

Blackwood Primary and Early Learning & Childcare Supplement Newsletter – Friday 22nd March 2024



It has been a busy few weeks in school, so this supplement newsletter is to keep you up to date with all that has been happening. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our Blackwood friends and families an enjoyable break over the Easter Holidays. Thank you for your ongoing support this term.

Celebrating Success

This term we are very proud of all of our pupils who have demonstrated our school expectations, Be Ready, Be Safe and Be Responsible. Staff have been impressed by the excellent manners shown around school and in the playground and some of our pupils have received positive postcards home to share this news. Please keep reinforcing this message at home as this is the ethos we are working hard to create with all of our pupils.

We have had pupils competing in many competitions in and out-with school and they have enjoyed sharing their success and achievements during their class meetings and around school. Congratulations to all of our young people who are participating in extra curricular activities and being successful as they develop their skills.

Cross Country

38 Primary 5, 6 and 7 pupils participated in the Clydesdale Cross Country competition at Lanark Racecourse. A nervous start to the day when our bus didn't arrive but we made it in time for registration and the first race. All of our runners completed their race and tried their very best during a rainy and muddy event. We are extremely proud of each individual who demonstrated our school values of Determination and Courage. Individual success on the day for Finlay (P6) who finished in an amazing 2nd place and was awarded a silver medal. Jayden (P7) and Jake (P7) also finished in the top 10 in their race and have progressed to the South Lanarkshire finals at Chatelherault on Wednesday 27th March. Claire, our Active Schools Co-ordinator surprised us with a visit where she presented bronze team medals to the top 4 finishers from our school in the P6 girls' race, P6 boys' race and P7 boys' race as their individual finishing positions awarded Team Blackwood 3rd position in the overall team results. A fantastic achievement!



Burns Competition

We were host school of the Larkhall Burns Competition on Thursday 7th March with individual entrants in the singing and recitation competition. The choir also performed 2 of the songs they will be singing in the National Competition in June. For the recitation, 5 pupils from P2-P7 competed. Brooke (P7) was awarded 3rd place for reciting Robert Burn's poem 'Address to the toothache'. Olivia (P5) performed 'Up in the morning early' and Eva (P5) won first place for her recital of "Epitaph on Holy Willie". Callan (P2) achieved 3rd place for reciting 'Nessie' and Gabrielle (P3) won the gold medal for performing 'A dug, a dug'. The judges awarded team Blackwood overall winners for "Best Recitation Team". In the singing category, Piper (P6) beautifully sang 'Ye banks and braes' and Aaron (P7) was awarded 3rd place for singing 'Scots Wha Hae'. Oakley (P5) was also awarded 3rd place for his rendition of 'Scots Wha Hae'. A very successful night for our soloists and very well deserved as they have all worked extremely hard to learn their words and rehearse their poem/song. A perfect example of the skills required to be a Confident Individual.



Gabrielle and Eva progressed to the Lanarkshire finals which were held in Hareleeshill Primary in Larkhall on Thursday 21st March. The talent in this competition was exceptional and both girls excelled. Eva was awarded bronze in the P4/5 category and Gabrielle won gold in the P1-3 category. Gabrielle will now compete in the National finals in June. Congratulations girls we are very proud of you!



Sumdog

Pupils across the school have been competing in the SLC Sumdog competition this week. There has been fantastic engagement in this and great excitement at the gate each morning as learners share their progress. Congratulations to all pupils who completed their 1000 questions during the week. P7/6 were overall winners of the competition with Jessica (P5) and Rory (P6) finishing in 2nd and 4th place respectively. Two classes, P7/6 and P4/3 finished in the top 10 and P7, P3/2, P6 and P5 all finished in the top 20 classes on leaderboard. Sumdog is an excellent resource to motivate children in their learning and develops number recall whilst consolidating taught concepts. The Parent Council have paid for this subscription for the whole school to help to continue to improve engagement and attainment in Numeracy and Maths.



Dance Festival

Mrs Small has been taking a lunchtime dance club this term and we are looking forward to seeing the 2 teams participate in the Clydesdale Dance Festival in Lanark on Tuesday 26th March. Wishing the best of luck to all our dancers from P4-P7 for their performance. "Break a leg!"

Primary 2 Assembly

Minibeast Mania was performed by Primary 2 at their class assembly on Friday 15th March. This fantastic showcase of learning demonstrated the creativity, curiosity and confidence that P2 have developed throughout their IDL topic. Well done to Primary 2, Miss Murray, Miss Stewart and Mrs Brownlee for all of your hard work to entertain the audience with wonderful singing, informative facts and for sharing the important message of being a Responsible Citizen in looking after nature.



P1 & P2 Family learning- Literacy workshop

Thank you to Ms Colquhoun for organising a family learning Literacy workshop on Wednesday 20th March for P1 and P2 families. Thank you to family members who were able to attend to spend time with their child using their thesaurus and dictionary they were gifted at Christmas. Lots of ideas of activities to use at home to develop Literacy skills.



