January-February 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to 2020: a new decade and a new term! We look forward to new and exciting learning opportunities for children and staff and living up to our motto: ‘Working Together to Achieve Our Best!’

Every January, we celebrate our Scottish heritage through poems, songs, music, stories and dance. We are very proud of our culture and traditions and look forward to the children becoming fully engaged and immersed in their learning. Each class will also have the opportunity to learn about another country of a pupil in their class. They will focus on learning about the language, food, national traditions, flags etc. and compare it to what they are learning about Scotland. A Scottish song leaflet has been distributed to the pupils and a Scottish Shared Home Learning Grid is attached to this newsletter for all of the families from P1-P6. Primary 7 children have their own topic-related Shared Home Learning Grid. We hope you have fun learning together!

**Christmas Fayre**

Thanks to your support during the Christmas Fayre, we were able to raise a total profit of £1,878.12!

So far these funds are being used for three lunchtime clubs and an after school club. Some of the profits are also subsidising the transport costs for the P7’s visit to the Sky TV Academy in Livingston, which is linked to Developing the Young Workforce. Children will be offered the opportunity to participate and learn about the various occupations involved in working in a TV Studio. Thank you very much for your support.

**Improving Communication**

From Friday 17th January, a weekly diary for this term will be e-mailed to the main parent contact on our administration system to provide you with relevant information. To ensure that we have your most up-to-date e-mail address, please complete the form at the end of this Newsletter and return to the school office as soon as possible. After this term, we will evaluation the efficacy of this method of communication via a survey. Thank You!

**Staff News**

Our new EAL teacher, Mrs Heath, has taken over for Mrs MacMillan, who has now started her maternity leave. Mr Doyle will teach Primary 2b until Mrs Moore returns from her maternity leave.

We are joined this term by three 4th Year Strathclyde University Student Teachers who will co-teach the following classes until Friday 13th March:

Miss Erin Armstrong P5a, Mr Ewan MacDonald P7a and Miss Jessica Hayward P7b. On the 30th January, three Physical Education Strathclyde Students will be teaching P7’s athletics and basketball. They will also run an after school club for P5-P6’s on Thursdays starting 30th Jan.

**Winter Weather Procedures**

Please send your children dressed for the weather. Uniform with coats, hoods, hats, scarves, gloves and boots are all great for the colder/wetter days.

If the weather becomes very severe, please listen to the local media for school closure and make sure we have an up-to-date contact number for you. If at any time the school has to close, we would contact you to collect your children (We NEVER send the children home alone). If the weather is very severe, please use your best judgement about the safety of bringing your child to school. If the weather is inclement, the doors will be open to let the children enter their classrooms at 8.45am where they will be supervised by school staff and Primary 7 pupils.

**Children’s Safety First**

If you are early for the Breakfast Club, please remain with your child to ensure their safety. Until the Cordia staff open the doors, your child is your responsibility. While there has been an improvement to the children’s safety when coming to and from school, not all drivers are being courteous and there has been a very recent crash which involved the police being called. In addition, disappointingly, some drivers are still not observing the Car-Free Zone.

**Football Coaching & Swimming**

Primary 4/3 and Primary 4 have Football coaching from Glasgow Life for 5 weeks starting Monday 6th January. Primary 5b boys continue to have swimming lessons this term.

**Lunchtime and After School Clubs**

The P5-P6 Gymnastics Friday lunch club and the P5-P7 Drama Wednesday after school club will resume the week starting **6th January**. The P7 athletics Monday after school club will resume on the **13th of January**. P5-7 Football Tuesday after school club, P4-P7 Table Tennis Wednesday after school club and all other lunchtime clubs will resume the week beginning **20th January**. The P6-P7 Friendly 7’s Football Wednesday after school club at Scotstoun will resume on **19th February**. P5-P6 Athletics Thursday after school club will start on **30th January.**

The gymnastics club is currently preparing for the Floor & Vault Competition, and the athletics club is training for the Super 7’s Athletics event. We will provide an update on lunchtime clubs via our school website’s ‘School Clubs’ page under the ‘Our Parents’ tab when we receive confirmation from all of the coaches.

