiday

Tuesday 12 May: P6 Cross Country Event in Armadale

Wednesday 13 May: Pupil IEP Reviews – letters to follow

Friday 15 May: P2 Assembly – Parents/Carers welcome

Wednesday 20 May: Six P7 pupils to St Anthony’s Primary School for Cluster orienteering event

Sunday 24 May: P7 Camp

Monday 25 May: The Railway Children production

Friday 29 May: P1 Assembly – Parents/carers welcome

June 2015

Monday 1 June: Health Week

Tuesday 2 June: P5 Limelight Project Concert at Howden Park Centre, 6.00pm

Wednesday 3 June: P7 uniform fitting event Armadale Academy 6.00-8.00pm

Thursday 4 June: P1-P7 Sports Day PM

Friday 5 June: Cluster Summer Fair at Armadale Academy for P6 and P7 pupils

Monday 8 June: P7s to Armadale Academy for two week transition programme

Pupil profiles to go home

Tuesday 9 June: P5 Basketball event at Armadale Community Centre

Thursday 11 June: Nursery Sports AM and PM

Thursday 18 June: AM and PM Nursery Class trip – destination Mill Farm

Friday 19 June: Pupil Reports due home

Wednesday 24 June: Nursery Ceremony AM and PM and provisional date for school trip P1-P7

Thursday 25 June: PM: School Awards Ceremony

Friday 26 June: P7 Leavers Assembly – parents/carers welcome