



STAFF UPDATE

Welcome to all our new staff, I'm delighted to say that there are only a few slight changes since the end of last session...

Art Specialist	Mrs Stephen
PE Specialist	Miss McLean
Support for Learning	Miss Robertson

RICCT

(covering the class teacher when they have preparation, planning etc time during the school day.)

Mrs Boyom
Miss Kirkwood
Miss Cooper
Mrs Borland

Learning Centre	Mrs Mitchell / Miss Kirkwood
Nursery	Mrs Findon
P1A	Miss Bell
P1B	Mrs Boyd / Mrs Borland / Mrs Boyom
P2	Mrs Vallance
P3/2	Mrs van der Burgh
P4/3	Mrs Gatherer
P4	Mrs Kearney
P5	Mr Healy
P6/5	Miss Stewart / Mrs Borland
P6	Mrs Lee / Miss Cooper
P7A	Mrs Dougan
P7B	Mrs Clark

Pupil Equity Fund Teacher Mrs Boyd
May I also take this opportunity to welcome our new teachers Mrs van der Burgh, Mr Healy, Miss Stewart and Mrs Clark.

The Learning Assistants supporting our children next session are:

Ms McColm
Mrs Alder
Mrs Jack
Ms Robbins
Ms Robertson

A very warm welcome to all our new pupils and staff to Noblehill Primary. I hope the summer offered you all the opportunity to enjoy some fun, exciting and relaxing times together.

Our staff have been very busy last session and at the beginning of term which has led to a few changes - details of which are included in the newsletter.

We would really appreciate your support in school, please look out for opportunities throughout the school year to assist in different areas of the curriculum and the general work of the school. If you have any time during the school day and would be willing to help and get involved, please remember to let us know.

As always we look forward to working with you and value your support in working in partnership.

Kathryn A Fraser



Mrs Marchbank
Mrs Stewart
Ms Lewis
Mrs Shankland
Mrs Turnbull
Miss Peat
Miss O'Farrell
Mrs Mitra

Assemblies/Wider Achievements

Each week we celebrate wider achievements at our assemblies. We would like to encourage your child to send in any 'achievements'. These will either be celebrated in class or as part of our Assemblies. Your child will be involved in their class assembly during the session to which you are invited to attend (Max 2 people).



NEW School website coming your way ...

Our current school blog is under review, you will be able to access the information from the current blog until we launch the new! As soon as we go 'live' we will notify you.



In the meantime to access the current blog to keep you up to date - alerting you to successes, celebrations, news and learning experiences, sign up using the link below -

www.noblehillsite.wordpress.com

At the foot of the page, click on follow to receive notifications of new updates by email.

Parent Council



The Parent Council plan to hold their AGM and first ordinary meeting of the new session on Wednesday 12 September at 6.30pm. All parents are invited to attend. It would be fantastic to welcome new faces, and of course the not so new! Your support is valued, please come along and find out how you can represent the school and have fun at the same time.



MEET THE TEACHER

Tuesday 11 September 2:45 – 3:45pm

You are invited to come along to meet your child's teacher, drop by at any time between the times noted above. This will be informal so do not worry if you have children in more than one stage.



IMPORTANT School absence

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please contact the school office as soon as possible, before 9am. Please note you are able to leave a phone message prior to 8:30am. Following absence a letter should be sent to school with an explanation for the absence.

Our Records update and permission forms

Thank you for completing and updating our records, if you have not already done so then please return completed paperwork to the school, thank you.



Letter bags

Each pupil in the school will be issued with a letter wallet. The letter wallet will be sent home every Friday and should be returned – with reply slips etc on the Monday of the next week. All classes will only use the letter wallets for communication between school and home.

Vision Value and Aims

We are in the process of reviewing our Vision, Values and Aims. An opportunity for consultation will be sent out in the very near future, thank you in anticipation.



We need you - Parent Helpers

We are looking to enlist the help and support of parent and family members throughout the school year. Do you have any spare time during the school day and would you be willing to come into school to work with small groups or individuals this session?

We are looking for support in supervising play

Working with small groups

Sharing your skills – to develop our pupil's skills for learning, life and work (eg design, cooking, textiles, construction...)

Playing games

Outdoor learning

CAPER

Please note - depending on what you would like to volunteer for, it may be necessary to carry out the Disclosure Scotland process.

We are looking for resources to help support some of our planned activities. If you have any spare items gathering dust in your garden shed we would really love to put them to good use!

