

Newbigging P.S. Newsletter

3rd December 2013

School Improvement

I am delighted to say the school is looking very smart with the exterior having been painted and new windows in the nursery and hall. Our pre-school children had a marvellous time when they were de-canted up to Monikie P.S. and mixed very well with the other children. It was so successful, we hope to repeat this from time to time, as well as invite our friends from Monikie to Newbigging to play with our toys! We have had some new starts at Nursery too, Pania and Simon. Riley and Lucy are to start in January bringing our pre-school role to a grand total of nine – almost full capacity!



Jodie has been working hard with Kevin Reid from the Educational Resource Service in re-vamping our school library. Our next step is to get all the books catalogued on Junior Librarian. If you want to get involved, we would love to hear from you – please contact me directly by phoning the school on 01382 370245 or e-mail nwbmilloyl@newbigging.angus.sch.uk

Pupils at Monikie Park

Some of our older pupils were a credit to the school as they participated in a training event for teachers at Monikie Park. They demonstrated some of the activities on offer there. Head of the Outdoor Education Team, Gavin Brebner said he was delighted with their contribution and how well they participated. Well done Christopher, Edina, Hailie, Isaac & Stephanie, we are very proud of you!

Trips and Visits

The P5's attended a Clubs Festival at Carnoustie Leisure Centre recently. They were given the opportunity to experience some new activities on offer in the area.

The P4-7 class attended 'Beyond the Panda', an event at Burnside P.S. telling them not only all about the panda, but about China and its culture. This is to be followed up this week by a visit from Ting Yang, a teacher visiting Scotland from China. She will be teaching both classes some Mandarin, also telling them about life in China, when she comes to school this Thursday and next.

We had some very unusual visitors in school last month...a toad, a millipede, an albino rat, a snake and a tarantula!! Courtesy of Zoolab, the children learned all about these fascinating species and got to touch/hold all of them bar the tarantula!



Next week we can look forward to another visit from the SSPCA. They will be telling us lots of important information e.g. why we shouldn't be giving our pets chocolate over the festive season.



Another unusual guest we had was a John Deere tractor! RHET provided us with the experience for our Nursery and P1-3 class. The children got to sit in the tractor which was definitely a highlight!

Two of our pupils, Imogen Crozier and Christopher Yeamen, both P7, go to Monikie P.S. every Wednesday lunchtime to take part in the Band there.

The P7's visited Carnoustie High School recently as part of their transition. Lyndsey McWhirter, the transition teacher, has been visiting us at school and getting to know the children. Miss Liddle has also been visiting to teach the children Spanish.

The P4-7 class will be planting some trees this Wednesday with the help of a Ranger. Here's hoping the ground isn't too hard and frozen!

School Website

Our school website should be live very soon! We are immensely grateful to Miss Duffus for her hard work in putting it all together. The finishing touches are in the process of being done and we will e-mail you when we are up and running.

Christmas Post

Once again P1-3 pupils will help Wilma to deliver Christmas cards in the village. If you wish for the children to deliver cards for you please either hand them in to the school or to Wilma by Monday 16th December. The cost is 10p per card.



Bookbug for Primary 1

As this is "Book Week Scotland", we have been listening to the 3 stories that the Primary 1's will vote on. After reading, "The Paper Dolls" by Julia Donaldson, we created our own paper dolls and then an adventure that they could have.

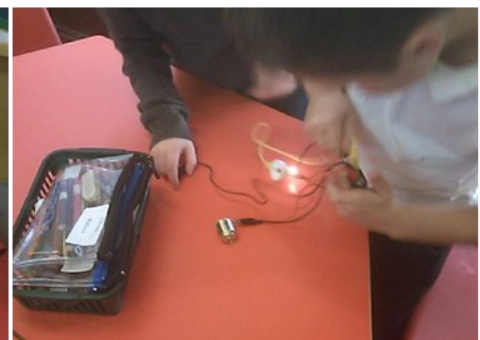


The book, "What's the Time, Mr Wolf?" by Debi Gliori was used to introduce us to our maths topic on time.

The last book, "Jumblebum, the Monster who Loved Mess!" helped us to create our own monsters. Some of these live in our bedrooms, garden or even the attic. We have also talked about what words we could use to describe these monsters.



Our Electricity topic is nearly finished. The Primary 1's had fun lighting up a bulb while the Primary 2's and 3's were challenged to make a motor go as well as a light bulb. They got there in the end.



