



The Brownlee Newsletter

November 2018

*"A school where the individual is valued in a supportive and safe environment
where everyone's learning experience is celebrated."*

Dear Parents

I trust you all had a very enjoyable half term break and I know many of you took the opportunity for a short holiday away. It is great to see all the children back again as we look forward to a busy time in the run up to Christmas.

Harvest

I want to thank all our parents for their donations for the Harvest Service. Our harvest table was well stocked with non-perishable food and tinned produce. The members of staff at the Lisburn Food Bank were very appreciative of all the food we were able to donate. The children from P4 took the Harvest assembly and I want to thank Miss Woods and all the boys and girls for their lovely assembly presentation.

Coats

The weather is due to turn colder after quite a mild autumn so far. Please ensure that your child has a warm coat that is **clearly labelled with their name**.

Parent / Teacher Interviews

I hope you found the recent parent / teacher interviews helpful and informative. On behalf of the teachers I want to thank you for your continued encouragement and support during these interviews.

PTA News

Christmas Craft Fair Advance notice:
Call for crafters

Wednesday 5th December 6.00-8.00pm

Any parent crafters or their friends are welcome to take up a stall. Please contact the PTA on brownlepta@gmail.com or at school office for further details and a booking form. There will also be a PTA meeting in the school staff room on Tuesday 20th November at 2.00pm.



Christmas Raffle donations

Any parents, friends or businesses who may have suitable items to donate for the Christmas raffle - big or small, voucher or goods - all contributions will be gratefully received. Please contact the PTA as above.

Poppy Appeal

This week we will have poppies on sale in all classes. We will also be holding a Service of Remembrance on Friday 9th November and P5 will be taking this. We would love to see as many children as possible wearing poppies for this occasion.



Colds and Flu

I would like to remind parents not to send their child to school if they are ill. This will hopefully prevent the spread of any infections throughout the school.



Fancy Dress Party and Disco

I want to thank the PTA and all parents and staff who helped to make the P1-3 Fancy Dress Party and the P4-7 Disco such a success. The children had a wonderful time and everyone looked very impressive in their costumes. The standard of the Pumpkin Decoration Competition was also of an extremely high standard and extremely difficult to judge.

Extreme Weather Plan

In the event of us experiencing extreme weather during the winter period and the school needing to close, a notice will be posted on the school's website prior to 8am of the morning in question. The text messaging service will also be used in such circumstances. It is a huge decision to close the school



and it is very much a last resort, however, on such occasions a full risk assessment has to be carried out as to how safe it is for staff and pupils to travel to and from school. We also need to consider if the school can be safely evacuated in the event of an emergency and if the emergency services can safely access the school grounds. If imminent severe weather is forecast, we will give parents prior warning the day before and advice regarding notification of a possible closure.

Christmas Carol Service

We are going to run two Carol Services in Railway Street Presbyterian Church, however, both will be on the one day this year. The date is **Wednesday 12th December** with P1-3 beginning at 9.45am and finishing around 10.30am. The P4-7 Carol Service will then begin at 11.20am and finish around 12.20pm.

Visit by Broken Walls

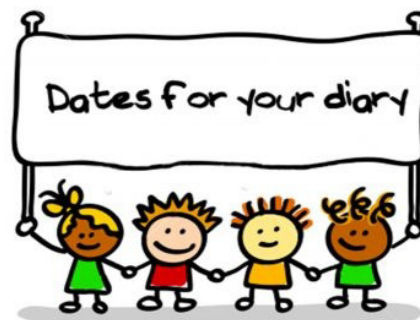
We had a tremendous programme yesterday by the Native American group, Broken Walls. They showed us some of their traditional dances, costumes and music as well as reminding us about how valuable we all are and how we should treat each other with respect.



Below are some dates for your diary for this month.

Friday 9th November

P5 will be taking our Remembrance Assembly. We would appreciate it if as many children as possible were wearing poppies for the service.



Saturday 10th November - AQE and GL Entrance Exams

Children in P7 sit their first AQE entrance test. We would prefer if children wear their Brownlee school uniform on the days of the tests. May I also take this opportunity to wish all who are taking part every success and trust they will feel comfortable in whichever school they have been allocated to take the test in. The dates of the other AQE tests are Saturday 24th November and Saturday 1st December. The GL entrance exams will take place on Saturday 17th November and a supplementary test will take place on Saturday 8th December. The results for all entrance tests will be published on Saturday 26th January 2018.

Tuesday 20th November

PTA meeting at 2.00pm in the staffroom.

Wednesday 5th December

PTA Christmas Fair – 6.00 – 8.00pm.

Friday 7th December

Open Day – Tours of the school at 11.00am and 1.15pm. This is for prospective P1 parents for September 2019.

We will keep you informed of any additional information as the month progresses.

Please check out our school website for photos and updates.

www.brownleeprimary.org

Yours sincerely

Colin Elliott

(Principal)