



# Bothwell Primary School and Nursery Class

*Today's SMARTER learners, tomorrow's SMARTER leaders!*

Newsletter: January-March 2022

## Dates for your Diary



**Parent Council Virtual Meeting** - Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 7p.m.

**World Book Day at BPS** - Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March

**Mid-term** – Close Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February at and re-open Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February (Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> is an In-Service day)

### **RSHP Information Sessions –**

- 1 – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February (All levels)
- 2 – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February (Early Level)
- 3 – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March (First Level)
- 4 – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March (Second Level)

**Parents' Meetings –** Weeks commencing 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> March

**Dress Down Day –** Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April

**Spring Break –** Close Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 2.30p.m. and re-open on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 9a.m.



Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to our first newsletter this year! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and I wish you a healthy and happy New Year! Hopefully 2022 brings us greater cheer and a return to a more normal way of living.



**Scottish Celebration** On Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January, Burns' Day, all the staff in the school, had the pleasurable (but challenging!) role of judging our poetry performers for our Burns' Competition. The standard was outstanding! Clearly hours of rehearsals had taken place in many Bothwell homes over the past weeks! I'm sure many parents were word-perfect too!

### **Our Burns' Finalists were:**

#### **P1-3, "The Bairns' Quaich":**

- P1 - Molly O'Callaghan with "The Wee Rid Motor"
- P2 - Nova Anderson-Houston with "Nessie" and
- P3 - Eilidh Graham with "Crocodile".

*The P1-3 winner was Eilidh Graham - P3 with "Crocodile". Well done Eilidh!*

#### **P4 and 5, "The Junior Quaich":**

- P4 - Darla Coakley with "O' Ye Cannae Shove Your Granny Aff a Bus"
- P4 - Sophie McKee with "Street Talk"
- P5 - Andrew Mannering with "A Dug, A Dug"
- P5 - Eric Kennedy also reciting "A Dug, A Dug".

*The P4 and 5 winner was Darla Coakley — P4 with "O' Ye Cannae Shove Your Granny Aff a Bus". Congratulations Darla!*

#### **P6 and 7, "The Skeoch Quaich":**

- P6 - Lucas Lambie with "The Ballad of Janitor McKay"
- P6 - Cara Robertson also with "The Ballad of Janitor McKay"
- P7 - Charlotte McGavin with "The Boy in the Train"
- P7 - Duncan Fife with "Address to a Haggis".


*This year the Skeoch Quaich was presented as a joint award to: Cara Robertson - P6 with "The Ballad of Janitor McKay" and to Duncan Fife - P7 with "Address to a Haggis". Wonderful performances! Well done Cara and Duncan!*

Our annual Scottish Week, culminated in our "al fresco" Scottish Celebration on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January. This was the icing on the cake; we were entertained that day by the P1-3 performing the opening song, "If it Wisnae for Yer Wellies", followed by P4-7 singing a rousing rendition of "Sam the Skull". We then had a wonderful chance to join in with our nursery children singing "O' Ye Cannae Shove Your Granny Aff a Bus", followed by "Donald where's yer troosers?". Our little stars were wonderful and their first contribution to our Burns' event was a treat! Everyone was then on their feet for "Yes Sir, I can Boogie" - a whole school Flash Mob led by Miss Campbell and her able P7 dancers and then our final song, "Caledonia", sung sweetly by the whole school. The concert was rounded off by our "Fab Four", performing their winning performances. It was a joy to watch! Congratulations to all of our finalist and of course to our winners, Eilidh, Darla, Cara and Duncan!



## **Covid-19 Update**

My letter last week has hopefully updated you of our Covid-19 mitigations and the restrictions which remain in place. We may not always enjoy the measures put in place, but please be assured that the safety of everyone, is always our primary concern, please help us by keeping a watchful eye out for any symptoms. I thank you for your support in this area.

 **World Book Day** - This year, World Book Day is on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March and we have great plans to celebrate this the following day, on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March. This event shall be led by our Literacy Ambassadors and their committee. There shall be organised activities for the whole school to participate in, and in addition, this year we are also inviting parents to read their favourite children's story and send the video into the school. If you are able to do this, please email the video to the school office. As usual, children are invited to dress up as a book character or bring along a prop from their favourite story on this day.

**RSHP** – We will now be using a new national teaching and learning resource to help us to deliver the Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood (RSHP) part of our health and wellbeing curriculum. In order to share this information with parents and carers, we will be hosting online information sessions. Please see the 'Dates for your Diary' for more information.