If you have

Wood of any shape/ size

Plastic piping

Plastic Crates

Pallets

...or any similar items can you please bring them into school as soon as possible. Thank you

4th green flag

A huge congratulations to our ECO Committee and a big well done.

Throughout a very busy and productive session our eco committee met and agreed and fulfilled targets. They have



done extremely well and we are very appreciative of all the work they do. I am sure you will have noticed how well our gardens are looking.

Thank you to Mrs Munro and Mrs Boyom for taking the group and everyone who has contributed to their success.

Celebration of Learning

During the school year you will be invited to join your child's class in a Celebration of Learning. An opportunity to come into class to experience, share and participate in the learning environment. An invitation will be sent out in advance.

After School Arrangements

Can all parents please ensure their child knows how and with whom they are going home from school with. We are working closely with the afterschool care providers so that we are aware of the pupils that go with them; however I also appreciate that this varies from time to time. If there is a change in routine can you please notify the school office. Thank you.

Updated Homework

Last year the Communications Working Group looked at all the many ways we communicate with our parents.

One of the main items we worked through was on homework to try and ensure a consistent approach at each level all through the school.

You will find enclosed the homework procedures for this session.

Thanks again to the working group.

After School Clubs

Each year I would hope to offer all our pupils a variety of after school clubs throughout the year. Staff, parents and partners are all welcome to offer their expertise. If you are able to spare a little of your time to organise or offer support in an after school club then please complete the



attached and we will get back to you. Thank you in anticipation. With your help we will soon have an exciting menu of activities for our pupils to enjoy out with the school day.

What should your child wear ...

School Uniform

I'm delighted and most impressed at how smart all our pupils are in their school uniform. Thank you for your support. Should you require further items of uniform there are a few items available at the school office or you can order directly online – see information below. A box of good quality, as good as new gifted items are also available.



Online ordering.

We have moved to an online system for ordering. As we have moved to an online system you can order throughout the school year and items will be delivered to your home address.

The system is live now, so orders can be made at:
http://www.border-embroideries.co.uk/advanced_search.php?skl_id=16289&pager=view_all

The link is also available on our current school website.

Orders placed online, will be delivered within 20 days.

Outdoor Learning

As we continue to develop our pupil's experiences in outdoor learning can you please ensure your child has suitable clothing and footwear in school each week. Children will be going out even if it is raining.

PE

It is important that our pupils are appropriately dressed for PE each week. Children require to wear gym shoes, shorts and a plain or school house t-shirt. These items can be left in school in their gym bags. Track suit bottoms and sports top will be required in the colder months.

Lost property

So early in the term and already we have items in our lost property box. It is really appreciated when all items of your child's clothing and bags are clearly labelled. Thank you for your co-operation.

Free School Meals and Clothing Grants

Currently all P1 – 3 pupils are entitled to free school meals. Some pupils may also be entitled to receive assistance in the form of a clothing grant.

If you receive any of the following benefits please **request a form at the office:**

- Income Support
- Employment and Support Allowance
- Job Seeker's Allowance
- Child Tax Credit but not with Working Tax Credit unless the income is under £6,420
- Universal Credit with a monthly income that does not exceed £500

Some Nursery pupils are also able to access free school meals.

If you are in any doubt please ask at the school office.

Remember if your child is going into P4, 5, 6 or 7 they may be entitled to free school meals.

Rag Bag

As part of our drive in making our eco-friendly choices sustainable at Noblehill, we have again signed up to Rag Bag. It's always good to have a clear out! We are looking for:

Wearable clothing, paired shoes, handbags and belts. Unfortunately they can't accept workwear, uniforms, curtains, towels, bedding, carpets/rugs, suitcases, books and Bric a Brac. The Rag Bags are being distributed today and should be returned to school ON Wed 19th September. Contributions can also be brought in black bin liners. Any money raised will support our Eco Committee in all the exciting projects they are planning.



School Improvement Plan 2018-2019

Following our consultation last session you will find enclosed a copy of our school priorities for this session. Should you wish to discuss any of our priorities please don't hesitate to contact the school.

What is new?

A busy start to the new term and I am sure you are already hearing about new things that are happening in our school.

