

# Bonnyrigg Primary Newsletter



May 2016

## School Gates

As stated in our previous letter regarding safety in the playground, we were advised by Midlothian Health and Safety Officers that our gates should not be locked permanently due to the possibility of us needing to evacuate the school in an emergency.

High latches have now been fitted to all the gates. Mr Knox, our facilities supervisor, will no longer lock the gates. We need everyone to take responsibility for closing the gates and putting the latches over. Thank you.

## Euroquiz

The finals of the Euroquiz will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> May at Heriot Watt University at Riccarton. Miss Stark will take our winning team of 4 pupils to take part as we had won the Midlothian heat.

The children have been practising hard and are very excited and we wish them the very best of luck



## Camps at School

It has been decided at cluster level that next session, August 16 onwards, we will not be having a P7 Cluster Camp and will instead have activities to support transition in and around the local area.

The only camp at school will be the P6 one and this will be shorter than the ones previously offered. Hopefully this will be more inclusive.

## Health Week

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> -Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May will be Health Week. Children will participate in a variety of sports, will complete some Health related activities in the classroom and may do a baking/cooking/food handling activity. On Thursday we will hold a Community Walk to which all parents and carers are invited. More details about Health Week have been sent out in a letter .

## Contact Details

Please make sure you have notified the school office with any changes to telephone numbers etc for both school and nursery pupils.

## Lost Property

The lower atrium has 9 unnamed Next jumpers in the lost property. The school as a whole has many more items of clothing/shoes. Please reclaim your lost items. We will only hold items for a month then put them in the recycling bank outside the school.

## School Holidays

School and Nursery will be closed to pupils on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May for Polling, Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May for Victoria Day and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June for the European Elections.

The last day of this term will be Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July with a 12 noon finish for both School and Nursery.

### Primary 1 News

All the P1's enjoyed taking part in a "Katie Morag dance a book" session. We had a whirlwind tour around the Island helping Katie to deliver the mail!

P1 are starting their new topic about minibeasts and will be working across the classes to investigate habitats and life cycles. Lots of visits to our garden are planned! Some of the children have been working with Mrs Hearn planting peas, beans and tomatoes for our school garden and look forward to harvesting them in the Autumn.



### Primary 2 News

Primary 2B are currently working hard in their skipping challenge. Each week they are practising their skipping skills then seeing how many skips they can do in a minute. The aim is to beat their score each week. Even Miss Henderson is having a go. Although it's safe to say that P2 are much better than her! Our topic this term is 'Rainforests.' We will be learning lots about the wildlife, people and geography of rainforests, whilst also looking at the problems they face and ways we can help protect them. As always, we welcome any information that family/friends have to share with our Primary 2 classes about this topic. To culminate we will be presenting the information and work we have done in this topic to parents and the school in our Primary 2 assembly on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June.



### Primary 3 News

Primary 3 have been busily preparing for their class assembly on the 13th May. We have been working hard to show all of our learning.

We have also started our new topic - Ancient Egypt. We have made 3D mindmaps to show what we know already and what we would like to find out. We have decided to explore all about the pyramids in Ancient Egypt as the first part of our topic.



### Primary 4 News

Primary 4A have been working on friendships. We are using Cool in School to help us to learn about how to respond to different scenarios and how a 'cool' response is best. In Numeracy we are working on how to solve missing number sums by counting up the jumps from one number to the next. We are enjoying doing Volleyball in PE with Mr Attinasi and have also been working on our fitness - lots of very red faces after PE lessons! Following our work writing news articles, our news reports in Drama are coming along nicely and we have been doing lots of work on how to take on the role of a character.



### Primary 5 News

The end of last term was very exciting for Primary 5 as our iMovie on the local railways won the local history competition. The children thoroughly deserved the award as they worked effectively in teams to create, film and edit the movie. We were thrilled to see so many parents and carers at the assembly and we hope you enjoyed the movie. Primary 5 are just starting their novel study called There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom. The novel study will give the children the opportunity to develop their literacy skills and apply them to different contexts. Our novel study will also incorporate Health topics such as bullying and friendships as well as Drama activities. Sadly skiing has now ended however Miss Groom and Mrs Ireland have been so impressed by the childrens' progress and their motivation each week, even in bad weather.



