

Antonine Primary School

Nov/Dec 2023

Headteacher: Mrs. J McLaughlin

Welcome to the Nov/Dec Newsletter.



Find us at:

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Following the October holidays, the whole school had a learning focus looking at STEM learning and specifically "SPACE". This was a new initiative for us as a school. The teaching staff planned for high quality learning experiences for the children, we worked alongside parents, visitors, Forth Valley College and Denny HS to deliver a wide range of learning opportunities. Everyone has really enjoyed this and the feedback from parents is that the children are talking about their learning and sharing new facts. The fact that every class took part in many live experiments has brought this topic to life. It has been a huge success.

Mrs J McLaughlin

Bonnybridge Remembrance Service

On Sunday 12th November, Bonnybridge will come together as a community to pause and remember all those who have given their lives for their country. Antonine House Captains will be representing the school and lay a school wreath. There is an open invitation to any other children and families who would like to join us to come along.

We will meet from 12.00noon at the Community Centre car park. The procession will walk from the community centre to the memorial gardens at 12.20.pm. Antonine families will walk together as a group. Pupils will stand in the memorial gardens alongside staff from 12.30pm for a short service. We usually finish around 1.00pm.



Book Week Scotland

Book Week Scotland is coming up in November and as part of our journey to achieve a Gold status in the Reading Schools accreditation there has been a number of activities organized by the Literacy Improvement Group in school.

Every class will join an online "Authors Live" experience. We have used these sessions in the past and they are well received by the children in meeting authors and bringing books to life.

There will also be House quizzes in classes, Book Bug Launches in P1, where children will come home with a Book Bag from Book Week Scotland, classes have organized paired reading activities and pupils will be focusing on French (and English) story telling activities.



Anti-Bullying Week

Every year we have a focus on Anti-Bullying and this year our pupil ambassadors have been planning for some great activities. Ambassadors are making up a pupil quiz to be used at assembly. They will present an information session for the whole school and every class will focus on some anti-bullying activities to focus on relationships and strategies.



Rights Respecting Schools – World Children’s Day – Wed 15th Nov

As part of the “Rights Respecting Schools” initiative we are hosting a World Children’s Day assembly. On this day pupils can dress down and the theme is “You” – celebrating each individual pupil. The Rights Ambassadors have planned for disco dinners and musical playtimes, classes will be celebrating pupil voice and there will be a pupil takeover during the day in every class for 30 minutes where the children oversee the plans!

Donation to school

We have received a donation of £500 into school from a business which has family links to the school. This is a very generous offer and one that will be used to support the children’s learning. Following on from the success of the school STEM focus, we have used this donation to book a series of live workshops from a company called “Generation Science”. Every pupil from P1-P7 will take part in one of three Science workshops in school during March.

Under the Trees

Another local business “RHI Magnesia” has provided a grant of £5000 to “Under the Trees”. This is an Outdoor Learning experience for the pupils and builds on existing learning and extending literacy and numeracy skills in an outdoor environment. The money will fund morning sessions in school until May 2024. Classes will attend the experience in blocks of time. P4s have almost finished their block of learning and P5 will be enjoying this experience next.



Strictly Come Dancing P6/7

Every year P6 and P7 pupils put their Scottish dancing skills to the “Strictly” test. On the afternoon of Wednesday 13th December, couples will compete against each other in front of a ruthless panel of judges to win the “Strictly” challenge.

In-Service Day

On Friday 24th November, the school and ELC will be closed to pupils. Support staff and ELC staff are on holiday on this day. Teaching staff will be joining colleagues from across the Denny cluster at Denny HS for STEM activities.

Parent Council

A huge thank you to the Parent Council for our new pupil football strips. We were needing a short sleeved kit and the Parent Council worked alongside Class One Traffic Management to secure sponsorship for this. The football league in the summer term will look great this year.





Christmas

Dare I mention the word!

We have a packed Christmas calendar this year as always and it will be on us before we know it.

Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 1st December is official Christmas Jumper Day. On this day pupils can dress down, wear a Christmas top if they want and bring £1 to school. Pupils are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper or top as part of their uniform for the rest of December. The money raised will be used for Christmas party prizes and food.

Concert

This year, classes are planning a Christmas concert on Thursday 21st December. This will be during the afternoon and in the evening. There will be a letter coming to order your tickets. Every class from P1 to P7 will be singing and it has been deliberately planned for the last Thursday to get you into the Christmas Spirit.