***Save the Dates!***

**Bankhead Primary School’s Scottish Poetry Competition – 31/01**

This is the sixth year of the annual Scots poetry competition and we are very proud of all the children’s efforts and achievements in previous years. We hope with your continued support and enthusiasm you will encourage your child to recite their poem confidently. All children can participate at all levels (e.g. reading a couple of lines, reading poem aloud with friends, etc.), but to be considered to be one of the three finalists per class, the children need to recite the poem independently, preferably from memory.

The date for the Scottish Poetry Competition between class finalists is **Friday 31st January**. If your child is one of the three finalists from their class, you will be informed by **Friday 24th January**. The P1-P3 competition will start at 9.15am and the P4-P7 will start at 10.45am.

**Mid–Term Holidays and In-service Dates – 07/02 – 12/02**

School will be closed to pupils on **Friday 7th** **February** an extra in-service day for staff. **Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th** is the mid-term holiday and school will also be closed to pupils on **Wednesday 12th** for a second in-service day.

**Parents’ Night Term 3 – 20/02 & 27/02**

This term’s parents’ nights take place on **Thurs 20th Feb and Thurs 27th Feb** from **3.30pm-6.30pm**. Please remember that if you are unable to make an appointment within these dates and times to contact us so we can make alternative arrangements.

**Drama Show**

The P5-P7 Drama Group’s production of Peter Pan and Wendy will take place on **Wednesday 25th March at 3.30pm & Thursday 26th March at 6.30pm.**

**Diary Dates**

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| **Thurs 9th Jan** | Primary 5a visit to the Science Centre. They will look after Brown Trout eggs until the fish are big enough to release into Garscadden Burn for their Science Topic. | **Mon 3rd Feb- Thurs 6th Feb** | Primary 7 residential visit to Blairvadach |
| **Fridays from**  **10th Jan–3rd Apr**  **(9.15am-11.15am)** | Face Painting Class for Parents (Arran Room) Please contact school office to sign up | **Fri 7th Feb** | In-service Day (School closed to pupils) |
| **Tuesdays from 14th Jan–31st Mar**  **(2.30pm-3pm)** | ‘Book and Biscuit Club’ for all P1 pupils and parents in P1 classrooms | **Mon 10th Feb –Tues 11th Feb** | Mid-Term Holiday (School closed) |
| **Tuesdays**  **14th Jan-21st Jan**  **(2pm-3pm)** | Play-A–Long Maths for P3 pupils and parents in the assembly hall | **Wed 12th Feb** | In-service Day (School closed to pupils) |
| **Wednesdays from 15th Jan-11th Mar**  **(3.00pm-4.15pm)** | Family Book Club for P1-P3 children and parents with Miss Douglas and Mrs Osbourne. Younger siblings are also welcome! (Skye Room) | **Thurs 13th Feb**  **(5.45pm-8pm)** | Valentine’s Night Family Quiz Night  (Parent Council) |
| **Fri 24th Jan** | Primary 7a and Primary 7b visit to Sky TV Academy Livingston | **Tuesdays from**  **18th Feb-24th Mar**  **(2pm-3pm)** | Play-A-Long maths for P2 pupils and parents in the assembly hall. |
| **Mon 27th Jan** | Inter-House Event – ‘The Cube’ (Pupils to bring house colour gym kits) | **Thurs 20th Feb &**  **Thurs 27th Feb** | Parents’ Nights |
| **Wed 29th Jan** | Primary 7a and Primary 7b visit to Glasgow Film Theatre to see a film about the Holocaust (*Nicky’s Family*) | **Mon 24th Feb – Thurs 27th Feb** | Dumbarton Road Corridor Peer Educators  Working with P7 pupils |
| **Fri 31st Jan**  **(P1-P3: 9.15am)**  **(P4-P7: 10.45am)** | Scottish Poetry Competition for class finalists | **Thurs 27th Feb** | Super 7s Athletics completion for selected Primary 7 pupils. |

Yours sincerely,

Celine McKinlay

**Head Teacher**

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**Parental Feedback Form**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Child’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Any comments/concerns/suggestions:**