



GREENBRAE *news*

Newsletter for Parents and Partners

Jan 2015

Happy New Year!

Dear Parents/Carers

A Happy New Year to you all! I hope that you have had an enjoyable and restful Christmas break and I hope that 2015 will be a good year for us all at Greenbrae.

As is usual I am including, for your perusal, news from all the classes as to what has been happening, curricular-wise, within each class over the past term.

At the end of the term the Infants (P1-P3) and the Upper Stages (P4-P7), through their Christmas Shows, raised a most creditable sum of money for Charity. The Infant Nativity (Christmas Recipe) realised £307.37 which they have donated to 'Bethany Christian Trust', on the recommendation of the Church. The £357.97 raised from The Upper Stage's panto, 'The Nutcracker' has been distributed between Cancer Research and the Archie Trust. The school would like to thank you all for your most generous contributions to these worthwhile causes.

Our OSCAR (Our School Can Achieve Results) Awards system is now in operation and has been extremely well received by the pupils. The Awards Ceremony (including the red carpet!) takes place at Assembly once a month which gives the children four weeks to work hard to achieve within the four Capacities of the Curriculum for Excellence. Certificates (for the children to keep) and OSCAR Awards which go home with the winners to be kept there from Thursday to Monday, are awarded to those who have achieved success within one of the Capacities.

Anna Royle
Head Teacher (Acting)

"Congratulations on an excellent calendar, I like the design and it's an honour to be included"

- Aberdeen City Ranger

Severe Weather Information

Can I ask that you use the school information line if you are checking as to whether or not the school is open. The number for this is: **0870 054 1999** Pin code: **011370** This number is also on the school website. If there are any changes to the schoolday a message will be put onto the information line by 8.15am.



Greenbrae School win WWF National Prize

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Around Greenbrae

Nursery

The a.m. Nursery began our festive preparations with a trip to the forest to buy our Christmas tree. Once our favourite was selected, it was on to Ross the Baker in Inverurie for our snack. The pancakes were delicious!

On the same day the p.m. Nursery went shopping at Sterling to buy some baubles for our Christmas tree. After we had selected ornaments in red and white, Miss Royle was able to join us and we all enjoyed our snack at Cobbs.

Primary 1

This term has been very busy with our Christmas Nativity, called "A Christmas Recipe". We all had a very important part to play in the show and loved wearing our costumes. Some of us even got our faces painted! We sang lots of funky Christmas songs and put on a very good performance for all our families.

Primary 1/2

We have all been very busy since returning from our October holidays preparing for the P1-3 Christmas Nativity 'A Christmas Recipe'. We had lots of new songs to learn, costumes to try on and we had to practise getting on and off the stage at the right time! All our hard work paid off as we did a fantastic job of telling everyone the important ingredients which make Christmas special.

Primary 2

Primary 2 have been very busy this term. We have been learning about 'Houses and Homes' and had a fantastic visit from Mr and Mrs Walber who gave us a great talk about the construction of a house. We also built some amazing structures using polystyrene and cocktail sticks. Everyone had a great afternoon and we are very appreciative of the time and effort Mr and Mrs Walber went to.

We also had a great time doing our Christmas Nativity, 'A Christmas Recipe'. We had lots of songs to learn and all had a fantastic time putting on the show to parents. We hope they enjoyed it as much as we did.

Car Parking

Once again, I am having to draw your attention to how dangerous it is to use the car park, adjacent to the school, for the dropping off and picking up of pupils. Last week a staff member's car was hit and damaged. It could have been a child. This just does not bear thinking about! Manoeuvring in a limited space has a high risk of casualty and so please, please refrain from using this car park.

I know how difficult it can be to find a car-parking spot, especially since parking is prohibited across the driveways of neighbouring properties but, unfortunately, all City schools have the same problem.



Greenbrae School pupils enjoy active learning experiences

Around Greenbrae

Primary 3

Term 2 in Primary 3 was a very busy time. We carried on with our Egypt topic; we prepared a class assembly about Ancient Egypt to share some of our learning with the rest of the school. We also did some art work and made our own Pharaoh death masks. We worked a lot in our co-operative groups, making Egyptian crowns, canopic jars out of plasticine and we even made some Pharaoh crowns.

Primary 4

To mark the end of The Vikings the class retold the story of the famous Lindisfarne raid at their assembly. They became warriors, monks, saga tellers and more on the day. It was a fun way for everyone to share their learning with the school.

