

# Bonnyrigg Primary

## Newsletter



Nov/Dec 2015



### Welcome

Welcome to our new look newsletter. This one will take us right up to the end of the term. At the end of this newsletter is a list of dates for your diary and information regarding bad weather.

The last day for pupils will be Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December and the school will be finishing at 12 noon. All pupils for school and nursery will return after the new year on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

### Primary 1 News

Children in P1 are getting very busy for the special performance they will be doing on the 11th December! We are learning lots of songs, deciding on roles, and organising costumes and scenery. We will keep you informed during the term if there are things we need you to support with. Likewise, if you feel you have a few hours to spare and could help with anything from scenery to singing please get in touch via your child's class teacher.



### Primary 2 News

Primary 2 are learning all about Day and Night this term. They have brainstormed what they already know and what they'd like to learn about this topic. We're looking forward to learning all about Nocturnal Animals, Stars and the Sun and Moon.

Primary 2A have been producing some excellent imaginative writing pieces focusing on use of super descriptive words. Primary 2B have continued their Visible Learning Journey with a 'Concentration Station' afternoon. The class enjoyed lots of games which required focus and concentration.



### Primary 3 News

P3 are really enjoying learning about growth and fixed mind sets and how this can impact on their learning. They have also been learning how to use adjectives and WOW words when writing imaginative descriptions about setting and characters.



## Primary 4 News

Primary 4 are enjoying science lessons looking at different forms of water.

We have also been learning about Hinduism and some of the different beliefs Hindus have. We found out about how Diwali is celebrated on Wednesday 11th November.

We have been doing some descriptive writing using adjectives. Primary 4A particularly enjoyed planning and writing about a Haunted House.

For Visible Learning we have been thinking about what helps us to concentrate. We experimented with different kinds of music while learning and have discovered that music with no words is best.



## Primary 5 News

Both Primary 5 classes have presented assemblies to the school in recent weeks. The children worked really hard to plan and organise the content, and they confidently presented their learning to the rest of the school. Primary 5 have been continuing on with their science topic by learning about how and why we classify animals, how animals communicate and investigating the life cycles of plants and animals. In writing we have begun to focus on different styles of poetry. The children have been developing their use of similes, metaphors, alliteration and onomatopoeia. For the rest of the term we are going to be learning about the brain, and developing the children's understanding of mindsets.



## Primary 6 News

Primary 6 have had a busy start to the term. They have been working on writing descriptive poetry. The children have been learning how to write haikus, senses poems, acrostic poems and rhyming poems. They have also been learning to effectively use literary devices such as alliteration, onomatopoeia, metaphors and similes in their work. There have been many fantastic poems written, and we are very proud of the children.

We have also been continuing our work on the Brain and Growth Mindsets. We have looked at Fixed and Growth mindsets as well as recently learning about "The Learning Pit". Please ask your child about their feelings as they go into the pit, the strategies they can use to get out, and how they feel when they achieve a new skill or understand a new concept.

Most of us really enjoyed going to P6 camp, and we look forward to preparing an assembly to share with parents and carers when we get back. Non-campers had their own timetable to follow in school for the week we were away.



## Primary 7 News



Our JRSOs have been organising Walk to School Week with our school, this encourages us to be more healthy instead of taking the car. Most of us have been walking, biking, scooting or boarding.

Both P7 classes have been helping sell poppies at Tuck Shop so we can remember the brave people and soldiers who fought and died during the World Wars. Thank you for all your donations. P7A have been writing poppy poems and creating artwork inspired by the artist Georgia O'Keefe.

Both classes have been studying poetry. We have learned about similes, metaphors, personification, alliteration and onomatopoeia. We have written some excellent Halloween, nonsense, fireworks and poppy poems.

In Visible Learning, we have been continuing our work on growth and fixed mindsets so that later on in life we'll be more positive and able to face life challenges with confidence. Each class has been doing mindset related art too.

## Healthy School

As a Health Promoting School, we encourage healthy eating. All children are allowed to have cool water at their tables and we discourage children from bringing fizzy drinks to school. Similarly, we discourage sweets as snacks and we have a Tuckshop, which serves a large range of suitable alternatives.



## Money in School

Just a reminder that when sending any money in to school to name all envelopes with your child's full name and class. Please also keep lunch money separate from the rest of the school .

Cheques for lunches, milk and skiing are made payable to Midlothian Council. All other cheques should be made payable to Bonnyrigg Primary School. Thank you.



## Fundraising

### Children in Need

We all had a great time last Friday celebrating Children in Need. We raised £365.33. Well done everyone.

### Finger Spellathon

Well done to all the children who took part in the BSL fingerspellathon for the National Deaf Children's Society. You raised an incredible £366.88! Miss Craddock and Miss Fisher would like to thank you all for your enthusiastic response .



