



Play, Grow, Learn Together - Kindness, Curiosity and Respect

Burnbrae Primary Newsletter, January 2024

Burnbrae Primary School,
144 Burnbrae Road, Bonnyrigg, EH19 3GB.
0131 271 4605

Burnbrae Early & The Wee Brae
Hopefield Joint Campus, 2 Chester's View, Bonnyrigg, EH19 3PU
0131 271 4605 (option 3)

X (formerly Twitter) @BurnbraePS

website - <https://burnbrae.mgfl.net/>



Head Teacher Update

We have had a busy start to the term. Congratulations to our Athletics team who came First in their grouping last Tuesday. They will now progress to the East Regional Sportshall Athletics competition at Meadowbank on 28 February.

Last Thursday we welcomed a team of five officers from Midlothian Council to conduct a Quality Improvement visit looking at Learning, Teaching and Assessment across the school including Wee Brae and the Early Years setting. They visited almost all classrooms and children and staff had the opportunity to share the progress we have made as well as successes in raising attainment. They recognised strengths in our practice they want to share with other schools and highlighted a few areas for improvement which we had identified already as our next steps.

- P7 have their Burns Brunch on Friday 26th January. All P7 families were invited to attend
- Well done to all children who learned their Scots poem. It has been difficult to select the best from so many who did a great job learning the words and using expression and gesture with great effect.
- Primary 6 skiing lessons take place weekly from Thursday 18th January to Thursday 29th February
- Our Primary 4 classes are looking forward to the return of Drumming for Excellence on Tuesday 30th January
- P7 children will enjoy taster sessions of Rugby over the next four weeks



Head Teacher Update

Staffing update

- Lesley McLellan Learning Assistant (LA) has left her post at Burnbrae but achieved a lot in her time here and we wish her well
- Amy Horn LA started on 15 January and Elise Rayment will join our staff as LA on 19 February

Classes next session

Our school role fluctuates from year to year and this affects the organisation of classes and number of teachers allocated to the school. We can only confirm arrangements when this information is shared with schools and this can be late in the session due to a number of factors. The guidance is that up to 25 children can be in P1 classes, up to 30 children in P2 and P3 classes and from P4-7 up to 33 children in each class. Sometimes we need to form composite classes where two stages are combined in one class such as the current P4/3. In order to ensure that children have opportunities to work with other children in their year, these classes will be rearranged at points during their primary years. There will be changes to the current P4 and P3 classes as they move to next session but these will be planned well in advance and many factors taken into account by staff who know them well to make new classes. Children have the opportunity to mix with their new class before the summer to allow for a smooth transition. Primary 1 classes are rearranged most years due to higher numbers allowed in each class in P2. The new P1 role is confirmed in April/May when placing requests are allocated by the central Midlothian team. I will keep you updated with any changes.

I hope you take time to read this letter and note any dates affecting your child/ren.

Kind regards, Mrs Clarkson

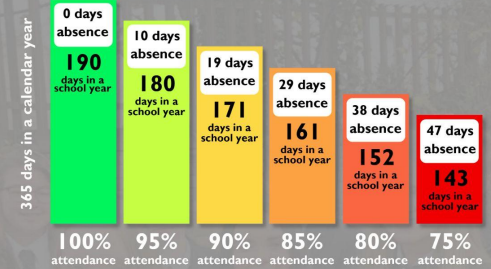
Reminder

- If you have changed your mobile number and any of your emergency contact details please make sure you let the office know
- Please contact the office if your child is absent from school, provision or ELC
- Wee Brae families please don't ask transport to pass messages on to staff, contact the school office directly on 0131 271 4605 to pass messages on

Attend Today. Achieve Tomorrow.

Good attendance in Burnbrae Primary School means...

...being in school everyday, ready to learn.



DID YOU KNOW?

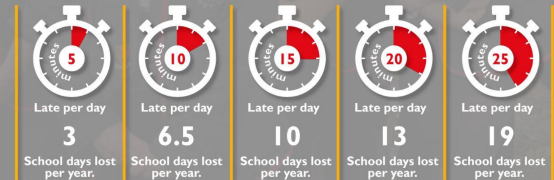
A two week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance you can achieve is 94.7%.

DID YOU KNOW?

If you are 15 minutes late for each day you will have missed 2 full weeks of school in one year.

Good time keeping in Burnbrae Primary School means...

...being in school, on time, everyday, ready to learn.



