

**Bankhead Primary School**

**Newsletter**

Dear Parents/Carers,

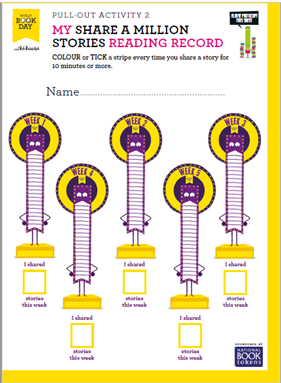
**Numeracy**

On **Tuesday 17th March** you are invited to attend a Numeracy Workshop at **9.15am** followed by a visit to your child or children’s classes to see numeracy in action from **9.45am-10.15am**. You will also learn about how the children move from using the concrete materials to the pictorial stage of learning before using the abstract approach. The new CPA (concrete, pictorial and abstract) methods ensure that your child is confident in their understanding of all new numeracy concepts. Come and enjoy playing learning alongside your child.

**World Book Day 5th March**

To celebrate World Book Day on **Thursday 5th March** pupils are invited to come to school dressed as a character from one of their favourite books (not films). This is a non-uniform day and we will not be asking for money. Aileen Keel, the Community Champion at Morrisons at Anniesland, has chosen Bankhead Primary to make a donation of books. Thank you very much Morrisons We Love Reading at Bankhead Primary School.

On **March 3rd** a group of pupils have been invited to the BBC to be part of a World Book Day recording with Michael Rosen and Tanya Roberts. Miss Douglas has been working in partnership with the Scottish Book Trust for the past four years and it is through her endeavours the children have this exclusive opportunity.

**A wee reminder --------Good Reasons to Read Together**

"Reading for Pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success - more than their family circumstances, more than parents' educational background or their income." (The Organisation for Economic Co-operation & Development)

Reading for pleasure is on the decline: only 29% of 0-13 year olds read for pleasure daily.

The number of parents reading stories with their children is also in steep decline:

Only 56% of 3-4 year olds are read to daily

Fewer than 19% of 8-10 year olds are read to daily or nearly every day.

World Book Day changes reading habits and makes a difference. World Book Day's theme "Share a Story" encourages parents and children to spend at least 10 minutes sharing a story every day.

Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day develop a better vocabulary and imagination, increased general knowledge, improved concentration, empathy with others and do better in all school subjects.

* **20 minutes a day – exposes you to 1.8million words a year.**
* **1 minute per day – exposes you to only 8,000 words per year.** (It would take one year to read as many words as a good reader would read in two days).

**Reading Improvements and Reading Book Amnesty**

The children are benefiting from the various literacy opportunities they are enjoying through their reading, spelling and writing lessons, paired reading with adults and children.

All pupils from Primary 2-7 are regularly choosing from a range of Benchmarked books to bring home to read. These books are designed to match your child’s reading age. This means your child should be able to read most of the book fairly easily. Fluency is not the only skill needed to be a competent reader. Your child should be able to understand the text well enough to be able to answer questions about it and should be able to provide a summary of the book. Please help us to support your child by reading with them and talking to them about their reading and ensuring the books are returned to school each week. We have worked hard to provide a wide variety of books for the children to choose from but, unfortunately, not all the reading books are being returned which means other children can’t access them and it is costly for the school to replace them. Please search your home and return any reading books belonging to Bankhead Primary School as we would really appreciate it very much.

Happy reading!

**Developing the Young Workforce**

All pupils from P5-P7 have chosen to be a member of one of the following Children’s Councils: Eco, Health and Wellbeing, Road Safety, House, Anti-Bullying, Fundraising & Pupil Council to develop their own leadership skills and to have their voices heard as part of the school improvement plan. Primary 1 – Primary 4 pupils have been asked for their ideas opinions through surveys from each of the groups.

**13th March Remembered**

On Friday the **13th March** the Primary 7 children will put flowers on the memorial at our front entrance. This plaque remembers those community volunteers and fire fighters who died when our school was bombed in The Clydebank Blitz 79 years ago.

**Sports Relief Day Friday 13th March**

To celebrate in the National Sports Relief, pupils and staff are encouraged to come to school with ‘crazy hair’ and be prepared to have fun completing an obstacle course. Money will be collected though the ‘Chuck it in a Bucket.’ Thank you for your donations.

**25th & 26th MARCH - PETER PAN & WENDY**

This is the third year we have been very fortunate to have the services and dedication of Mrs Hazel MacGregor, Take Away Theatre Group and Mrs Jaclyn MacGregor, Primary 7b class teacher. The P5-P7 Drama club children will present us with their wonderful drama performance of Peter Pan and Wendy. The children have been practising each Wednesday and Friday after school to entertain you with their spectacular singing and phenomenal acting skills. There will be two performances of the show the first one at 3.30pm on Wednesday 25th March and on Thursday 26th March at 6.30pm. The Tickets cost £3 each for school funds and are available from the school office.

We really hope that you can find the time to support the children by attending one of the two performances with your child/children as this is the only way for your child to see the performances

When asked after last year’s performance of the Wizard of Oz, almost all children agreed that the drama club had not only boosted their confidence but was really fun and gave them memories to last a lifetime. This is what they said:

“In drama, we are like a family.”, “It makes you feel amazing.” “It’s really fun and you get to meet new people.” “You learn to work with others.” “I would just tell them how amazing it is.” “You learn so much.” “Great place to believe in yourself.” “We have fun every week.”

