



**Friday 28 February 2020**

Things in school continue to be busy with lots of activities planned over this term.

We were very saddened to hear that the Reverend Peter MacDonald of Broughton St Mary's died during the February break. I only met Peter on a couple of occasions but we had already started planning future links in the Community. Our thoughts are with his family at this time.

Last week we had a whole school focus on Health and Wellbeing with children being asked to reflect on their own health and wellbeing.

On Monday P2b visited the Victorian Schoolroom at Leith Walk Primary. The class had a very enjoyable time learning about being at school in Victorian times. Fortunately, nobody needed to be caned! P2a will visit next week.

### **Book Week 2 – 6 March**

Next week is Book Week. Below is an outline of activities that will be taking place across the school. The focus this year is the author Julia Donaldson and her work.

After break on **Wednesday** teachers are going to swap classes and read a story to a different class for 20 minutes.

**Thursday** morning until break is going to be a house morning where the activity will be for all pupils to make a hat based on a Julia Donaldson character. Children will then take to the stairs for a hat parade before going back to their own rooms for break.

**Friday** morning is a Parent Drop-In so you will have the opportunity to see some of the learning that has taken place during Book Week. This is also an opportunity, if you have not already done so, to return your child's Snapshot Jotter to school.

Lunchtime story time – School staff will take groups of pupils for a story during lunchtimes over the week.

Crumble The Dog– On **Tuesday**, Miss Stewart is going to bring Crumble to school so pupils can read to her. There will be a separate letter about this giving parents the opportunity to opt out of this activity.

DEAR - Drop Everything and Read. This will take place in all classes once or twice a day for 10 - 20 minutes.

All children will be given their £1 book token and books can be collected from any bookstore.

### **Other events**

**Cross Country** - We have forty children from P6 and P7 competing in a city wide cross country event on Monday at Wardie Playing Fields. We wish them lots of luck!

**On Friday 6 March** FAB have planned a Family Night. This will include food, family fun and books all in one evening. FAB have sent information home about this already and is on the school website..

**Primary 7** are now busy rehearsing for their school show, School of Rock. This will be performed in the in the last week of term when all pupils and parents/families of P7 will get the opportunity to see it.

**House Art Club** – Our House Captains have started running a lunchtime Art Club on Wednesdays. The first one took place on Wednesday and children in McDonald did space paintings. It was an extremely well organised club and the House Captains did a great job. Next week is Pilrig.

**Growing and Gardening Project** -On Thursday 12 March some children from our Sustainability Group will be at Drummond Open Evening with some examples of the activities we've done as part of the Growing and Planting Project.

**Glee Club** -This term, Glee club will be taking part in the Frisson foundation Glee competition in the evening on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at Central Hall, Tollcross. Glee Club is run by Miss McCrimmon and they are working very hard to prepare for this.

**Earth Hour** - Our Sustainability Group will shortly be planning some whole school activities for Earth Hour. This takes place across the world on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 8.30pm. More information will follow on how we plan to participate.

**Scottish Learning Directorate Visit** - On Thursday 26 March we are being visited by people from The Scottish Learning Directorate. They visit schools regularly to look at policies in practice. We are looking forward to welcoming them to Broughton to see some of the fantastic learning that goes on across the school.

**City Maths/Numeracy Work** - We have been very fortunate to be one of the city schools chosen to participate in a Maths/Numeracy Project. This is being led by Ross Gibson, Numeracy and Maths Development Officer for Edinburgh Schools. This will help us continue to develop our practice in maths and numeracy. Alongside this our teaching staff are participating in a Professional Learning Development called Lesson Study. Class teachers will plan, deliver and observe lessons together having the opportunity to discuss their observations and make changes to their lessons. This activity will be taking place before the end of this term.

### **Attendance and Lates**

Every month the Council updates us on attendance statistics for all schools. At present Broughton's overall attendance is quite low compared to comparator schools. Can I remind you therefore that it's important that children are in school every school day. We also ask that you do not take regular term time holidays as this is also detrimental to your child's education if it's happening every school year.

We also have a considerable number of children who regularly arrive late to school.

It's important that children arrive in school for the start of the day as going into class late means they miss important information about the day ahead and often the start of the class teaching.

### **Upcoming Dates**

Monday 2 March – P6/7 Cross Country Event

Thursday 5 March – P2a visit the Victorian Schoolroom

Friday 6 March – School Drop In - 11.25 – 11.55 for P1 and P2

11.55 – 12.25 for P3-P7

All Snapshot Week Jotters to be returned

FAB Family Night

Wednesday 11 March – P6 Breakfast at Drummond CHS

Thursday 12 March – 4.30-6pm – Growing and Planting stall at Drummond CHS

Monday 23 March – Glee Club Competition (pm)

Wednesday 25 March – 6pm - Parent Council Meeting

Wednesday 1 April – Primary School Swimming Gala

Wednesday 1 April – Primary 7 Show (pm)

Maria Gowans, Head Teacher