

Lawfield Primary



Newsletter

January 2015



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends, Happy New Year! I hope that Santa was very good to everyone and that you all had a very enjoyable holiday with your family and friends.

The children and staff have all settled back into school very well and I am delighted to welcome Miss Yvonne Gemmell as our acting Depute Head Teacher with responsibility for our nursery and P1-3 department. I am sure that you will see Yvonne supporting our youngsters in their learning at Lawfield and know that she will be delighted to help with any queries you may have.

As the winter tightens its hold on Scotland, staff have been very busy preparing some very interesting snow packs just in case school has to be closed at any point due to bad weather. Please note that I have included a paper copy for you but that you can also get this from the school website. These activities need only be completed if the school is closed!

We have been fortunate to be able to provide the children with some additional coaching sessions in football, bowling and judo. Whilst all children will not be able to take part this will free our PE specialists and will enable our P1 and P2 pupils to get some

specialist PE input.

This term we also will be offering our Raising Children with Confidence course. Please find enclosed a letter giving more details.

Finally a reminder that school will be closed for a week beginning 16th February for the mid-term holiday.

Lesley Dunbar
Head Teacher



Scottish Assembly

On the 30th January the whole school will be celebrating

Scotland and all it means to be Scottish during our Scottish assembly. The children will share traditional songs and dances with the school.

P4 Assembly

The Primary 4's will be launching our whole school focus on Global Citizenship with their assembly on the 23rd of January. Here they will introduce the topic to the whole school and share their learning with the other classes.

Global Citizenship

This year the whole school will be focussing on Global Citizenship and share their good work on how to become effective contributors in the wider world. Classes will be learning about Fairtrade countries and how Fairtrade provides opportunities for people across the world to get a fair deal, they will also be learning about the UN rights of the child as well as a variety of different topics.

B&M's Donation

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff at B&M's Dalkeith for their kind donation to the school. They donated £100 towards the school funds which will help to purchase learning resources for the children.

New Railway Safety

As you will be aware the new railway line linking the borders to Edinburgh will be opening this year. As this line will pass through our community Transport Scotland will be providing Railway Safety Talks to the children in the coming weeks. They will work with the children to ensure that they know where the line will be and how to continue to be safe as the building work stops and the trains start running. We will also be creating Railway Reps to share this information with the school throughout the year.



Miss Gemmell

We are delighted to welcome our new Depute Head Teacher Miss Yvonne Gemmell to Lawfield Primary School. She has already been meeting all the staff and children throughout the week and has thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our school.

christmas raffle!!

As we all begin our new years resolutions and return to normality it is nice to remember the festive period and share the winner of the Reindeer in our Christmas Raffle this year. The winner was Emma Bruce a past pupil. Congratulations!

Weather

As we know this time of year can be particularly bad when it comes to the weather. We have already seen a variety of conditions in our first week back. As this is the case can we ask that you send your child to school with a warm/waterproof coat. Also in the case of extremely bad weather all teachers have created 'Snow Packs'. These are a set of activities that will give your child the opportunity to continue their learning should the school ever be closed for any reason. They will be posted on the website and paper copies can be given by the class

Silver Award

As we progress through this term the children of Lawfield Primary will be working towards their Silver Award. This means that they will be working hard in class and in the playground to continue to show themselves as Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors in order to get their award on time. We will celebrate those children who achieve this with an awards ceremony on the 12th of February. I know all of the children are excited at the prospect of getting their silver awards on time and we look forward to celebrating our success.



Novel Studies

This term the classes will also be focussing on completing Novel Studies. This gives the children an excellent opportunity to look in depth at how authors create characters, build settings and create excellent stories. This will allow each class to focus on a different Novel to become Successful Learners and improve all areas of their Literacy.



Playground

Mr Wood and the staff in the Health and Wellbeing Inquiry Group have been working hard to create new 'zones' within our playground. They have managed to organise equipment which the children have already been enjoying during playtimes and to improve the experience of all in the playground we will begin trialling time-tables for each area of the playground. This will mean that children will now be able to enjoy the Astro, Basketball courts and all the areas of the playground during break and lunch.



Back to School

On a final note as we settle back into the new year we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in reminding the children about the importance of coming to school in their uniform. It looks so good to see the children celebrate being part of Lawfield Primary in the school jumpers. Also at this time especially, we always remind the children of the importance of hand-washing to limit the spread of bugs and flu in the school. Unfortunately this is also the time of year when our little visitors 'Nits' can be common. We ask that you keep checking your child's head to make sure they stay free of the little critters.