## Primary 6 News

This term, Primary 6 are beginning a novel study/topic, The Breadwinner. This will look at life in Afghanistan for an 11 year old girl called Parvana, who is forced by circumstances to become the breadwinner for her family in war-torn Afghanistan. Primary 6 are also looking at and discussing five different (and potentially real-life) scenarios as part of the "Keeping Myself Safe" programme.

P6A have been reading and interpreting scripts within Expressive Arts, and will be performing their plays to each other, and giving and receiving feedback. They are really looking forward to this. P6A also welcome Miss Rooney, a PGDE student, who will be with the class until 30th May.



## Primary 7 News

Primary 7 pupils attending the ASG Camp at Dalguise this year had a very successful visit to Lasswade High School on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. They met children from other local primaries who are also going and formed their Activity Groups. They were given the opportunity to engage in teambuilding exercises; to introduce one another and get to know each other a little before we go. All of our pupils behaved impeccably and Mr Dougal and Miss Stark, who have organised camp this year, were very impressed with their initial efforts.

We will text P7 parents on Friday morning with an approximate return time from camp.



## Staffing

Miss Fraser, our P7B teacher has been unwell and absent from school since March. At the moment Mrs Allison and Mrs Findlay are sharing the class between them. Please bear with us at this time. We wish Miss Fraser a speedy recovery.

Miss Stark was recently appointed Acting Depute Head Teacher. Well done Miss Stark! She will continue to teach P6 as well as undertake Depute Head duties.

Miss Bennett, one of our P4A teachers is leaving us and her last day will be Tuesday 10th May. We wish her well for the future. There are no supply teachers available so Mrs Croal has agreed to teach the class along with Mrs Douglas in her absence.

We have been fortunate to have Ms Mearns, a Supply Learning Assistant join us until the end of term.

Mrs McEwan is returning from maternity leave on 20<sup>th</sup> June.

## Sports Day

To accommodate more potted sports and races we have altered our Sports Day this year.

P4-P7 sports day will be on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May or Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May if the weather is bad.

P1-P3 sports day will be on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May or Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June if the weather is bad.

Further details will be issued separately before the event.



## Parent Council/Fundraising

We are delighted that the Fundraising group have provided us with funds to allow us to purchase a further 25 Ipads to be used in school and indoor break games for all the classes. Many thanks to all who help raise funds for our school.



The Parent Council AGM will be held in school on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 6.45pm. All welcome.

# Bonnyrigg Nursery Newsletter



May 2016

## Pre-school Parent Consultations

Just a reminder that Pre-school Parent Consultations will be taking place during May and that sign-up sheets will be in the foyer from next week.



## Nursery Garden

A huge thank you to all parents for their help and donations, as you can see the garden development is really beginning to take shape. The children have been enthusiastically cooking up a storm in their new mud kitchen, telling the time on their new interactive clock and taking aim with their giant hoop game. Over the next few weeks we look forward to the addition of a water wall, music wall and some lovely natural literacy and numeracy resources. As we turn our attention to the play house we are on the look-out for parents who are handy with a paint brush! Please let one of us know if you can help.



## Donations

Our children are just so creative in our craft area and our modelling resources are getting a bit low. We would really appreciate any donations of recycling that you have at home. Also, the children are enjoying dressing up as dancers at the moment. If you have any old ballet shoes or tap shoes these would be gratefully received.



## Spring

The children thoroughly enjoyed our Dance-a-Book sessions during the first week of term which helped introduce our new Spring topic. Over the next few weeks will begin consulting with children about what kinds of things they would like to plant and grow in our garden. We will be learning all about what plants need to grow and be healthy and about caring for the plants in our garden. Please see the parent notice board for ways that you can support your child to learn about this at home.



## PEEP Groups

Since Christmas we have been running two very successful PEEP groups.

The PEEP programme focuses on how to make the most of the learning opportunities in everyday life at home – listening, talking, playing, singing and sharing books every day. By working with adults about their children's very early learning, PEEP supports parents and carers in their role as the first educators of their children.

We hope to be able to continue running PEEP groups during the session 2016/17.