ELC

If you have changed your mobile number and any of your emergency contact details please make sure you let the office know.

As you can imagine, drop off and pick up times are a very busy time of day so to ease congestion the doors are open for a 20-minute period after the specified drop off time and a 20-minute period prior to the specified pick up time.

If you arrive after the 20 minute period and no one answers the ELC door please go to the office. ELC staff may be elsewhere after doors close such as the gym hall or busy settling children which means they are unable to get to the door.

Any planned absences, appointments or changes to attendance must be communicated to the office. Please also let us know if you are running late, pick up **after 3:05 will be from the office or DHT office** to allow ELC staff time to attend meetings and carry out other tasks.



ELC Times

Monday to Thursday 8:30am - 3:05pm

(Gates open 8:30-8:50am & 2:45-3:05pm)

Friday 8:30am - 12:10pm

(Gates open 8:30am-8:50am & 11:50am - 12:10pm)

Parking

Please can drivers park in the official car park opposite the school and refrain from using the staff car park. It is very congested at the beginning and end of the school day and children and adults using this area are at risk. Our priority is the safety of our children in the school community.



ELC and The Wee Brae



All official school transport (taxi's and mini-buses) drop pupils off in our delivery drop-off zone at the main Burnbrae Early door. As school transport use the delivery area, it is imperative that parents **do not use this area for drop-off/parking.**

We are part of the School Streets scheme and signage is on display in Chester's Court.



MOBILE PHONES

Many pupils have their own mobile phones with camera and video facilities. If parents/carers wish their child to carry a mobile phone to school, parents are asked to ensure children know that they need to hand the mobile phone to the class teacher at the beginning of the day and collect it at the end of the day.

Children should be reminded that taking photographs or videos of pupils with a mobile is **not permitted** in the school grounds.

Smart Watches - must be set to 'school mode' during the school day.

Water

Children are encouraged to bring in a plastic water bottle and are able to refill it at the water fountains.

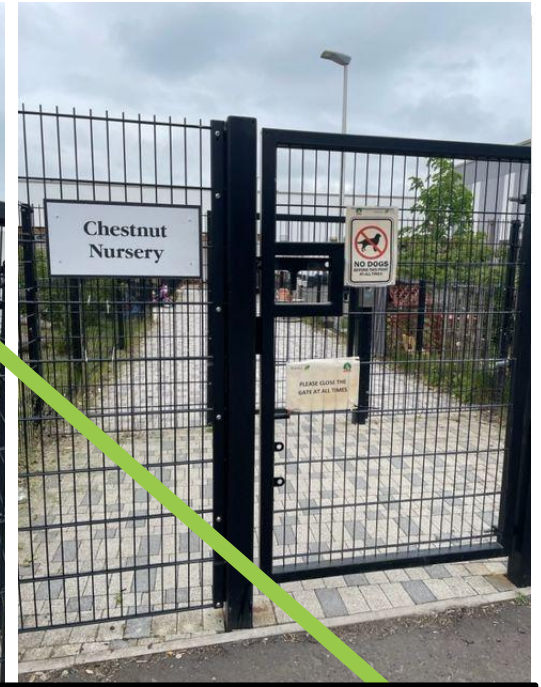
No cans/glass bottles are to be brought to school at any time for safety reasons and we advise against fizzy drinks.

PRIME and other energy drinks are not suitable for school.





Rowan room Parents/Carers please make sure the small gate into the Rowan room is closed behind you at all times.