The Healthy Me mission is now complete. It was six weeks of everything from food hygiene to healthy eating and being active. Favourite parts included playing football with Rob every Wednesday and eating a variety of fascinating fruits on the last day of term. A huge thanks to the PTA for funding all the fruits that were tried and tested.

The last week of term was also busy with class talks that were prepared for homework. It was very entertaining watching and listening to all the terrific presentations about topics chosen by the children.

Primary 5

P5 were lucky to get a 6 week block of lessons on football and healthy eating as part of a project run by the Food Standards Agency. Both boys and girls demonstrated some excellent skills and the lessons were thoroughly enjoyable.

As part of our healthy eating study, we tried identifying a number of exotic fruits and then tasted them. Some of the class were more adventurous than others but dragon fruit was a clear winner!! The class are now receiving a weekly visit from Lynn who is introducing them to the language of Mandarin which included singing a catchy Mandarin song!! Next term, we hope to find out more about Chinese culture and way of life.

Primary 6

It has been an exciting few weeks for Primary 6 in the lead up to Christmas. The children were working hard to round up their Rain-forest topic, and created some amazing wall art as well as their very own ecosystem in a bottle. During the month of December we visited the pantomime and had our Christmas party which was lots of fun. In the new term we will be starting off with a mini topic on mammals and then moving onto our main focus, The Victorians.

Primary 7

Term 2 was a busy term for us with the production of our Christmas Show, The Nutcracker. The whole class enjoyed the rehearsals and the performances and many gave up lunchtimes to rehearse. As our topics in Term 3 are about worldwide issues, we did lots of map work and extended our knowledge of countries round the world. We made maps of the school too.

We joined in a live online streaming of "Choices for Life," which was about smoking. We had a great discussion afterwards about the dangers of smoking. For homework, we prepared talks on people who had changed the world in a positive way. The talks were of a very high standard and we learned lots about people like Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King.

As part of the House system, we made booklets of information about our Houses' castles. These will be shared with others in the school.



Tops and Calendars

Just a reminder that we are looking for any 'Flora' inner metallic tops. If we collect fifty of these by the end of January we get the gift of a tablet for school. So far we have seven! Keep collecting, please.

We still have some 'Bee' calendars, now on offer at £6.50. These can be purchased directly from the School Office or from the class teacher via the pupils.

Staffing update

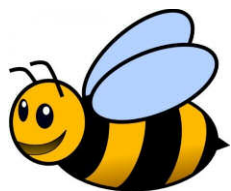
I am happy to announce that Greenbrae has now a full staffing complement, thanks to the recent appointment of Mrs Eilidh Robertson, whom we welcomed to Greenbrae (P2, Thurs. and Fri.) at the start of this term. This is a very happy situation for Greenbrae to be in, considering the great shortage of teachers throughout the city!

Gym Shoes

Can I ask that parents/carers ensure that all indoor shoes are suitable for PE also.

Once again I thank you all for your loyal support during 2014. The staff and I have enjoyed working with you and look forward to, hopefully, another happy and prosperous year at Greenbrae.

Greenbrae brings home the honey!



Yes, Greenbrae have done it again. In addition to the massive winnings of £4271 (funded by the Scottish Government and Loirston Charitable Trust for our successful 'Bee' project bid) Greenbrae have since claimed a top prize of £2000 as winners of the 'Grand Green Idea'. This competition was organised by the WWF Scotland, supported by funding from players of People's Postcode Lottery. Our 'Bee' project beat tough opposition from all over the country to come out as winners. We are all very proud of this great success and are flattered by the compliments we have received.

The Director of WWF Scotland said 'Greenbrae Primary's vision for a whole-school honeybee project is a really exciting project that will highlight the vital role that bees play in the environment. It was also loved by the judges'. Clara Govier, Head of Charities at People's Postcode Lottery, added 'Greenbrae Primary School's project was a clear winner by all of the judges'. A final compliment came from our Director of Education, Gayle Gorman, in a letter to the school to congratulate everyone on this great achievement.

On Friday, 16 January, we will be welcoming a special visitor to the school in Mark McDonald, local MSP, who is interested to see what is happening in this school with the award-winning 'Bee' project. Mr McDonald has already submitted a paragraph, on Greenbrae's successful Grand Green Idea, to the Scottish Government to be read to the Members during a Parliamentary session. Recognition indeed for Greenbrae!

Towards the end of the term the pupils will be participating in another whole-school 'Bee' Week, starting Monday 23 March. This will be entered into with great enthusiasm as pupils work, at their own levels, in interesting and novel ways to learn more about this very important insect - the bee!

Contact Us

At Greenbrae School we are always keen to hear from our parents and partners.

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