## Christmas Cards

As an Eco school we discourage pupils from giving out cards to everyone. Children should just send 1 to the whole class or school. Thank you.



## Christmas 2015

~November - December 2015 ~						
◀ November						January ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
15	16	17	18	19	20 P6B assembly	21
2	23	24 Bullying Workshops- P6&7	25 Xmas song practice 1.15- 2= P1,2,7 2-3= P3-6	26	27 P6 camp assembly	28 <b>Bonnyrigg Xmas Lights switch on</b> <b>Arrive 2.15, Leave 3.45</b>
29	30	1	2 Xmas song practice 1.15- 2= P1,2,7 2-3= P3-6	3 Nursery Trip- Stick Man Christmas Fair	4 Nativity Rehearsal. P3B assembly	5
6	7	8 P4-7 Brunton Hall Panto P2 party	9 P1-3 Panto AM P4 party PM	10 Nativity Rehearsal- AM Christmas Lunch P3 party PM	11 Nativity for parents Coffee and shortbread	12
13	14 Nursery parties	15 Christmas Service at church P1-3 9.30 P6 party P4-7 1.30 P1 party	16 Nursery Nativity in hall 10.30 and 2.30 1-2 = P5 party	17 Christmas Cinema AM P7 party PM	18 Dress down Xmas Whole school Christmas Sing along END OF TERM 12 noon	19



## **SEVERE WEATHER INFORMATION AND/OR POSSIBLE SCHOOL CLOSURE**

In anticipation of adverse weather conditions, I would like to remind everyone of our procedures. Severe weather can result in school closures due to both pupils and staff being unable to come to school, experiencing difficulties in getting home or due to loss of services, e.g. power failure.

The most up to date information can be found on the Midlothian Council website:  
[www.midlothian.gov.uk](http://www.midlothian.gov.uk)

Midlothian Council updates the website whenever a decision has been made, gives details of when to expect further information and notifies the radio stations below:

**Forth 1 - 197.3fm, Forth 2 - 1548am, Heart FM – 100-101fm, Black Diamond FM –107fm**

Radio Forth also update their website very frequently throughout the day: [www.forth2.com](http://www.forth2.com) and [www.forthone.com](http://www.forthone.com)

If Bonnyrigg Primary School is not mentioned on Midlothian Council's website, or the radio, then the school is open.

If you make a decision not to send your child to school because of concerns regarding the weather, please phone the school on 0131 271 4570, as soon as possible. Please avoid phoning the school to check if it is open as this ties up lines which may be needed for an emergency.

**Unexpected or Unplanned Closures:** If it becomes necessary to close the school during a school day we will text you, or your contacts, to arrange for your child to be collected. If arrangements cannot be made, school staff will stay with the pupil until the end of the school day. Decisions taken will give paramount importance to the welfare and safety of the children and staff. Please ensure that the school has your most current contact details, and emergency contact details.

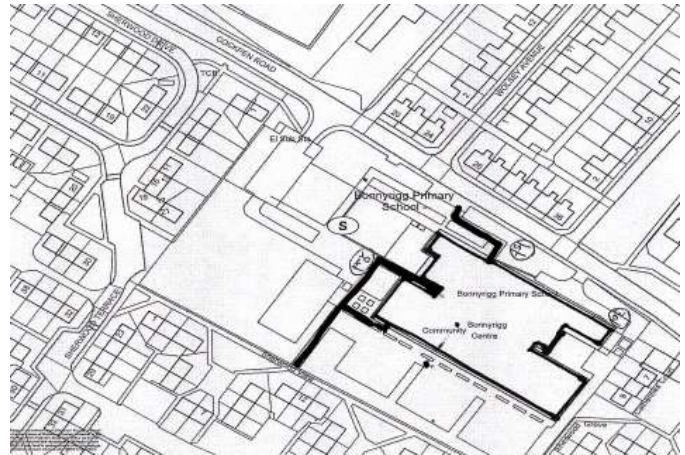
- Staff in school will liaise with staff in the After School Club in this event
- When you, or a designated adult comes to collect your child, please come to the front door (nursery door on a Friday afternoon) to sign your child out

### Access to School on Icy/Snowy days

At Bonnyrigg, to help provide safe access to school on icy/ snowy days, please refer to the adjacent plan, showing the footpaths which will be cleared by facilities staff.

The janitor will try and assess the playground on a daily basis.

Children should enter by the nearest cleared doorway and then access their own area from inside the building, including Nursery pupils. The three prioritised routes will be at the lower atrium entrance, nursery entrance and the Front entrance to the school. We would rather children arrived a few minutes late, than line up outside. Please ensure that children are dressed appropriately as we try to let them play outside if at all possible.



### **Fundraising Group News**

In advance of this year's Christmas Fair we would like to update you on the great fundraising efforts of you all so far this term.

