

Newbigging P.S. Newsletter

February 2014

Our P6/7's are getting extra coaching at Monikie P.S. from Active Schools Co-ordinator, Emma Thomas, before the Basketball Festival on the 20th February at Carnoustie Leisure Centre.

Emma is also busy doing Young Leaders training with our P6/7's to help them organise games and activities when in the playground. The children will also be beginning to take on extra responsibilities as monitors, answering the phone at breaktimes etc. These developments tie in nicely with the introduction of Bounceback which is a programme promoting resilience and respect which I will be covering at assemblies. This will be in conjunction with Restorative Practices which is a focus in our School Improvement Plan. On Thursday 3rd April the P4-7 class will be taking part in an Anti-Bullying Workshop at the school for the whole morning.

The P7's are at Carnoustie High School this morning as part of their transition programme. They return again on Friday 14th March to do drama transition workshops.

On Thursday 13th March we are to hold an Open Morning from 10 – 11am. Our theme will be on Literacy and we have changed it to a morning time so the Nursery can be included. You are all welcome to visit the nursery even though your child is no longer there, the staff and children would love to see you.

In the next few weeks we intend starting up some paired reading in the school. This involves older children reading along with younger children. They have a question and answer session and research shows the exercise benefits the older as well as the younger. You will get a leaflet home explaining more about it once we have given the children some training.

We are also going to change the way we issue homework. Your child will get home a grid with different challenges in each square. These grids will be differentiated according to your child's appropriate level of learning. They will concur with the work being done in the class. Your child will have several weeks to complete his/her grid. This will allow for you to plan when is best to complete the homework as we are aware many children have extra-curricular activities in the evenings and other demands put upon them. Please be assured that reading and spelling will still be sent home on a regular basis. As always, we welcome your support with this new venture and I will be consulting with you for feedback once we have trialled this approach.

We were sorry to say goodbye to Audrey Vincent who was a Support for Learning Assistant with us. She has moved on to pastures new, but we welcome Mr Steven McComskie SfLA who is working with the P1-3 class on Monday to Wednesday mornings.

On the 20th February Maxine Cottiss and Dawn Archibald, Quality Improvement Officers with Angus Council, will be visiting the school to observe the learning and teaching. This is in anticipation of a visit from HM Inspectors which we expect in the near future.

Can I remind you all that Parents Evening is on Tuesday 25th March from 4 – 7pm.

There is to be a Rural Football Tournament at Pitskelly Park in Carnoustie on Tuesday 11th March and a Cross-Country event in Forfar on Wednesday 12th March. We will let you know if your child has been asked to participate at any of these events.

Our Easter Service will be held in the hall at 11am on Tuesday 1st April. You are all most welcome to attend.



Christmas Fundraising



Our Christmas fundraising was very successful, raising £127.88 for school funds after expenses. The main fundraisers were the cookbook which raised £93, and school photographs which raised £110 after Ron Cathro's fee was deducted. The entrance fee raised, £98.27, was made up to £100 and donated to the church to cover the cost of the heating and lighting, as well as the use of building. Other expenses include the cost of teas/coffees and presents for the party.

A massive thanks to you all for such fantastic support.

A special thanks must go to the pupils for their recipes and artwork, and Parent Council members for their help in typing up the recipes for our cookbook. Particular thanks go to Craig Nugent for producing such a fantastic looking book (with artistic help from Cailean).



Sainsburys Vouchers

It's time to start collecting Sainsbury's vouchers again! Any vouchers you are given with your shopping should be handed into the school (or, of course, to Wilma!). Thank you.

Mid-term Holiday & In Service Date

Don't forget that the school is closed to pupils and staff on Friday 14th and Monday 17th February for our mid-term holiday. The school will also be closed to children on Tuesday 18th February for In Service.



Valentines Disco

Our Valentine's disco takes part on Wednesday 14th February, from 6.30-8.00pm. There will be an entrance charge of £1 per child which covers a drink and snack.

Pre-School Class

We have welcomed 2 new starts into our pre-school class—Riley Foot and Lucy McIlravey. Both have settled in very well and are getting used to our routine.

We celebrated the Chinese New Year with a banquet. The children loved trying all the different Chinese food.

The children have been looking at the post office and banks, and have set up their own post office. On Wednesday 12th we are going to Wellbank Post Office for a visit to buy stamps and post letters. Look out for our photograph in the Guide & Gazette shortly.



P1-3 Class News

"We have been looking at fact and opinion. I think a fact is real and an opinion is something you can change. We came up with our own facts and opinions." Stuart

"We have been learning about nouns, adjectives and verbs. I think learning about these is quite easy!" Tane



"I like the bingo games for learning about time." Oliver

"I Like drawing in the hands for time." Alex

"I like spelling because I got 8/10." Joseph

Oliver likes using the computer because he can write things in a word document. Rowan likes Golden Time because he's in a group playing traditional board games.

P4/7 Class News

Maths

In maths we have been learning about time. We learned about minutes and hours and about the 24 hour times.

The primary six and seven pupils were learning about stop watches. They made up fitness activities for PE and timed how many we could do in a minute.

We have been dividing using cubes and Cuisenaire rods. We use multiplying to help us with dividing.

"I liked problem solving this week. We had to work out ways of putting bottles into milk crates. At first I thought it was hard then I worked it out." Sophie P6

Topic

In topic we are studying Ratburger by David Walliams. We read a bit of the book every day and we made better front covers for the book. We all have booklets with different writing activities about the book, like the fact files about David Walliams, a letter to Zoe's stepmum and a circus poster. We made a rat each and we get to move our rat up the ladder if we do something rally good in class.