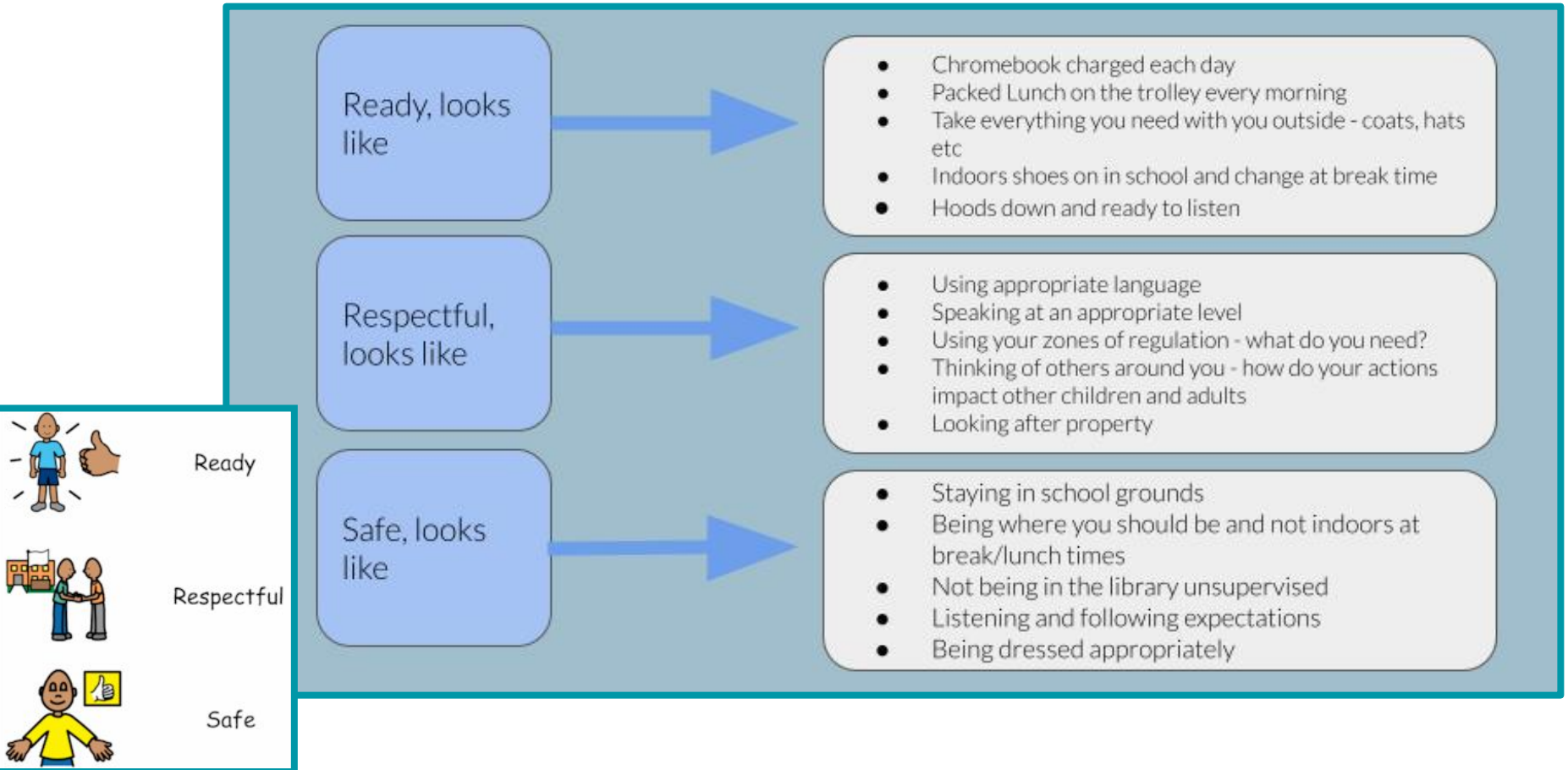
We would appreciate your help to make sure ELC gates are closed at all times. Please close the top latch when dropping off and picking up at Rowan and Chestnut rooms.

Welcome to
Oak Nursery



We would appreciate your help to make sure ELC gates are closed at all times. Please close the top latch when dropping off and picking up from the Oak room .
Thank you for your continued support.

Reminder - At Burnbrae we are all ready, respectful and safe



Severe Weather Arrangements

Please make sure the office have a note of your most recent emergency contact details. In the event of a school closure your child can access home learning on our severe weather website page. Children are expected to login and check in with their Class Teacher, by liking a post on Seesaw or answering a check in question on Google Classroom.

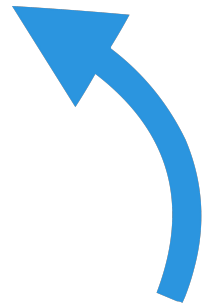
News of any closures will be communicated on our school website and shared with you by groupcall the app and Seesaw for our Provision and ELC.

