

Bonnyrigg Primary Newsletter

October 2016



EARLY YEARS (NURSERY AND P1)

NURSERY

New Starts

All our Nursery new starts are settling in well and are becoming familiar with many of our daily routines. Many of our older children are enjoying the opportunity to support the younger children and are showing that they are responsible citizens.

Harvest

Recently we have been exploring harvest time in the Nursery. Children have had porridge and weetabix for snack and have made apple crumble and bread. Combine harvesters and tractors can be found in the construction area and wheat, barley lentils and pulses have been added to the play dough and craft tables. Children have loved printing with seasonal vegetables and have enjoyed stories about harvest. Some of the children will have the opportunity to join the whole school at an assembly to celebrate harvest.

Curriculum Talk and Coffee and a Chat

We held our first 'Curriculum Talk' of the school session on Thursday 22nd September where we shared some of the routines of nursery and explained some of the learning opportunities provided. We also had our first P1 and Nursery 'Coffee and a Chat' session on Friday 23rd September. We were delighted to see so many parents and carers there.

Next 'Coffee and a Chat' Friday 28th October at 10am

Next 'Curriculum Talk' Thursday 17th November 11am and 2.45pm

One Way System

Just a wee reminder that we operate a one way system at drop off and collection time. Please arrive through the door from Cockpen Road and leave by the door at the far side of the nursery. Please make sure this door is closed behind you at all times.



PRIMARY 1

The Midlothian Advertiser with a Primary One supplement will be on sale in shops on Thursday 6th October. We are not collecting orders for these this year so remember to buy your copies in shops.

P1 have been enjoying their first few weeks of primary school. They have worked incredibly hard settling into new routines and learning school rules.

In class we have been working on our initial sounds and developing number skills such as sequencing and grouping. We are beginning to learn about the school and Bonnyrigg as a community and have discussed what we know already and what we would like to learn about. As part of this we are looking at people who help us and we will be hoping to have visits from people who work and contribute to everyday life in the local community.



FIRST LEVEL (P2, P3 AND P4)

PRIMARY 2 AND PRIMARY 3

This term all our Primary 2 and 3 children have settled in well to their new classes and have made lots of new friends.

P2 and P3 have been exploring growth and fixed mindsets and how this impacts on their learning. They have also been learning about Bonnyrigg and Malawi. They have looked at pictures to compare the two communities and have found where they live on a map.



PRIMARY 4

Primary 4 have settled in well in the new term and have been enjoying their new topic about Harvest. We have been finding out about different sorts of food chains and creating food chain pyramids. As part of our topic we went to the 'Farm to Fork' workshop at Tesco where we found out more about the process of farming and where the food goes once it has been harvested.

Last week we have also taken part in a drumming workshop using a Cajon drum from Peru - which means a big box drum! We have lots of fun trying to create new rhythms and using new instruments.



SECOND LEVEL (P5, P6 AND P7)

PRIMARY 5

In P5, we have been looking at the wonderful Scottish weather in Art. We have been using Literacy World for our language and writing. In science we have been looking at the changing states of liquid and we are beginning to look at the features of Scotland's landscape. In French, we looking at the alphabet and using this as part of our spelling.



PRIMARY 6

P6A have had a stimulating start to the year. We have been very motivated to learn about the events which led to the outbreak of World War One, including Alliances, The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand and the domino effect this had on European peace in 1914. We are doing our daily register 'en Francais' and have learned a French song as well as observing Le Sacre Coeur and creating our own interpretations. We continue to learn about how we think and are embracing the Growth Mindsets and Language of Learning. We are very much looking forward to our Mosque trip as we learn about Places of Worship.



P6B have had an exciting start to the new school year. They have found out that they are part of an exciting new project across Midlothian primary schools named Inspirational Learning Spaces. The children have been allocated a budget and are to redesign the classroom to support and facilitate learning. The children have so many creative ideas and have begun to research the impact of certain factors on learning. They have additionally started to look at how to use the space effectively for a wide variety of learning opportunities. Every week we receive more information so please continue to ask your children for an update.



Across the Primary Six classes we have also been aiming to develop endurance and stamina through a daily mile around the school field. The two classes have continued this on from the previous year and are still as engaged as ever with the process.

PRIMARY 7

Well done to Lauren and Connor (P7B), who represented our school at the JRSO Launch Event at Woodburn Primary School at the end of August. They came back very enthusiastic to start their new role, which they will do alongside Fraser and Amy (P7A). The JRSO will promote Walk/Cycle to school weeks, encourage safe parking around our school, and run various competitions throughout the year. We look forward to hearing more from them!
Our next Walk to School week is in fact this week – 3rd to 7th October.



In August, P7 visited Dynamic Earth for their project “*Volcanoes and Structure of the Earth*”. We had a tour of Dynamic Earth and had a workshop on Volcanoes which told us about how volcanoes work, real life experiences and what the layers are made out of. We also went to the show-dome experience and watched *We Are Stars*; which told us how earth was created and how we are made of star dust. We especially enjoyed handling pieces of the four layers of the earth; The Crust, The Mantle and The Inner and Outer Core in the workshop!

By Alisha & Kerr



CROSS COUNTRY

Mrs Thompson, one of our P6 teachers took 18 P6 and P7 pupils to Vogrie Park on 27th September to take part in the Midlothian Active Schools Cross Country Event.

We are delighted to tell you that we came 1st overall with a remarkable performance by all involved.

The children showed great sportsmanship encouraging each other and other teams. Well done to you all.



GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS

FIRST AID IN SCHOOL

We do not have a school nurse based at Bonnyrigg Primary School. Mrs Blyth is an Office Support Assistant who holds a First Aid at Work qualification. If you require advice on medical issues please contact your GP.



PARKING/SCHOOL GATES

We now have a designated disabled parking bay at the rear of the school in the Sherwood estate.

Please do not use the school car park for dropping off or picking up children in school or nursery as this can be dangerous and there have been near misses. The car park is for staff use only and the gates will be shut during the school day.

Please also let pupils know that they should not be taking a short cut through the car park on the way to or from school.

If you use the playground gate at the far end of the playground please make sure you shut it at all times. If this does not happen we will have to lock it permanently again.



GOLDEN TIME

Pupils really enjoy golden time on a Friday morning. This is a chance to develop social skills.

Please do not feel your child has to bring a toy from home and we would ask you do not drop toys off at the office for them. This interrupts office staff and teachers.



SCHOOL WEBSITE

Mrs Brandwood, our P4 teacher is now responsible for updating our school website. Over the next few weeks you should see an improvement in this.

Our new Home Learning and Behaviour policies and our School Improvement Plan and Standards and Qualities Report are now available to view along with general letters.

You can look at the website via <http://bonnyrigg.mgfl.net>