"It is a very exciting book and in some bits it is sad." Ellie P5

Celebrating Burns Day

For our Scottish afternoon we learned Scottish poems and said them to the little class and Miss Duffus. We learned songs, 'Scotland the Brave' and 'Three Crows Sat Upon a Wall'. We danced Strip the Willow and the Grand Old Duke of York. We had oatcakes, cheese and shortbread for a snack. It was fun.

"I learned 'Crocodile' by JK Annand and said it with Lucy and Eva." Ross P4

P7 Transition

On Friday 7th February the P7s went to Carnoustie High School. At Carnoustie High School we did some geography with Ms McWhirter. We did a quiz of the world and used the atlas to look at two different maps. We got shown around the library and learned about when we can go there. We went to the social area to have our break—it was very busy! We did science with Mr Strachan and used the Bunsen Burners to see which foods had sugar in them, and we used iodine solution to see which foods had starch in them.

By Imogen Crozier, P7

Personal Achievements

Lesley recently won some gold, silver and bronze medals at her Athletics Club.

Ellie moved up a class at Extreme Dancing and got a certificate for horse riding.

Eva and Hailie moved up a class at their swimming lessons.

Stephanie improved in horse riding and was moved up a group.

PARENT COUNCIL NEWS

Welcome to 2014! Hope all our families had a lovely time over the festive period and that everyone is finally settling back into the old routines! Lots of news to catch up on since the last newsletter so here we go...

CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING

We had lots happening in the run up to Christmas. Huge thanks to all of you for all your hard work behind the scenes and getting everything ready on the night of the Christmas show. As our school number is a bit smaller, we didn't have as many items for the raffle as previous years, but we still managed to raise approximately £278! It was so lovely for an actual pupil to win the big hamper...especially after his Dad had jokingly complained to me that Christopher was spending loads of his money on the raffle instead of buying treats from the stall! Hope you enjoyed it Yeaman family!

Special thanks also to all our entrepreneurial home bakers. Some of our mums set up a fantastic stall of baked goods and treats to sell during the show and they managed to raise £108.50! They also didn't hand in any receipts for ingredients or costs -what a lovely lot you are!

Also on sale on the night were some fantastic cookbooks written by the pupils, with help from members of the staff. Some members of the Parent Council spent lots of time on the typing, editing, graphic design and layout of the final product, with all money raised going directly to the school. Over 30 copies have been sold so far! Well done everyone!

SPENDING SPREE

We have been spending lots of our fundraising money over the last few months.

Just before Christmas the PC made a substantial donation to the retirement fund of our lovely dinner lady, Ruth. She chatted to me after the presentation and was very touched and said she was more emotional than she thought she would be about leaving. It was especially lovely to see every pupil in the school give her a goodbye hug as they left the hall.

The school has been given £300 from PC funds to buy new books for the library and for school reading projects. The pupils were involved in some of the book choices so it was a real team effort.

The pre school are currently purchasing new musical instruments with help from the PC. Once everything arrives PC funds will have donated approximately £100 to their music box.

EXTRA THANKS

Over the last few months a couple of our PC parents have had to step down due to time constraints and changing lives. Myself and the PC team would like to thank them for joining up and helping out when they could. Any time given is so valuable at such a small school. Hopefully we will still see your faces around and feel free to still pop along and help out when you can.

NEXT MEETING

With lots of illnesses going around it has been difficult to organise a meeting for the start of 2014. A couple of dates have been proposed for March and once it has been decided an email or note will be sent out. Remember, everyone is always welcome, you don't have to be a member!

VALENTINE'S DISCO

Just a reminder about the disco being held next Wednesday, 12th, 6.30-8pm in the school hall, £1 per pupil. Fliers have been sent home so hopefully we will see lots of you there in your glad rags!

Look forward to seeing you all soon.
Thanks again!

Kathryn
NPPC Chair

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 12 th February	Valentine's Disco 6.30 – 8pm
Friday 14 th February	Mid-term holiday
Monday 17 th February	Mid-term holiday
Tuesday 18 th February	In-Service Day 4
Thursday 20 th February	Basketball Festival for P6/7 at Carnoustie Leisure Centre 10 – 12 noon
Wednesday 12 th March	Cross-Country Event at Forfar for P6/7
Thursday 13 th March	Open Morning 10-11am
Tuesday 25 th March	Parents Evening 4 – 7pm
Tuesday 1 st April	Easter Service 11.00am
Friday 4 th April	Easter holidays start at 3.20pm
Monday 21 st April	Holiday for Easter Monday
Tuesday 22 nd April	Back to School
Monday 5 th May	May Day Holiday
Thursday 8 th May	Rural Football Festival for P4-7 at Arbroath High School from 1 – 3pm
Thursday 15 th May	Rural Netball Festival at Mattocks P.S. for P4-7's from 10 – 12 noon
Monday 19 th May	Health Week
Tuesday 20 th May	Primary School Relays at Arbroath H.S. for P6/7's
Thursday 22 May	Rural Commonwealth Games for P1-3 at Monikie Park from 10 – 12 noon
Monday 26 th May	In-Service Day 5
Tuesday 17 th June	Sports Day, BBQ & Fun Afternoon
Wednesday 25 th June	End of Term Prizegiving and Service 1.30pm
Friday 27 th June	On holiday 12 noon ...until 11/8/14