



Braehead School Newsletter



This term is absolutely flying past and it's hard to believe that we are nearly at the end of another busy time.

Our rehearsals for the variety of different Christmas events and shows are well underway and we look forward to see you all in and around school over the next couple of weeks.



Thursday 10th December

9:30am ~ Nursery ~ P3 McTivity

Parents of Nursery, P1 and P2 are invited to come to this performance.

11am ~ P4-7 Panto Pandemonium

Parents from P4 & P5/6 are invited to come to this performance.

2pm ~ Senior Citizens

If you know of anyone in our community that we can invite please contact Alison in the office to let her know.

Friday 11th December

9:30am ~ Nursery ~ P3 McTivity

Parents / Carers of Nursery, P1/2, P3 are invited to come to this performance.

11am ~ P4-7 Panto Pandemonium

Parents of Primary 4/5 and P7 are invited to this performance. We have arranged the shows like this to hopefully prevent the hall from being too busy. If anyone needs to swap days for any reason this should not be a problem - as long as it's only a few!

We would be grateful if parents could adhere to two/three tickets per family as we are limited for seating.

Staffing

We say to Farewell to Mrs McNulty at the end of this week as she begins her maternity leave with one week to go before her due date! She has coped remarkably well and she most definitely deserves a wee rest before Baby McNulty puts in an appearance.



Mrs Mundie and Ms Baxter will be teaching Primary 4 on a job share basis for the rest of the session.

We are delighted to welcome Miss Karen Reid to our staff who will be teaching Science from Primary 1 - 7. She joins us from Aberdeenshire where she has worked for 10 years as a Science Visiting specialist. We look forward to welcoming her to our team and I'm sure she will soon get to know staff, children and families.



Road Safety

It is very unfortunate that I have to write yet again about the concerns regarding safety in and around our school car park.

Earlier this year we had some of our Eco Committee and staff begin to patrol the drop off and pick off zone to ease congestion in this area. I am pleased to say that we feel there has been a significant improvement in this area and drivers are respecting the rule not to leave their cars unattended in this zone.

However, the speed of drivers is becoming increasingly worrying with a couple of near misses in the past couple of weeks. This is a polite reminder that the speed limit is 5mph in and around the school. The limit on Braehead Way is 20mph.



There is quite clearly a pedestrian crossing on Braehead Way that cars are to stop at to allow families to cross. On more than one occasion drivers from our school have not stopped at this crossing resulting in very near misses. I am sure you all agree that the safety of all our pupils is the number one priority. The rules are there for a reason and are not being followed by everyone.

As you know some concerns have been ongoing since the school opened and that the lack of a lollipop person has an impact on safety. I have recently been in contact with the Maintenance department of Aberdeen City Council as they are the budget holders for this service. When Braehead School was opened, a survey of the site was carried out which showed that the area did not meet the criteria for a lollipop person. I have asked that this survey be redone as it has been a number of years since the school opened and we may now meet the criteria. This is now in the hands of the City Council and will be carried out as soon as possible.

I have also been in touch with the police again to raise our concerns. You will have noticed that they were in the car park this morning and had to speak with a number of parents about their speed. They have agreed to come along on a regular basis to continue to monitor the car park and Braehead Way. They may also begin to issue tickets to those cars that park on the zig zag lines.

Please for the safety of our children -
DRIVE SAFELY!!!



November In-Service Day

During the November in-service day all of our teaching staff spent the day in school working together to plan a whole school topic on Scotland which we plan to do next term.

Working closely with the Social Studies experiences and outcomes from the Curriculum for Excellence staff have begun to plan progressive learning experiences from Nursery - Primary 7. We hope to have a sharing the learning event during the term to show off all the exciting learning that takes place.



Sparkle Day

Thanks to everyone who came along to join in the fun at our Sparkle event. It was great to see the children having fun with their family creating a variety of different Christmas crafts. There are lots more photos on our website and Facebook page.



Standards and Quality Report

Our Standards and Quality Report 2014-2015 has now been quality assured and is available from the school office if you wish to read it. We will also upload it to the website.



Lateness

We appreciate that this is a very busy time of year, however the number of children arriving late for school has increased significantly this term.

It is a parent's responsibility to ensure their children arrive at school on time. Lateness can disrupt the learning of others and can result in a pupil feeling greater stress and achieving poorer outcomes.

If pupils are late:

They miss out on important learning, which could effect their achievement

They don't have the social time to settle into class

It can be embarrassing for them

They may disrupt the rest of the class

We ask that if pupils are late that they sign the 'late book' in reception. All lateness is recorded and monitored by the authority. We appreciate your support in this matter.



Lost Property



Once again our lost property is building up. We have gone through it and taken out all items with names but are still left with lots of unclaimed items. The ever growing pile will be added to our Recatex collection at the end of term so please check when you are in during the next couple of weeks.

Pantomime

Not long now till we go to see Peter Pan at His Majesty's Theatre. By the time we return to school after the show it will be dark outside. Undoubtedly some of our pupils will wish to walk home. Please can you send in a note on the day of the Panto to the class teacher if you allow your child to leave and head home on their own. If you are collecting your child then please wait in their classroom area and they will be dismissed from there. Your child can take a sweet and drink (no cans) with them to the Panto - something small that can fit into their pocket!



P1 PJ Party: Thursday 10th December - Braehead School Gym Hall

Nursery - P3 ~ 5.45 - 6.45 p.m.

P4-7 ~ 7.00 - 8.00 p.m.

Tickets £2.00 (includes a snack)

If any parents are free to help we would welcome your attendance.



Flash Mob: Friday 11th December @ 3pm in playground

We are delighted to announce Braehead's first ever Flashmob!

Mrs Low and Primary 1 have been busy learning the whole school a dance that they will perform in the playground at 3pm on Friday 11th December.

There will be buckets available as we are collecting donations to support a family in Bali this Christmas. Please come along and watch the fun and your donations will be gratefully appreciated. If it rains we will re-arrange a new date.



Absences

Just a reminder that if your child is off school unwell or for any other reason can we please ask you to call the school office before 9:30am so we can update our register. If we do not hear from you by half 9 then Alison begins contacting parents/carers as our attendance figures are uplifted by the authority on a daily basis.



Food Bank

Primary 1/2 have been collecting a variety of foods to donate to our local food bank. We have been very impressed by the amount of donations and would welcome you to keep donating!

The whole school will be invited to an assembly led by the P1/2's to find out more about how all the donations will be used to help others in and around Aberdeen.



A very enjoyable evening was had by all at our Christmas Fayre last week. As always without the help of parents/carers and our dedicated staff these type of events could not happen - so a huge thank you to all who gave up their time to help or indeed come along to support the fayre. A grand total of **£2000** was raised!

This money will go towards paying for the buses to take the whole school to the Pantomime on the last week of term and all the children's Christmas Parties.



Term and Holiday Dates Session 2015-16 Term 2

- Term Ends - Friday 18 December 2015
- Christmas Holiday - Monday 21 December 2015 to Tuesday 5 January 2016 inclusive

Term 3

- Term Starts - Wednesday 6 January 2016
- Mid Term Holiday - Monday 15 February 2016
- Tuesday 16 & Wednesday 17 February In-Service training school closed to pupils
- Good Friday Holiday - Friday 25 March 2016
- Term Ends - Friday 1 April 2016

Spring Holiday - Monday 4 April to Friday 15 April 2016 inclusive

Term 4

- Term Starts - Monday 18 April 2016
- May Day Holiday - Monday 2 May 2016
- Tuesday 3 May 2016 In-Service training school closed to pupils
- Term Ends—Friday 1 July 2016

These dates are correct as at date of print