Midlothian Council has a website page with further information about severe weather services -

[https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/200270/severe_weather/571/winter - frequently asked questions](https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/200270/severe_weather/571/winter_-_frequently_asked_questions)



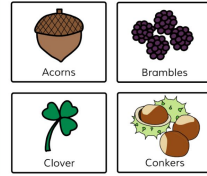
<https://burnbrae.mgfl.net/latest-news/>



<https://burnbrae.mgfl.net/severe-weather/>



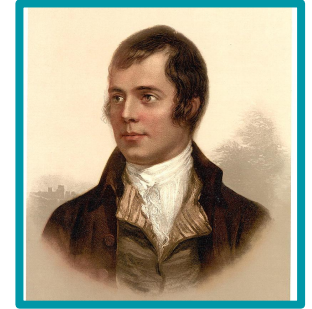
Wee Brae



We are delighted to welcome Mrs Amy Jones to the team at The Wee Brae. Mrs Jones is teaching the Clovers class.

Our Christmas Hamper fundraiser was very successful last term. The hamper was won by one of our Conkers pupils, Jake Kean. We are sure the goodies were enjoyed by Jake and his family.

ELC



ELC Team would appreciate donations of corks, bottle tops and jar lids.

Thank you Parents/Carers for joining us in ELC on Thursday 25th January for stay and play.

Visitor Feedback



Thank you for visiting our school, we would appreciate your feedback and suggestions. Please scan the QR code to complete our short feedback form.

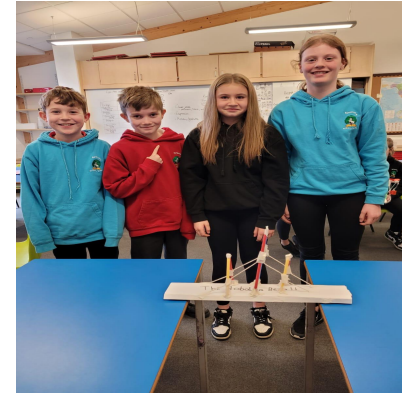
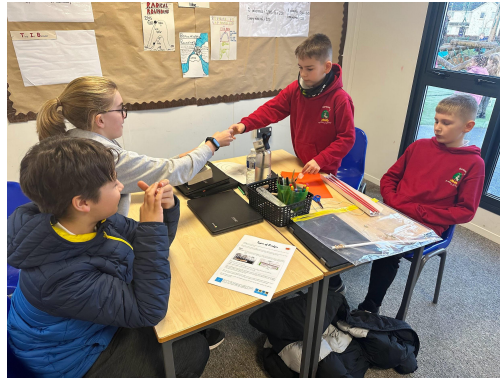


We enjoy having parents/carer visit us in school, ELC and The Wee Brae if you've been in recently and would like to give us feedback please use the QR code above or the following link -
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfjXLUwhR8YDdebG-PZUI_d59xLTqs3WZkF4iuO43HqfCk6WQ/viewform?usp=sf_link Edit

STEM



Last week, our Primary 7 classes enjoyed participating in the 'STEM in a box' challenge set by Edinburgh College. They were tasked with designing and building a bridge that spans a gap of 400mm between two school desks. Pupils worked in groups to build their bridges, using materials provided by Edinburgh College and learned how to carry out a 'fair test' to determine which bridge was the strongest.



Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day 2024 will take place on the 6th of February 2024, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online'.

Safer Internet Day is the UK's biggest celebration of online safety.

Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, the celebration sees thousands of organisations get involved to promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.



[Safer Internet Day 2024 - Film for parents and carers](#)

Safer Internet Day 2024

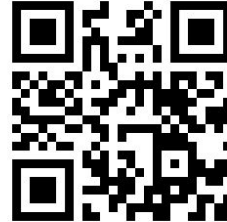
Tuesday 6 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk



Digital Support for Parents, Carers and Pupils



- Digital Support
- Digital Safety
- Guide to using Google Classroom at home

- Digital Support
- Digital Safety
- Supporting your child with their device

Explore guides, advice and information around all the online platforms and trends at the heart of digital family life