P4-7 Class

This term P4-7 have been learning about Animals. We have focussed on endangered animals and P5-7 enjoyed an afternoon's workshop at Burnside about the Giant Panda. We have been learning about the main causes of animals becoming endangered and ultimately extinct. We enjoyed a session with Zoolab and Ross, the presenter, was very animated in talking to us about endangered animals and the many hundreds of animals he has in his house!

Through moving image education we have been analysing using the 3Cs and 3Ss - colour, camera, character, sound, story and setting. We have analysed the Freeview tadpoles advert and the John Lewis winter adverts with a focus on how effective their persuasive approaches are. Our focus for writing has been persuasive writing and we have enjoyed trying to change other people's opinions!

I really enjoyed learning how to analyse an advert.

Imogen P7



We have been learning some new words in French and can now say a few greetings, ask some questions, sing songs associated with days of the week and numbers. We can say the months of the year and have been learning some Christmas vocabulary. We enjoyed a Spanish lesson with Miss Liddle from the High School and some Chinese from Ting.

French is fun because I have done it before and it's easy! I would like to go to France and try it out!

Christopher P7

Nursery News

The pre-school children are getting very excited decorating the tree, and making cards, calendars and collages. They're also practising very hard for the Christmas concert and are sounding great!

On the day of the party, please bring your pre-school child to the nursery at 1.20pm. Kate will then get them ready and take them to the hall when the party starts.



Thank You

Thank you to all in our school community who made our Hallowe'en Disco and Open Afternoon such a success. The feedback from children, staff and parents has all been very positive. We can look forward to a Valentines Disco next term on Wednesday 12th February 2014 and another 'open' event for the pupils to share their learning with you on Wednesday 5th February 2014.

Staffing News

Claire Tringham, a teacher from Monikie P.S., is joining us a couple of times in the week to support the learning and teaching. She will liaise with the class teachers and be working with individuals and small groups.

As discussed at the Parent Council Meeting, Anne's remit will change slightly as she takes on more of a Primary School Assistant role in the classrooms, again to support the learning and teaching. This means she will spend less time in the playground. Emma Thomas, our Active Schools Co-ordinator, is to train the older children to be Young Leaders, where they will learn skills to help them be solution-focused in problem solving and to work co-operatively with others. The children will learn about rights, but also responsibilities and resilience. In conjunction with this, some of our older pupils will be allowed to answer the school phone at break times and lunchtimes, when I am not in school. They will follow a strict procedure, taking messages and/or fetching a member of staff if and when necessary. These are all valuable life skills which will make them take more ownership of the school and valued members of the school team. I hope you will support us in this venture, as all the members of the Parent Council have shown their encouragement and approval. I will monitor the situation until the Christmas break and report back to you in January how it has gone. Changes will be made as necessary.

Pupil Council News

The Pupil Councils from both Newbigging and Monikie are currently looking at ways in which the schools can work together to celebrate the Commonwealth Games, Glasgow 2014. We have chosen Bangladesh as our second country. If you have any bright ideas – let us know!

Thanks to the children in the P.C., dangerous branches and thorny bushes are to be removed in the next week. It's good to look after our school grounds as well as the buildings! Have you noticed the Art & Craft group for Golden Time have painted the glass on the entrance doors? Well done to them!

PARENT COUNCIL NEWS

Hamper Items Plea

A big reminder to please hand in items to the school for our annual hamper raffle by this Friday, 6th December. Raffle tickets will hopefully be sent home this week for everyone to sell to family and friends and the draw will be held next week during the school Christmas show. Tickets will also be sold on the night.

Cookbook

Our Newbigging School cookbook is almost finished and ready to sell. Paper copies will be available to buy at the Christmas show and an electronic version can be available on request. The cost will be £3 per book, or 2 for £5. It really will be a lovely keepsake to have that the whole school community has worked hard to create and would make a great stocking filler for Christmas!!

See you all next week at the show!

Kathryn, NPPC Chair

Dates for your diaries...

Thursday 5 th December	Christmas Lunch Dress rehearsal for the concert at Monikie Church 9.15 – 12.15
Tuesday 10 th December	Christmas Concert at Monikie Church 6.30
Thursday 12 th December	Councillor Sheena Welsh, Convenor for Education to visit the school, also Ting Yang and the SSPCA
Wednesday 18 th December	Christmas Party (Nursery – P7) 1.30 – 3.30 <u>NB no morning nursery that day</u> Santa will be arriving at 2.45pm and parents are welcome to join us then. If you will have a younger child with you and wish him/her to get a present from Santa, please drop it off at the school before the 18th
Friday 20 th December	End of Term Service in the hall at 9.15. Please join us for some Christmas songs and carols, it would be lovely to see you! School finishes at 12 noon
Monday 6 th January 2014	Back to school