

# Bonnyrigg Primary Newsletter



February 2016



## Staffing

It is with sadness that we said goodbye to Mr Fleming at the end of January and also to Miss Donaldson who leaves from Lasswade to her new school in Crail after the February break.

We are fortunate to have another class teacher, Miss Shannon Brady, join us until the Easter break.

We will be interviewing for 2 Depute Head Teacher posts at the beginning of February and hope to have news of appointments as soon as possible.



## Dogs in Playground

Could we remind everyone that dogs should not be brought in to the school grounds or be tied up near the entrances to the playground.

We have a number of pupils and adults who are frightened of dogs and this can be very upsetting.

Thank you for your cooperation.



## Education City

We know a lot of pupils now have ipads or tablets at home. We have been told by another parent that if you download the Puffin Web Browser App onto your ipad or tablet you can then access the Education City programme easily.



## P7 Bake Sale

P7 are having a bake sale on Friday 12th Feb to raise funds for school camp. Cakes will be sold to pupils who wish to buy them in the morning before break and all classes will have a chance to buy something. We would also be grateful for any donations of baking from parents. There will also be some gluten free cakes donated by a parent.



## School Gates

We are still working with the Council to finalise arrangements regarding the school gates. Work will begin soon and we will keep you updated on the progress.



## Polling Station

Bonnyrigg Primary School will again be used as a Polling Station on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May. Both school and Nursery will be closed on that day to pupils.

### Primary 1 News

P1 have been working very hard at our maths and literacy so far this term. We have also been learning all about Scotland by making our own tartan, learning about the Scottish flag, famous landmarks and even about the Loch Ness Monster! Also, all P1 classes will be working together to practise our gymnastic skills in PE throughout this term.



### Primary 2 News

P2B have been focusing on Chinese New Year and we are looking forward to presenting our learning to the school at assembly on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February. In numeracy, we are continuing with addition and are looking at more tricky sums now. During the snowy weather, we got out some of the outdoor learning equipment and used it to create a snow fort. We had a brilliant time and were very pleased with our efforts.



### Primary 3 News

P3 have been learning to ask and answer questions about themselves in French and we have decided to make Paris our topic this term. We will be developing our research skills to find facts and information about famous monuments, traditional foods, customs and traditions.

In Maths we have been exploring different ways of measuring length using different tools.



### Primary 4 News

Primary 4 are enjoying learning about France. We are using our note taking skills to make notes which we will turn into a leaflet all about France. We are developing our reading skills using non-fiction texts. We have been enjoying using Education City in ICT and in Art we have been using different techniques to print.



## Primary 5 News

This term Primary 5 will be learning about Railways. Particular focus will be on the railways that used to be in Bonnyrigg. If anyone has any knowledge of this subject that they would like to share, we would be delighted to hear from you. We have also been writing imaginative stories and the children have kept us entertained with their super ideas and brilliant descriptive words and phrases. Recently the children were learning about Charles Rennie Mackintosh and they created pieces of art inspired by his work which are on display around the school. We would also like to welcome Miss Azam who will be working with P5A for the next five weeks.



## Primary 6 News

Primary 6 are currently learning about Space. They began their topic by creating a 3D mindmap, which generated lots of interesting discussion and wonderful ideas! So far, they have had a keen interest in the Sun, Stars and Gravity. Children continue to focus on Visible Learning within the classroom setting, discussing Learning Powers and Learning Skills they have been using throughout different lessons. The Primary 6 Learning Council met recently with the rest of the ASG and are excited to move forward with their Visible Learning tasks - we will update you on this as it happens.

Both Primary 6 classes have also been learning about mixing paints to create new colours, and are now looking at Pop Art.



## Primary 7 News

This month our P7 classes had an amazing experience at the Mining Museum with Crummock Civil Engineering and Midlothian Council. The children were set the challenge of building a cable-stayed bridge using 'real' construction materials. They worked together in teams developing skills in communication, problem solving and design alongside civil engineers who have designed many famous Scottish landmarks, including the new Forth crossing. This was also a fantastic opportunity to explore possible career paths in Civil Engineering and the Construction industry. All our pupils contributed well during the event and everyone crossed the completed bridge successfully. Well done P7!



# Bonnyrigg Nursery



## Newsletter



February 2016

### Welcome

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2016. We hope that you all had a restful Christmas Holiday, although this may feel like a distant memory now! The children were more enthusiastic than ever when they returned to nursery, sharing their stories of Santa or what they did during the holidays. This term has plenty of fun in store for everyone in the nursery. Read on to find out more...

### Winter Walks

As we continue through Winter and head into Spring, some of the children will be exploring the seasons, by visiting Vogrie Country Park. During these walks, the children will learn about the changing seasons and the unique features of each.

### Curriculum Focus

The children have shown a keen interest in toys since returning from the Christmas Holidays. This has been due to a lot of children getting new toys from Santa. This has been our focus for our Nursery Plan and the children have been planning their learning using 3D mind maps to share what they know about toys and what they would like to learn. You can see what the children have been learning in our Nursery Toys Floor book.

### Burns Celebrations

To celebrate burns day, the children learned Scottish Country Dancing and had a Burns Supper in the nursery. All of the children had fun working as a team and were being healthy and active at the same time.

### Staff Training

On the in-service day in January, all staff in Bonnyrigg completed Floorbook planning training. The nursery staff have been using Floorbooks for a long time but were able to share their good practice with others at the training. You can see our Floorbook plans around the nursery. Please have a look.

### PEEP Group

Mrs Weatherhead and Mrs Allan will be running a PEEP group for children aged 6 to 18 months. A letter has already been issued with further information about this group. If you are interested then please see a member of the team.

### Staffing update

As you may be aware, Mr Fleming left Bonnyrigg on Friday. Mrs Allison and Mrs Findlay will now take over responsibility for the overall management of the nursery. However, Mrs Weatherhead and Mrs Allan will still be your first point of contact as the Nursery Seniors.