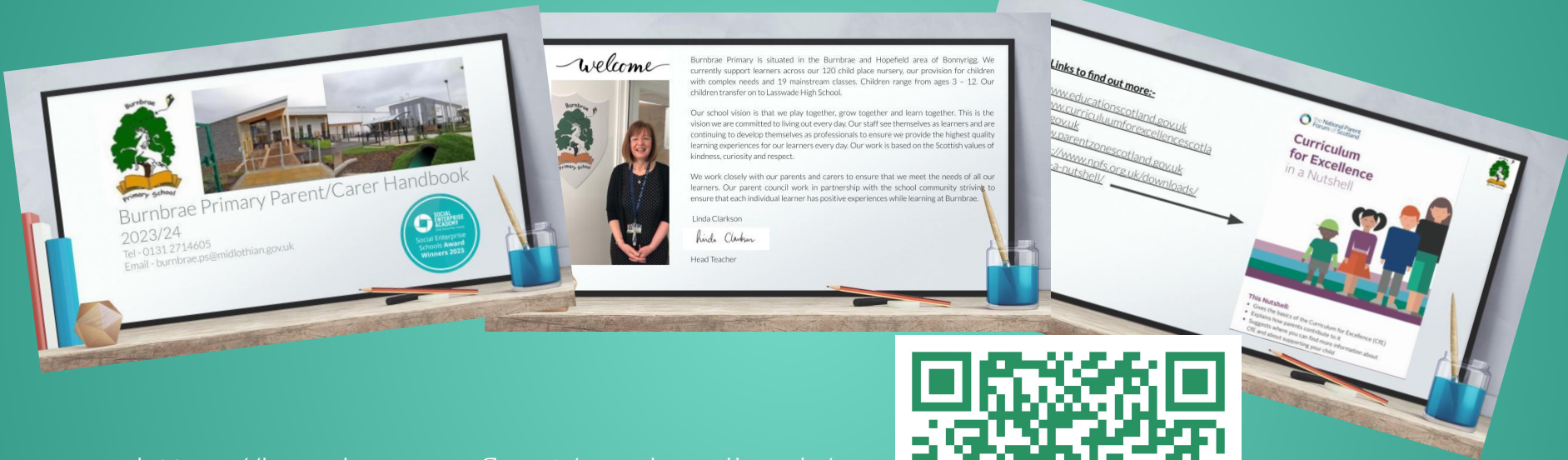
Date	Event	Who is involved
Friday 26th January	Scots Poetry Competition P7 Burns Brunch	P1-7 P7
Monday 29th January	Start of P7 Rugby Weekly Lessons	P7
Tuesday 30th January	P4 Drumming for Excellence	P4
Tuesday 6th February	Safer Internet Day	All
Friday 9th February	Class Assembly for families	P2B
12th - 16th February	School Closed - February Break	All
Monday 26th February	End of P7 Rugby Lessons	P7

Date	Event	Who is involved
Tuesday 5th March	P7 Bikeability	P7
Wednesday 6th March	P7 Bikeability	P7
Thursday 7 March	World Book Day	
Friday 8th March	Class Assembly for families	P5A
Tuesday 12th March	P7 Bikeability	P7
Wednesday 13th March	P7 Bikeability	P7
12th and 14th March	Parent/Carer Consultations	All
Friday 15th March	Class Assembly for families	P4A
Friday 22nd March	Class Assembly for families	P6C
Friday 29th March - Monday 15th April	School Closed - Easter Break	All
Thursday 29th February	P6 Skiing Lessons conclude	P6
Friday 1st March	ELC Stay and Play	ELC

Date	Event	Who is involved
Tuesday 16th April	Back to School	All
Monday 22nd April	P7 Transition Lasswade High 7pm	P7
Monday 29th April	ELC Stay and Play	ELC
Monday 6th May	School Closed	All
Friday 10th May	Class Assembly for families	P5B
14th - 16th May	Rookie Rockstars in school	
Wednesday 22nd May	Rookie Rockstars evening performance	
Friday 17th May	Class Assembly for families	P2A
Monday 20th May	Staff Development Day	
Tuesday 28th May	P1 Information Evening	P1 August 24 cohort
29th and 30th May	Sports Day	

Date	Event	Who is involved
Friday 31st May	Class Assembly	P5C
Friday 31st May	Sports Day	Wee Brae
Sunday 2nd June	Poltonhall Gala Day	
Friday 7th June	Class Assembly	P6B
12th and 13th June	P7 Induction Visits	P7
Friday 14th June	Class Assembly	P3/4
Friday 14th June	Meet the Teacher	P1 - 7
18th, 19th and 20th June	ELC Celebration Days	ELC
Thursday 20th June	P7 Show	P7
Tuesday 25th June	Picnic Day	All

Burnbrae Parent/Carer Handbook



<https://burnbrae.mgfl.net/our-handbook/>





www.burnbrae.mgfl.net

tel: 0131 271 4605

email:

burnbrae.ps@midlothian.gov.uk

<https://www.burnbraeparentcouncil.com/>