

Balbardie Primary School

March 2019

NEWSLETTER NO 3, 2018/ 2019



Achieve, Believe, Celebrate

Dear Parents, Grandparents, Carers and Friends,

We are almost at the end of another very busy term at Balbardie PS. All classes have been working hard and achieving lots since January. Here are just a few of the things we have been doing;

- ◆ We have updated our House Shields
- ◆ Primary 3 and Primary 4 have performed their Spring show for parents
- ◆ Classes have been way on educational trips to the National Museum of Scotland, New Lanark & Stirling Castle
- ◆ Primary 4 pupils took part in a Benchball Festival
- ◆ Some classes thoroughly enjoyed their outdoor learning experience in February
- ◆ Upper school pupils visited the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland for an excellent concert experience
- ◆ Pupil Council visited the Scottish Parliament
- ◆ Primary 7 had their Burns Supper
- ◆ Staff have been working on the school's new positive Behaviour Blueprint, our Literacy programme from P1 to P7 and our Numeracy and Maths programme from P1 to P7.

- ◆ Primary 7 and Primary 5 both have residential trips this month too.

It really has been a very busy term and we still have a couple of weeks to go. Please check the diary dates overleaf for the next couple of weeks and please see the upcoming dates for next term—particularly our Nursery and S1 transition dates.

As always, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continuing support of the school and our children.

With very best wishes,

Margaret Johns

HEAD TEACHER



Our Playground

You will know that since last November, we have been trialing a children-only playground in the morning. This proposal was always intended to support a safer and less busy playground for pupils, to ensure that no child leaves the playground once they have been left in the care of staff and to allow us to begin to tackle the issues of traffic congestion around the school in the mornings. I asked for parental opinion and the majority of parents were in support of keeping our playground for children only in the mornings.

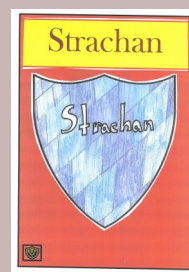
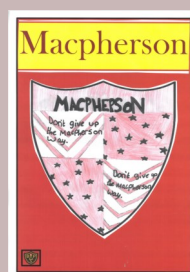
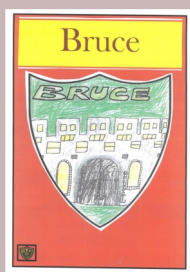
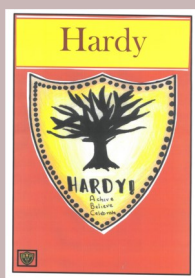
It is obviously now time to review this initiative and I would be very grateful if as many parents as possible could complete the second survey which is accessed using the link below. This is intended to evaluate the success of our previous plans.

The children have been very settled for the most part in the morning and I have already asked staff members who supervise the playground and they have unanimously reported that they find it easier to manage the playground and to be able to see our children as they are playing before the morning bell. As always, however, I would be very happy to hear parental opinion before we move forward.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/THWX9YZ>



House Shields



Congratulations to the 4 winners of our House Shields design competition—Suvi, Jayden, Sophie and Isla. The House that is currently in the lead is Macpherson.

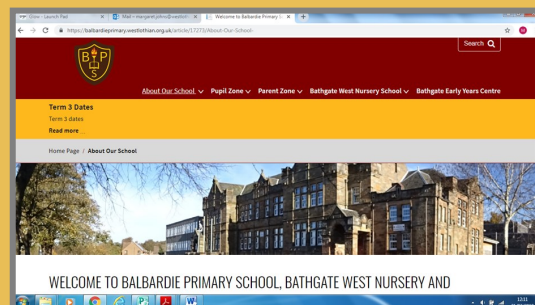
Parent Volunteers and PVG

We are always delighted to welcome any parent volunteers in school. Parent helpers are invaluable in supporting the school with learning, school excursions and the library changes which are now underway.

In line with West Lothian Council policy, any parent volunteers for school events—classroom helpers, excursions and school discos for example—must hold a current West Lothian PVG certificate. If you would like to volunteer as a parent at any point, you can collect a PVG form from the school office which a member of the management team can verify for you and which the school will pay for. It is always ideal if we have a 'bank' of parents we can call on to support the school when needed, so please consider giving up your time to help if you can.



<https://balbardieprimary.westlothian.org.uk/>



Don't forget that all up-to-date information on school news and events can be found on the school website, including our Glow Blog and Twitter feeds. There is also a Weekly Bulletin for parents in the Parent Zone with information which is updated on a weekly basis.

Term 3 and Term 4 Calendar

Some dates for your diary

The full Annual Calendar is available on the school Website.

22.3.19	P3 Assembly—parents of both classes, 9.15am
25.3.19	P5 Residential to Lowport all week
29.3.19	Celebration whole school assembly
2.4.19	Parent consultations, 3.30 to 5.30pm
3.4.19	Parent consultations, 6.30 to 8.30pm
4.4.19	Spring Fling—Champions treat for all
5.4.19	9.30am Church Service
8.4.19 to 22.4.19	Easter Holiday. All return on Tuesday 23rd
6.5.19 to 7.5.19	Pupil holiday
10.5.19	P2 & P2/1 Assembly – parents welcome,
14.5.19	10.00am Pupil Council
16.5.19	Primary 7 sponsored event
16.5.19	7.00pm Parent Council
17.5.19	Celebration whole school assembly
27.5.19	SPORTS DAY
28.5.19	WLDAS to Primary 7
31.5.19	Infant assembly
1.6.19	BATHGATE PROCESSION



'Danceathon'

The school has historically had a sponsored event for all children which has helped to raise money for school funds and has allowed us to subsidise travel for school trips and other events.

This year, as you will see from the calendar, we will be having a Danceathon in school on 10th June.

More information and a Sponsor Form will be sent home next term.

3.6.19	HOLIDAY
4.6.19	Bathgate Academy transition week
5.6.19 & 6.6.19	New Primary 1 pupils to visit
5.6.19	New Primary 1 Parents Meeting
7.6.19	P1 Stage Assembly - parents welcome, 9.15am
10.6.19	Whole school Danceathon
17.6.18	Pupil Reports home this week
19.6.19 & 20.6.19	P5,6 and 7 Show
20.6.19	7.00pm Parent Council
24.6.19	Primary 7 Oscars
26.6.19	Primary 7 Prom
28.6.19	Church Service



Thank you!

I'd like to offer a very belated thank you to all of the parents who were able to attend and support the Christmas Fayre. Due to the efforts of all of our parents, staff and community, we raised a lot of money and the children thoroughly enjoyed the work they did around Christmas Enterprise. Most importantly, it gave us a chance to get together as a school community. Well done to everyone who was involved!

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

During Parents Night, we will again be hosting a Marketplace in the gym hall where parents can access information about our community partners. This year, again, there will be an opportunity to pick up some quality, used school uniform. If you would like to donate uniform that your child has outgrown, please can you bring it in to the school office by Thursday 28th March.

Thank you.

As always, I offer all parents my thanks for your continued support for the children and the school community.

BALBARDIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Torphichen Street,
Bathgate,
West Lothian
EH48 4HL
01506 652155

wlbaldie-ps@westlothian.org.uk
baldieprimary.westlothian.org.uk/

