



Braehead School Newsletter



The final term of the session is now well under way and there have been lots of exciting things happening in school with much still to look forward to.

Quality Improvement

This is the first Newsletter since we had our 'Support Visit' from Education Scotland. The day went very well indeed and was a chance for us to share what we have been doing since the inspection earlier in the session.

Mr Eadie spoke with staff, pupils and senior management to offer us further advice and ideas on our areas from improvement. It was a very positive day and we were assured that we are working hard to make the necessary changes to ensure the best for all pupils at Braehead School.

Our QIO, Mrs Anne Darling has also spent several sessions in school over the past few weeks carrying out focussed discussions with pupils and staff. This again has been very positive. Children throughout the school were able to talk confidently about their recent achievements in class - with a particular focus on their writing. She was very impressed with the children's responses and will be in school later this term to visit classes and talk further to children.

Reminder of Dates coming up -

Tuesday 3rd June—Senior Choir

Wednesday 4th June— P1-3 Choir

If you wish to go along to the Music Hall on either of these dates and support our pupils in the festival please note details below.

Admission is £3.00 per day and tickets available at the Music Hall.

P1-3 Choir will be singing between 10.15—11.45 a.m.

Senior Choir are singing between 2.30—3.00 p.m.

Dress Down Day and Bring a Bottle and Chocolate (for our Summer Fayre)- Friday 6th June

Summer Fayre - Saturday 14th June

Lots of exciting activities and stalls for all the family. More details will follow soon from our Parent Group who are busy organising this at the moment.

Monday 23rd June - Wednesday 25th June

Primary 7- 3 day visit to Bridge of Don Academy

Sports Day - Thursday 26th June @ 1:30pm

Hopefully the weather will be kind to us and we will be able to hold our annual sports day on this date.

Events will start at 1:30pm and we aim to be finished by the end of the school day.

End of Term Disco - Thursday 3rd July

Again more information will follow nearer the time.

Church Service - Friday 4th July @ 11am

All parents are invited to attend our end of term Church Service.

School Improvement

This term sees our focus for development turn to Reading. All P4-7 classes have now or are in the middle of implementing the Active Literacy Novel study. The children should be able to explain the different strategies they have been using to investigate different types of text.

P1-3 are continuing the teaching of reading and are beginning to introduce some new ways of organising their day to fit with the Active Literacy approach.

Polling Day

During the recent Polling day all staff were in school working together on our high level curriculum plan. It was an excellent opportunity for us to reflect on where we are currently and begin to prioritise areas for improvement for next session.

Numeracy

Our main focus for next session is to begin to develop our practice in Maths and Numeracy. We would like to seek your views on this and will issue a short questionnaire soon.

Homework Policy

Thanks to those of you who sent in comments regarding our homework policy. We have updated it to reflect the comments. We have also added a monthly whole school homework challenge which we aim to implement from the beginning of next session.

You can now find a copy of the policy on our school blog.

The Railway Children

On the very last day of term Friday 4th July in the afternoon in school we are having a performance of The Railway Children.



We are asking each pupil to contribute £2.00 towards the cost of this and the school will subsidise the balance.

I'm sure the children will have a wonderful time and enjoy this professional show.

If you can please complete the tear off slip at the end of this newsletter and return by Monday 9th June.

Braehead Chicks



We have had a wonderful experience over the past couple of weeks with our family of chicks hatching in school. Not sure who was more excited when they were hatching the pupils or the staff!!

The children have had many learning experiences across the school related to the chicks. These have been related to all different areas of the curriculum from research to designing and building a run for our new friends.

Thanks to Miss McLean for looking after the chicks in school and at home over the weekend where they chirped all night long!

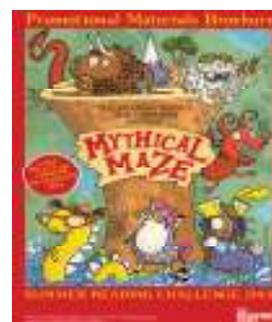
Mythical Maze (The Reading Agency)

You'll be a-mazed at what's going down at your local library this summer. It's Mythical Maze, Summer Reading Challenge 2014!

You're going to love finding your way round the Mythical Maze. As you read, you'll meet some larger than life characters from myths and legends. Keep track of it all on your fold-up poster and complete the maze with stickers from the library.

To join in -it's all FREE—head for your local library. But hurry! You wouldn't want to myth out on the fun.

www.mythical-maze.org.uk



Golden Groups

Our new Golden Groups are a huge hit with the children and are a great excitement each week.

You may have noticed that our gardening group have been extremely busy and have been able to plant several different types of vegetables from potatoes, to lettuce to carrots. Their next project is to plant some beautiful flowers to put at the entrance of the school.



We would still really like to have some more parents involved in our Golden Groups and are open to any suggestions. If you have a talent of any kind that you would be willing to share with the children on a weekly basis then please get in touch.

Please can you help?

We are looking to create exciting role play areas. We would like any old tent frames, small gazebos etc. to create structures to enhance the children's imaginative learning.



Inspire>Aspire Awards

P4-7 took part in a National competition where they had to design a 'Values Poster' in relation to the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. We are delighted to announce that **Amy Johnson** P5 has been shortlisted from over 30,000 pupils across the country! She has been invited to receive an award presented by BBC Correspondent and Adventurer Mark Beaumont at the University of Glasgow on Monday 16th June. Well done Amy! We are so proud of you.