The children said attending the drama classes improved the following skills: listening skills, organisational skills, and teamwork skills, communication skills, leadership skills, acting, singing and dancing skills. When asked how could they apply these skills to life, school and work? This is what they said:

“I can listen to my teacher.” “I want to be a doctor. You need to be very organised for that.” “Poetry competition.” “It could help me with presenting in school.” “I can use teamwork skills in high school.” “It has let me be more resilient.” “Confidence in socialising.”

Parents were thoroughly impressed with the show and commented on the confidence and talent of the children. Comments were made by a local Councillor and Mrs McIntosh, GCC Quality Improvement Officer about how professional the production was.

We hope that you will support the children in the Drama Club by coming along to the performances and have a fantastic time.

**Easter Assembly**

We are celebrating Easter and Spring with an assembly on **Friday 3rd April** at **9.15am.** Primary 5a will be working with Mr Thain and will lead this assembly. All parents are welcome.

**Easter Disco**

On **Thursday 19th March** the Parent Council have organised an Easter Disco for all the children. Primary 1 - Primary 3: 5.45pm-7pm and Primary 4 - Primary 7: 7.30pm-9.00pm

**Latecoming**

****Can we please encourage you and your child to arrive at school before 9am? We have had an increasing number of children arriving after the 9am bell. We also think that this is contributing to parents not following the Car Free Zone procedures. Leaving the house a few minutes earlier would enable you to park in a safe place and walk to the school. Please think about the safety of all children.

**Appointments During School Hours**

We understand that it is sometimes necessary to collect pupils during school hours for dental/hospital appointments etc. We would remind parents that an appointment letter/card must be handed into the office prior to collection to retain in the pupil file. We would also ask that appointments are not made that would result in children being collected between 2.45p.m. and 3pm as this is one of the busiest times in reception.

**Leaving school arrangements**

Please make sure your child knows who is picking them up after school when they leave for school in the morning. If they are walking home also make sure they know where they have to walk to.

**Bankhead Primary Easter Challenge**

We will be running an Easter Challenge for our pupils – Pupils who wish to can:

Either Make or model an Easter Bonnet

or Decorate an Easter egg (hard boiled)

or Design and or make a Spring/Easter card.

Each class will choose a First, Second and Third place and each winner will receive an Easter Egg prize. All the children’s entries need to be submitted by **Tuesday 31st March** and they will be displayed in the main corridor until the morning of **2nd of April 2020**. Please pop in if you want to see them.

**Holidays**

Bankhead Primary will close at **2.30pm on Friday 3rd April** for the Spring Holiday. It will re-open on **Monday 20th April at 9am**. We wish you a very happy holiday filled with fun, sunshine and great family times out.

**Dates for your diary:**

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| Wednesday 4th &  Thursday 5th March | Scottish Ballet Workshops\* ‘Safe to Be me’ with P7 children |
| Friday 6th March | P2b to Knightswood Library\* 11am – 12pm |
| Mondays 2nd March -  Monday 16th March | Primary 7s working with Rangers FC\* in ‘Show Racism the Red Card’ project. |
| Monday 9th March | P3 to Knightswood Library\* - Reading to Guide Dogs |
| Tuesday 10th March | P1-P3 Red Carpet Assembly\*  This is an opportunity for our children to share their skills and talents outside of school. Your child can bring in certificates, medals, trophies, karate belts etc. or simply tell the other children about their hobbies and achievements. These assemblies are for children only as part of our usual assembly rota. |
| Wednesday 11th March | P3-P5 Red Carpet Assembly\*  This is an opportunity for our children to share their skills and talents outside of school. Your child can bring in certificates, medals, trophies, karate belts etc. or simply tell the other children about their hobbies and achievements. These assemblies are for children only as part of our usual assembly rota. |
| Wed 11th March | P2a to Knightswood Library\* 11am – 12pm |
| Thursday 12th March | 9.15am P7 Blairvadach Assembly for their parents and P6 pupils. |
| Friday 13th March | Sports Relief\* – Crazy hair day  Obstacle course & ‘Chuck it in a Bucket’ |
| Friday 13th March | Primary 3a Class Assembly 9.15am (all parents welcome) |
| Monday 16th March | Whirlybird ECO Drama Performance\* P1 and P2 |
| Tuesday 17th  March | Numeracy Open Morning 9.15am-10.15am. All welcome. Please meet in assembly hall. |
| Thursday 19th March | x16 P7 pupils participating in Sense over Sectarianism: ‘Bridges and Barriers’ Football Competition\* with other local schools. |
| Thursday 19th March | Parent Council Spring Disco **P1-P3:** 5.45p-7p **P4-P7:** 7.30p-9p |
| Friday 20th March | Primary 3b Class Assembly (all family welcome) |
| Wednesday 25th &  26th March | Peter Pan and Wendy Drama Productions. All welcome. |
| Thursday 26th | P6-P7 Red Carpet Assembly\*  This is an opportunity for our children to share their skills and talents outside of school. Your child can bring in certificates, medals, trophies, karate belts etc. or simply tell the other children about their hobbies and achievements. These assemblies are for children only as part of our usual assembly rota. |
| Friday 3rd April | Spring/Easter Assembly P5a 9.15am (all families, especially P5a’s, are most welcome) |

\*= event for pupils/staff only

**Yours sincerely,**

**Celine McKinlay**

**Please let us know your ideas and comments on how we can continue to improve in the space below and return to the school office.**

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