**Nursery Class** – We have been so impressed with all our nursery boys and girls. Our numbers have increased over the past few weeks, and we have prepared our second playroom. This is to allow for the children to have sufficient space to play freely and engage in all opportunities on offer. Due to current Covid-19 restrictions, groupings are still encouraged when inside. We hope this won't last too long. Our vision is for the children to have free-flow play between the two playrooms. All the children have responded so well to each other and they have helped everyone settle so quickly. Thank you for your support at drop-off and collection times.

The children have enjoyed time outdoors, exploring the Outdoor Classroom and around the grounds, as well as playing games in the playground. They have enjoyed the mud kitchen – making lots of interesting recipes! In literacy, they have been learning Scottish songs and rhymes and preparing to showcase them to the school. In numeracy, they have been learning to recognise numbers around us and ordering numbers. In health and wellbeing, they have been learning to hop, skip and jump, and preparing their Scottish snacks of oatcakes and cheddar.

We are delighted to announce that an Early Years Quality Improvement grant application was successful for over £4000 of new resources for the nursery. This will allow the outdoor spaces to be developed to involve and engage our little learners. We cannot wait to get the new resources and have even more fun!

*A few nursery reminders:*

- ❖ A number of our children will have their Care Plan reviews in February (August 2021 starts). A member of the nursery team shall be in contact to arrange this with you.
- ❖ Please remember and check your child's Learning Journal regularly and we would love to see what they are doing at home – please do share!
- ❖ All children need to come to nursery dressed for being outside (a warm jacket and appropriate footwear, for all weathers, just in case!)
- ❖ Thank you for all the donations of quality clothes, toys and games. They are very much appreciated and are put to very good use! If anyone has any donations, they are most welcome! Please drop-off at the nursery entrance.

**Equity Committee** - Our Equity Committee are now in the process of planning how to spend our Participatory Budgeting Funding. After a vote by staff, pupils and parents, it was decided that the money would be spent on updating the playground. Our committee members gathered the views of pupils on what they would like, and this is now being priced to decide on what will have the best impact for our learners. We will continue to keep you updated. Thanks to our parent members, who have been involved in the process online.

**P7 Transition** - On 28<sup>th</sup> January our P7 pupils were due to participate in the Superheroes event at Uddingston Grammar and the following day, P6 to enjoy their first transition event this term with a visit to the Grammar library. Sadly, in line with Covid guidance, these events were cancelled. They will hopefully be rescheduled in the near future.

There was however a P7 virtual parent meeting on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January, from 4.30-6p.m. Thank you to all who joined this meeting, your children will benefit from the information received.

Some P7 pupils have been working with Mr Grant, from Uddingston Grammar School, on STEM related activities regarding helping the environment. This has been preparing pupils for their visits to the high school. Mr Grant has been very impressed with the pupils and will return on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February. Great job!

**Nativity** – Nursery children and P1-3 “wowed” their audience with yet another exceptional Nativity when they performed “It’s a Party” as an online performance this year. The children’s acting, singing, dancing and enthusiasm was second to none – and once again it astounded me how much our children, particularly our nursery and P1 children, have blossomed in their time in our school, to have the courage and confidence to perform to such a high level. As always, your support as parents and carers, is the catalyst to bring those strengths to the fore – and for this I thank you. Well done to all our little stars (and their parents!)

**World of Work** - We will be focusing on the World of Work on the week commencing 28<sup>th</sup> February. In the past, we have welcomed parents into the school to share their skills and experiences and talk to pupils about their job or career. Due to current Covid-19 guidelines, we are unable to have visitors into the school building so this year we would like to try and be creative! If you would be willing to create a video to explain your job or business to children, or if you would be happy to answer any questions, please phone or email the office for the attention of Mrs Jamieson who will contact you to make a plan. Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

**Parent Council** – Our last Parent Council was sadly the last meeting Chaired by Mrs Tracy Lambie. Mrs Lambie has worked tirelessly for the Parent Council and indeed the school over the past few years, in what you will agree have been challenging times. I wish to thank Mrs Lambie for her hard work, enthusiasm and constant support to the school, parents and children, in her time as Chair. It has been a pleasure to work with her. Mrs Lambie now hands over the reins to Mrs Celeste Majcher, who will, I am sure, lead the Parent Council from strength to strength. Welcome, Mrs Majcher, I look forward to working with you.

Please note the next meeting, Mrs Majcher’s first as Chair, shall be on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 7p.m. Please come online, share your ideas and “meet” other parents. All welcome! Any items for the agenda, please contact Mrs Majcher (contact details on the Parent Council agenda, newly issued).