The ever popular Halloween discos raised £535.35 and the Christmas Cards raised £425.00 and we are now working closely with teachers and pupils to purchase a range of new playground equipment and wet playtime games for each atrium.

We look forward to working with as many of you as possible to make the annual Christmas Fair the big success it always is and funding more great school projects.

A reminder that the date for the Christmas Fair is Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December from 6 pm to 8 pm.

The Fundraising Team



# Bonnyrigg Nursery

## Newsletter



Nov/Dec 2015



### Welcome

Welcome to our November Newsletter. There have been lots going on in our nursery in the last few weeks. Our Key Worker meetings have gone well and have been well attended. All parents have now had the opportunity to meet their child's keyworker to discuss how the children have settled into nursery and update us with any important information. If for any reason you could not attend this meeting please don't hesitate to speak to a member of staff to make another appointment.

### Autumn and Winter

Autumn is nature's showcase of colour and it provides a fantastic learning experience for our little learners. From collecting leaves to creating fantastic pieces of art, the children will be fully involved in the outdoors during this fantastic season. As the weather becomes colder, in order for the children to be comfortable and enjoy being outdoors, please could you ensure that your child comes to nursery with a warm jacket and suitable shoes for going outside.

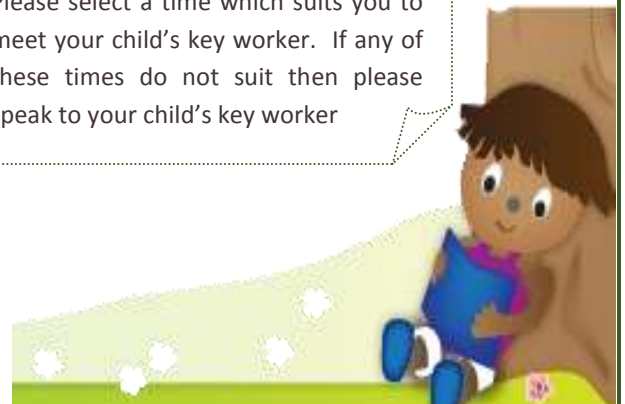


### Parents in Partnership Group

Our Parents in Partnership Development Group have begun their initial discussion to establish their plans for developing the outdoor area. The staff member leading this initiative is Donna Scott. Donna is currently arranging for the parents, some children and staff to visit a variety of other establishments who have all recently developed their outdoor areas also. The group will then hopefully be able to create a plan for our own outdoor area and purchase new equipment to be installed in Term 3 and 4. We are really looking forward to seeing how our outdoor area develops over the year. Thank you to the children and the parents for taking the time to be involved and to Donna Scott for leading this initiative.

### Pre-School Parents Meetings

The Pre-School Parents Meetings are scheduled to take place the weeks beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> November and 30<sup>th</sup> November. Sign-up sheets are available in the nursery cloak room. Please select a time which suits you to meet your child's key worker. If any of these times do not suit then please speak to your child's key worker



## Staff Training

Our staff have attended a number of fantastic development events over the last few weeks. These have included:

- Peep training (see note further down)
- Dance /Expressive Arts
- Fischy music
- Building the ambition
- ABC Music



By attending these events staff are able to bring back the expertise that they have gained and use these with the children within the nursery.

## Nursery Doors/Safety

Recently we sent out a letter about procedures for picking up your child at the end of session. When you pick your child up from their group, please take their hand to ensure they are with you at all times before leaving the nursery.

Additionally, please can you ensure that you close all doors behind you. The external double doors in the cloakroom make a 'clicking' noise when they have been closed correctly. Children's safety is everyone's' responsibility and we appreciate your help and support with this.



## PEEP training

Mrs Weatherhead and Mrs Allan recently attended PEEP training. They are looking to start a baby PEEP group in Bonnyrigg after Christmas and a toddler PEEP group after Easter. PEEP groups are small groups which are attended by parents and babies/children together. These are informal in nature, where parents can discuss issues and support each other by sharing ideas as well as seek support from our PEEP trained staff. More information about these groups will be issued after Christmas but please keep these in mind.

"A problem Shared is a problem halved!"

## Christmas Festivities

In the coming weeks, there will be a variety of events taking place. The children have their Christmas outing to see the Stickman in Edinburgh on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Just a reminder about the change to session times this day, which were outlined in the previous letter. A copy of these times are on the nursery noticeboard in the foyer of the nursery. Other important dates are outlined below:

**Stick Man Christmas Outing:** Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. (See previous letter for details/Copy of letter in Foyer)

**Christmas Parties:** Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December Am and Pm

**Nativity:** Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December Am and Pm

Nursery Closes at Lunchtime on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

Just a reminder that if you arrive after the 20 minutes opening slot of the doors at the beginning of session, you should enter the nursery via the main school office. Thank you for your continued support with this.

We would like to thank you for your continued support and we hope that you have a fantast holiday when it arrives.

The Nursery Team