Parties

The Christmas parties are in the diary – please see the dates below. Children can come to school dressed for their party or bring a change of clothes.

Choir

Every month in the pupil “Leading the Learning” groups we have pupils who meet to sing as a choir. Over the next few weeks, we will be inviting more children to join extra choir practices at lunchtimes to prepare for the Christmas singing season.

This year the choir will be singing at the end of term service in December, they will be visiting Wheatlands Care Home to bring some “joy” to the residents and be singing at “Carols by Candlelight” in Bonnybridge St Helens. The church is hosting a community evening, Bonnybridge Primary will also be taking part. This is a ticketed event, and more information will follow. Proceeds from the tickets will be split between the church and “The Driving Force” charity.

All families are welcome to come along to this event.

Pantomime

Everyone loves a Pantomime and this year we have something a little different. “500 miles” is coming to Antonine on Monday 4th Dec in the afternoon. Pupils from P1-P7 will enjoy a Scottish themed show with lots of music and laughter. This event has been paid for by funds from the Parent Council and is free to all children.

Communication

Our main means of communication is the newsletter and the school app – please check over carefully to ensure you are fully informed of news from school.

Twitter is used by classes to show some of what has been going on during the school day. No new information will be shared by Twitter.

You can phone or email at any time. If nobody answers the phone, please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.





Term 2 – 2023

Mon 23rd to Fri 3rd Nov

Whole school STEM focus - Space

November

Wed 1st

STEM Open afternoon for all families 1.45-2.45pm

Wed 8th

Parent's Consultations in school – 4.00-7.00pm

Sun 12th

Bonnybridge Remembrance Service

Mon 13th to Fri 17th

Book Week Scotland and Anti-Bullying Week

Wed 15th

World Children's Day – Dress down as "You"

Wed 20th

Flu vaccinations for all pupils in school who have returned the consent forms

Thurs 23rd

Parent's Consultations in school – 4.00-7.00pm

Fri 24th

In-Service Day – School and ELC closed to pupils

December

Fri 1st

Christmas Jumper Day – bring £1 to school (dress down)

Mon 4th

Homefile Week – Home files home Fri

Christmas Pantomime – 1.00-3.00pm for pupils "500 miles to Christmas"

Tues 5th

P1ME and P1Y singing at church coffee morning.

Fri 8th

Homework and Reading stops

Wed 13th

P1/2 Nativity for families – AM letter to follow for tickets

PM – P6/7 Strictly Come Dancing for pupils

Mon 18th

P7M and P7D Christmas Party AM

P6 and P5 Christmas Party PM

Tues 19th

Christmas Service in Bonnybridge St Helens – 1.30pm

P1ME, P1Y and P2 Christmas Party AM

Antonine Choir singing at Carols by Candlelight – Bonnybridge St Johns, 7.00pm – letter to follow

Wed 20th

P3 and P4 Christmas Party PM

Wed 20th

Tuck Shop in school

Thurs 21st

Christmas Concert – afternoon and evening shows, letter to follow for tickets

Fri 22nd

ELC Christmas Party AM

School and ELC close at 1.30pm for the holidays

Term 3 – 2024

January

Mon 8th

Welcome back – School and ELC open

Mon 15th

Homework and Reading starts

Mon 29th – Fri 2nd

Home file week

Dates for your



February

Mon 5 th	Fairtrade Focus and Global Citizenship Week
Fri 9 th – Mon 12 th	Holiday – School and ELC closed
Tues 13 th	In-Service Day – School and ELC closed to pupils
Tues 20 th	School Sponsored event
Wed 28 th	Parents Eve – 4-7pm

March

Wed 6 th	Book Fair arrives in school for 1 week
Thurs 7 th	Parents Eve – 4-7pm
Thurs 7 th	World Book Day
Sun 17 th – Wed 20 th	P7 Residential Trip to Dalguise
Fri 22 nd	P7 fun day out
Tues 26 th	Easter Service at Bonnybridge St Helens – 1.30pm
Thurs 28 th	Pupil Disco – P1-3 5.45pm P4-7 7.00pm
Fri 29 th	Good Friday – Holiday school and ELC closed

April

Mon 1 st – Fri 12 th	Easter Holidays – School and ELC closed
Mon 15 th – Fri 26 th	Health Fortnight Focus in school – more info to follow
Thurs 18 th	Health Open Afternoon for families 1.30pm
Fri 26 th	“Kidney Kids” charity day