Parent Consultation

Appointments for parental consultations are now live on ParentsPortal for you to book. Please select a time to meet with your child's class teacher(s) to discuss progress in learning and teaching. Report cards will be issued the week we return from Spring Break. Please read the written report and discuss with your child before you meet with their teacher. Pupils are welcome to attend parental consultations as their voice is important.

End of Term – Dress down day

The school and ELC will close at 2:30pm on Thursday 28th March and will reopen on Monday 15th April. It is a dress down day on the last day of term. Please remember that no football colours are to be worn.

Kype Muir Windfarm Grant

We are delighted to have been awarded £4865 in our bid from the ELC to develop skills for life, learning and work through woodwork and outdoor learning. Thank you to the Parent Council for submitting the application on our behalf. The ELC will share updates of this initiative as it develops. If any community members have a skill in woodworking or would like to work with the ELC children on this initiative please inform the school office and a member of staff will get back to you.

P7 Leavers' Hoodies

This year, as a school we have discussed P7 hoodies with the Parent Council. In the past few years, it has been organised by P7 parent groups out-with school, however, after surveying parents of P5-P7 families, 100% of returns indicated that they would like their child to have a P7 leavers' hoodie, therefore, we have decided to work in partnership to organise this. The Parent Council have generously donated £236 from 4 of the bonus ball draws to subsidise the cost for P7 families. We have consulted the P7 pupils on the final design and hope to receive the hoodies early in the new term.

RSHP – Term 4

During Term 4 all classes will focus on the RSHP Programme Relationships, Sexual Health & Parenthood. This forms part of our Health and Well Being Curriculum and is uniformed across Scotland with the launch of the national RSHP project which is linked to Curriculum for Excellence. The RSHP resource is an online resource and parents can access this at home to keep abreast of what your child is learning about in school. The attached power point is available for you to read and watch and this will provide you with an insight into this programme. If you have any questions about what your child is learning or wish to discuss the content further, please contact the school office for more information.

P2-P4 Science Centre Trip & Science Centre school in workshop

Pupils in P2-P4 classes will be participating in the Learning Labs “Hydro Heroes” STEM project in Term 4. As part of this learning experience, pupils will participate in a trip to the Glasgow Science Centre. This trip will be on Wednesday 1st May and more information will follow. There will be no charge for this trip as the Science Centre have funded the visit and subsidised the cost of travel and the Parent Council have kindly agreed to pay the remaining travel costs. This is a fantastic experience for our learners! We have organised the Science Centre to deliver their ‘On Tour’ workshop experience in school on Thursday 16th May for P1, P5, P6 and P7 pupils where there will be exhibits and experiments for learners linked to Science and Health and Wellbeing learning. This cost has again been met by the Parent Council from their fundraising. Thank you once again for helping us enhance teaching and learning in school.

Class timetables – PE Term 4

**P6 year group will have Bikeability during a Wednesday afternoon and should bring their bike & helmet on this day.*

	Indoor PE	Outdoor PE
Primary 1	Tuesday pm	Monday pm
Primary 2	Wednesday pm	Friday am
Primary 3/2	Thursday pm	Wednesday am
Supported Classes	Friday am	Monday pm
P4/3	Tuesday am	Thursday am
P5/4	Wednesday am	Thursday pm
P5	Friday am	Thursday am
P6	Tuesday am	Thursday am
P7/6		Tuesday am & Wednesday pm
P7	Friday am	Wednesday am

What is on?

Tuesday 26 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clydesdale Dance festival – Lanark (P4-P7 dance club) • HMle transport consultation – 9:15am
Wednesday 27 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLC Cross Country finals at Chatelherault
Thursday 28 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dress Down Day • School and ELC closes 2:30pm Spring Break
Tuesday 16 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You & Me Multiply project – P3 & P4 families – Week 1 of 6
Wednesday 17 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Council 7pm – Blackwood Primary
Thursday 25 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parental consultations in school
Tuesday 30 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P6 and P7 visit to John Cummings stadium – Track and Field
Wednesday 1 st May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P2-P4 classes – Glasgow Science Centre Trip
Thursday 2 nd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Service Day
Monday 6 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May Holiday
Thursday 9 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New P1 Parental talk & buddy session
Friday 10 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P1 assembly – Friends and family invited to attend – 09:30am

Parent Council

You can support the Parent Council when you shop online using easyfundraising.

As we move to shopping more readily on the internet this is a great way to support the school and ELC without having to do anything. Our cause is listed as –



anything.

Blackwood Primary Parent Council - Lanark.

Click on the link below to register your account :

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/register-your-good-cause/?invite=49bjqz&referral-campaign=s2c>

Contact details for the Parent Council are
blackwoodparentcouncil@gmail.com

**You are invited to attend the next meeting on
Wednesday 17th April in person at Blackwood Primary School at 7pm**

Here to Help!

As a school we are committed to helping our families and it is always worthwhile asking! Please be assured any requests will be treated in confidence.

Looking for help

SLC have also launched the Community Wellbeing Helpline on **0303 123 1009**.

Children 1st Parentline –call free 08000 28 22 33



EDUCATION SERVICES

Executive Director: Carole McKenzie

Blackwood Primary School – Acting Head Teacher: Mrs Alyson Bennie