



# Brunstane Primary School

106 Magdalene Drive  
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Chris McMillan, Head Teacher

Monday 5 December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the final weeks of term, we have a number of exciting updates to share with you, including the fun packed calendar we have planned for our pupils over the coming weeks.

## **Christmas Calendar**

We are delighted to be back to normal this Christmas and have already started getting into the Christmas spirit here at Brunstane. The kindness elves have already begun to spread Christmas kindness to our classes and we are very much looking forward to our Christmas parties, Christmas jumper day and our school Christmas dinner. Please read information below for all the details. We are also in full preparation mode for the nativity (Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December) and carol concerts (Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> of December) and can't wait to have parents back in to share in the festive fun!

A wee reminder that the pupils are to come dressed in their party clothes on the day of their Christmas party.

## **Christmas Fayre**

We hope you have seen the raffle tickets in your children's bags. Please send them into school as soon as possible.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the Fayre on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> between 12.30-3.30!

## **Mission Christmas Presents**

Thank you for your prompt applications for these this year. If you applied for presents you will receive a separate letter with the date and time you are to come and pick the gifts. This will hopefully be on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> of December.

Christmas hampers will be ready to pick up on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> of December. Again, a separate letter will come out about this to this who applied.

## **Christmas Hamper Donations**

We are looking for the following donations for our Christmas hampers:

- Crackers
- Marshmallows
- Chocolate biscuits and goodies.

If you are in a position to donate we would greatly appreciate it if you could drop any of the above items off in the box outside reception. Thank you in advance for your kindness.

### **School Christmas Lunch**

The school's Christmas lunch will be on Thursday 15th of December. A separate letter will come out about this shortly.

### **Interfaith**

Primary three to seven were treated to an Interfaith Roadshow on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November. Representatives from the Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Buddhist and Bahai communities were there. The children went to see and handle artefacts from all of these religions and ask any questions they had. We also had representatives from the Equalities and Diversities department of the police service to share their message of treating all people with respect. All of the children made our visitors feel welcome and asked some fantastic thoughtful questions. See the schools twitter page for images of the event.

### **Learner Participation Groups**

We have had our first round of learner participation groups this term. In the first meeting the groups laid out a vision for what they would like the group to achieve. The Digi Squad discussed how to support teachers and learners with our iPads and the potential for a digital day. The Equalities Team thought about what lessons they have experienced that had an impact on them and which ones they would like shared with the whole school to promote Equality at Brunstane. The Playground Group will be looking at a playground charter to keep everyone safe and happy on our new playground equipment. The Rights Respecting Group discussed what they already knew about rights and focused on right to a name and created name badges to make a display. Sports Leaders will be creating a questionnaire to discover what sports are played by all the children at Brunstane and what sports would they like to see at our school. The Junior Road Safety Stars have been creating posters to raise awareness about safely crossing roads for both pedestrians and drivers! We will update you on all the great work our Learner Participation Groups get up to throughout the year.

### **Eco group**

We had a very successful Eco group meeting, setting out our aims and visions for what we would like to achieve for the year. Our main goal is to make Brunstane as eco friendly as possible! I was so impressed at the ideas and passion for the environment that everyone shared. We even came up with a catchy slogan - 'Think green, think Brunstane'. Our next step is to gather feedback about what sustainable practices are happening in Brunstane and what we could do to improve. I can't wait for our eco journey to continue!

### **Expressive arts**

Thank you so much to everyone that attended the Andy Warhol art gallery. I'm sure you will agree that the quality of art was fantastic and I know the children were extremely proud to show it off to you all. We are excited to welcome you to the Christmas Carol Concert on Thursday the 15th of December, where you will hear beautiful songs that the children have been working on which will definitely get you in the Christmas spirit!

### **Pick Up Times**

We would like to remind parents and carers that the hours of the school day are statutory and attendance at school is mandatory. Parents and carers should not be surprised or offended if requests to release pupils early from class are turned down if

they have not been agreed in advance. Please contact the office in advance or send in a note with your child if they have an appointment that involves missing school time.

### **New Playground Launch**

We are very excited to be ready to launch our new playground after the Christmas holidays. We are very grateful to all who helped out with our CashForKids fundraiser last session which made a significant contribution to this major improvement to our school playground.

As with our new school Library, the plan for this work has been led by the children in our Pupil Parliament and we are extremely grateful to all of the adults who have helped make their vision a reality.

In the meantime, we ask all families to remind pupils not to go beyond any safety barriers during the Christmas break.

### **Wet Weather**

Due to our playground works and the wet weather, parts of the playground are particularly muddy at the moment.

Please make sure that you send your children to school with appropriate footwear (and a change of clothes if they like playing in muddy areas). Whilst we will cordon off the worst of the mud, we are not able to keep children completely away from grass areas which may be muddy.

### **Football Boot Exchange**

We are absolutely delighted to have two school teams running at Brunstane this year and would like to thank everyone who has helped to make this happen – volunteer coaches, supporters and helpers.

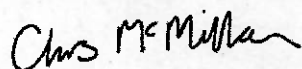
To ensure we make school football as inclusive and easy to access as possible, we operate a football boot exchange. If your families have any boots that no longer fit (or if anyone gets new ones for Christmas and has old ones going spare) we would gratefully receive these and make sure they go to a good home. If you or anyone you know is able to donate a pair of boots, please send them in to the school office. All sizes welcome.

### **Last Day of Term/Start of New Term**

Please note that we **finish at 1pm on Tuesday 20th December**. We will dismiss classes in age order from the usual gates. **Pupils resume on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> of January.**

On behalf of all of the staff at Brunstane, I would like to wish you a safe, happy and healthy holiday. Have a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. All the best for 2023.

Yours sincerely



Chris McMillan  
Head Teacher