**Safety in the Snow!** – Winter seems to have been gentle on us so far this year, but in the event of snow, please be kind to Mr Doyle our janitor, who works hard to clear the snow to let us get a clear pathway into the school. Sadly, Mr Doyle is not allowed to clear the car park and has only authority to clear the playground once we have a safe entry and exit of the school building. Please don’t give him a hard time, he’s only doing what he is permitted to do – and what a great job he does too!

### **Improvement Plan this session known as School Recovery Plan 2021-22**

Below are detailed the action points and our next steps we have taken this term to meet our learners’ needs, in line with our School Recovery Plan. If you have any questions in this regard or feel you could contribute to improving our school, please contact me.

Support and challenge:

- Staged Intervention used to support and challenge all learners
- Identified partners from beyond the school to be sourced to help with the recovery process

Staff training opportunities to further develop learning and teaching in:

- Literacy - writing
- Numeracy - basic mental maths agility and speed of recall
- Learning and teaching - creativity and effective lesson structures
- Assessments - using the data gathered and developing next steps.

Engaging our learners:

- Utilising Google Classroom consistently within our learning and teaching.
- Further develop learning and teaching strategies, using outdoors and ICT.
- Link with the new Nursery Class developments in the play room - Froebel’s play theory (developing the child in all areas- socially, academically, emotionally, physically and spiritually), Learning Through Nature.
- Develop whole school writing approach in order to raise attainment in writing Explore the range of teaching and learning strategies to employ, in order to enhance learners’ engagement and fully meet

needs.

- Following pupil, parent and staff consultation, determining the most effective method of delivering and undertaking homework. More information to be shared in the coming weeks!
- Share good teaching and learning practice and modify, implementing to suit current pupils.
- Identify suitable approaches in order to build strong foundations in maths
- Monitoring pupil engagement, participation and motivation and planning next steps.

### **Learning Community Improvement Plan**

1. Embedding moderation of numeracy, reading and writing.
2. Further developing moderation of writing across our schools by sharing good practice.

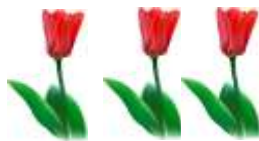
All stakeholders will be consulted over the development of these areas.

We continue to welcome feedback and suggestions which you feel would make a positive impact on the school and your child's education. If you feel you have expertise in any of the areas we are addressing and wish to offer your services, please contact the school as we are always delighted to have your involvement.

I wish you all a lovely (hopefully bright!) spring term!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs P Ross  
Head Teacher  
January 2022



**Bothwell Primary School, You suggest it - We listen!**



Suggestion or comment: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please return the slip in your child's bag, or email your comments and suggestions to:  
[gw14bothwellpsoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14bothwellpsoffice@glow.sch.uk)



# Achievements January 2022



## Well Done Everyone!

R1	Luca Clemente	Football trophy
R2	Charlie Gibson Scott Morris Rose Malcolmson Ava Lawrence	Football trophy Football trophy Swimming certificate Dancing show trophy
R3	Lochlan Jarvie Vivienne Mousley Oren Stenhouse Maya Munro	Swimming certificate Taekwondo sticker Football trophy Dancing medal
R4	Amelie Mair Alice Hayward Nieve Wilson Luis Colvin	Rainbow of the week Passed ballet exam Passed level at gymnastics Medal for completing assault course
R5	Jessica Tierney Olivia Blackadder Sophie Beresford Annabelle Morgan	Passed ballet exam with honours Passed ballet exam with honours Dancing trophy Moved up a level in swimming
R6	Evie Curtis Darla Coakley Millie McCaig Lucy Robertson	Cast as Nigel in Matilda at the Kings Theatre Horse riding show winner Cast as 'Thing One' in her Drama show Won a trophy for her ballet exam
R7	Jessica Munro Cayden Foster Mia MacInnes	Gymnastics competition and horse riding Football trophy Horse riding competition
R8	Finn Slater James Wallace Erin Anderson Alix Prete	Highly commended for ballet exam 4 medals in gymnastics Medal for swimming 3 rosettes for horse riding
R9	Baillie Black Isabel Lee Madison Galt	Player of the week at football Gymnast of the week Gold medal for ice skating
R10	Kayden Armstrong Jay Pathak	Swimming award Football award
R11	Skye Anderson	Moved up to level 4 swimming
R12	Lauren Porter Evan Fox Aahana Gallacher	1st gymnastic competition Trainer of the week football Man of the match