- ❖ We have reviewed our behaviour policy to reflect our knowledge and expectations.
- ❖ Each class has made up their class rules and chosen the most important rights based on the 'Rights Respecting Schools'.
- ❖ Our positive behaviour procedures have replaced our traffic light system in the belief that pupils will respond appropriately to the expected behaviours at Noblehill. More information will follow on our new website.
- ❖ 'Ask me why I am a star' – when your child has done something above and beyond they will receive a pom pom to put in the class jar and a card to take home. This is your prompt to ask why they are a star. Your child keeps the 'star card'
- ❖ We have a 'Star of the Week' who will be randomly selected on a Monday. Each child will have their star sheet completed by their class and presented to them at assembly.
- ❖ Each morning your child enters their class, they will have the opportunity to discuss their emotions. During this time they will have the opportunity to play purposefully games which develop various skills - developing their working memory, processing skills, listening and

talking, emotional literacy, problem solving etc

❖ #Nobleskillz

Last session a working group spent time developing an effective way of providing opportunities to develop our pupil's skills in learning, life and work and creativity. Although this happens on a day to day basis it was felt due to a restriction on resources etc it was more difficult to teach certain subjects. I'm delighted to share that there is now an excitement in the school as this is taking shape. #Nobleskillz will commence on Wednesday 3 October. Each pupil from P2-7 will experience four Wednesday afternoon sessions developing a particular skill set e.g cooking, creative craft, sport etc.

Don't worry the Early years are not missing out - they will be working closely with the nursery to formulate opportunities to fit with both morning and afternoon nursery session.

More information to follow.

Dates for the diary

Enclosed you will find a calendar of events for 2018-2019. This overview provides you with key dates and events happening throughout the year. More details will follow each month and term when activities and events arise.

Events this term

September

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 11 | Meet the Teacher |
| 12 | Parent Council AGM and Ordinary |
| 10- 14 | September Walk to School week |
| 10- 14 | September Maths Challenge Scotland |
| 7- 13 | September Sumdog's Maths Week Contest |
| 21 | P4 Rugby Festival |
| 27 | P7 Operation Safety |

October

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 3 | Learning Conversations |
| 15 | School holidays |

Homework

READING Primary 1 and 2

Reading - Emphasis on class teacher inputs. Inputs over Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Book to go home on a Wednesday for pupils to share with parents. Returned on Friday. Assessment will provide evidence to support level/ books pupils are working on. Accelerated Reader can be used for more able pupils who require further challenge. Homework will be given out every week apart from the first 2 weeks of Term 1, the INSET week in February and the last two weeks of Terms 2 and 4.

READING Primary 3

In school there will be 3 x 45 sessions of reading; independent, teacher led and follow up task. Any reading homework will be detailed in school diaries and will include details of when it should be completed. Once the children have moved onto reading novels in school, books will not be sent home. Children also participate in personal reading time during which they can choose what they would like to read.

READING Primary 4, 5, 6 and 7

For most pupils, this will be novels in class. There will be 3 x 45 sessions of reading; independent, teacher led and follow up task. These novels will not go home. Accelerated reading (AR) books can go home. AR quizzes provide motivation, personalisation and choice. Pupils complete quizzes in school and keep a record of books read and quiz results. The teacher is shown the results after each quiz. If they achieve a score of 90-100% on three or more occasions they will be moved up a level to provide further challenge.

MATHS Primary 1 & 2

Maths jotter used and this will be sent home as required. Activities will be either a sticky label which indicates SEAL challenge or a worksheet if appropriate.

MATHS Primary 3-7

Sumdog challenges will be set in class with a diagnostic test being completed at the beginning of each term. Challenges will be detailed in diaries and pupils will have 14 days to complete them. Any additional targeted work required will be sent home if agreed by parents.

SPELLING P1 & 2

Pupils in P1 and P2 get sounds homework which consists of a sound flashcard being sent home.

SPELLING P3-7

Spelling homework will be sent home on a Monday and is due in on a Thursday. Pupils will be given a list of words which they have to practise using the 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' method. They will then choose and complete an activity from the list given at the beginning of each term. Spelling Tests will be completed on a Friday at the back of homework jotters so that parents can see how the pupils have got on.

Homework will be given out every week apart from the 1st two weeks of Term 1, the in-service week in February and the last week of Terms 2 and 4.

PARENT HELPERS

Parent's Name _____

Child's Name _____

Class _____

I would be willing to help in school at a regular time each week. ☐

I am unable to offer regular times but would still be interested in helping. ☐

I would be willing to help in school on a Wednesday 1.30-2.30pm with #Nobleskillz. ☐

I am available -

	9-10.30am	10.50-12.35pm	1.30-3pm
Mon			
Tues			
Wed			
Thurs			
Fri			

Please let us know in which way you would be happy to help.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

I would be willing to organise or help with an after school club.

Type of Club _____

I am available _____ (days)

Many thanks.