Aberdeen Youth Games Baton

Our whole school walked to Scotstown School to pass the Baton to their P7 pupils. Reece Carson, P6 handed over the Baton to the P7s as he designed the Baton.



Primary Schools Tennis Tournament

Two pupils from P3 and two pupils from P4 have been selected to play in this year's Tennis Tournament at Westburn Tennis Courts on Thursday 12th June. The children are Lucas and Matthew from P3 and Maya and Kaylah from P4.



A Taste of Grampian

P5 took part in the Taste of Grampian competition. The children had to work in groups to plan a lunch that will be nutritionally balanced to fuel a budding athlete. A group are through to the semi finals. The children are Charlotte, Luke, Sandra, Harvey and Emily. They have been selected to prepare their lunch for judging in the final competition which will be held at Thainstone Centre, Inverurie on Saturday 7th June. We wish them all good luck!



P4 Café

P4 are organising 5 different cafes during the remainder of the term. The dates are as follows -

Thursday 29th May 1.30pm - 2.40pm

Friday 6th June 12.30pm - 2.00pm

Tuesday 10th June 1.00pm - 2.30pm

Wednesday 18th June 1.30pm - 2.45pm

Thursday 26th June 1.30pm - 2.45pm



There will be a different menu for each café.

Please can you help?

We are looking for used good quality toys e.g. Lego sets, building blocks, small world toys to add to our play areas. If you have any that you would like to donate, please drop them off at the office. Thanks very much.



Disabled Spaces

Just a reminder that the marked disabled spaces at the front of the school are for badge holders only.

We appreciate your cooperation with this.

What have our classes been up to?

Nursery

Our Pre-School children have already begun their transition programme in preparation for their move through to P1 after the summer holidays. Their Role Play area is set up like a Primary One class! The children have been involved in carrying out exciting Science experiments. The children have also been learning about Jungle Animals. The Critter Keeper came to visit. He brought lots of different insects and reptiles. They also have a Jungle Role Play Area.



Primary 1 & P1/2

The children have been busy organising a Teddy Bear's Picnic which will take place later on in the term. They are making invitations for the picnic.

Miss McLean has kept four of the chickens. The children are getting to look after them in school. They are growing so fast!

The children are also learning about life cycles. The children made paper mache chickens and eggs.



Primary 2

The children have been preparing for their Whole School Assembly. They will showcase their learning about Teeth.

The children are also excited about presenting their Drama work about 'Lucy and the Dentist'.

Primary 2 and Primary 6 are working together on their 'Book Trailers'.



Primary 3

Well done to our Primary 3 pupils who raised £220.28 from their Toy Sale they planned and organised earlier in the term.

A huge 'Thank You' to the pupils who donated their old toys and to those of you who made purchases. The children were very polite, handled money, had good negotiation skills and above all work brilliantly as a team to make this such a great success.



Primary 4

Primary 4 are currently working on an 'Enterprise' topic which involves the children working in groups to plan, organise and run a series of cafes. The children have visited Tesco to do some research for their cafes and have been able to incorporate many exciting ideas into their menus. We look forward to the first café later this week where I believe there will be some tasty treats on offer prepared by the children.



The class have also been on a class trip to the Apple store and Satrosphere. Both these visits link in with the learning that has been going on throughout the term.

On all occasions when Primary 4 have been out of school I have been delighted to hear that they have represented Braehead school in a very positive manner and we are very proud of them.

Primary 5 - Aberdeen Youth Games

Primary 5 were able to go along to take part in the brilliant 'Aberdeen Youth Games'.

The day. The children had the chance to take part in the following sports - Badminton, Netball, Athletics, Table Tennis, Rugby. They also had the chance to watch or try the following activities - Boxing, Weightlifting, Hockey, RGU Fitness Tests, Satrosphere, Long Jump and High Jump.



During lunch there was a talk and Q&A session from Olympic Gold Medalist Katherine Grainger.



Primary 5 & 6 - BibleWorld

Last week Primary 5 and Primary 6 went to Bible World. They learned about the Bible through games, stories and quizzes. The children got to go into the Bible Bus and access the interactive games.



Primary 6

Primary 6 are working with Primary 2 on Book Trailers. The purpose of a book trailer is to bring attention to a book and its author.

The children are also enjoying reading their class novel, 'Wonder' by R.J. Palacio and using the Active Reading Strategies along with the book. The Reading strategies are Metacognition (prior Knowledge), Metalinguistic (Words & Phrases), Visualisation (Sensory Images), Inferences, Main Ideas and Summarising.



Primary 7

Primary 7 had a super trip away at Abernethy Nethybridge. The children took part in a range of outdoor activities which encouraged them to work as part of a team and take risks. Again we are very proud that the children represented the school in a very positive manner and had a brilliant experience.

Thanks to Mr Taylor and Ms Baxter for joining the children on the trip and for looking after them so well.



The Primary 7's have also begun their transition work and are about to embark on a games based learning project with Scotstown Primary 7 children. The class are to be involved in a Guitar Hero project which will allow them to work as part of a group and to explore many different skills.

Please detach and return

I enclose £2.00 to cover cost of The Railway Children Show.

Child's Name _____ Child's Class _____