

Maidenhill Primary School

Head Teacher's Bulletin



Friday September 11 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

Life at Maidenhill continues at a pace.

This week I have spent time in the nursery garden watching as a group of children carefully created a home for their 'pet' spider. Their discussion on what the spider would need to be comfortable in its new home was priceless! I was also delighted to attend a performance of Primary 6 and 7's dramatic recital of 'The Jabberwock' yesterday. Enthusiasm and teamwork were in abundance. From our youngest to our oldest, there is certainly no lack of curiosity or creativity at Maidenhill.

Our older children have also been instrumental in setting up our playground 'Chat Shack' – not really a shack, but the name has a certain ring to it! It has been great to see them welcome children who are maybe looking for a quiet space for a chat or game and I know that most children will benefit from this opportunity at some point. They are on the look-out for any waterproof/ outdoor cushions that are no longer needed, so please get in touch if you might be able help them out. This is a fantastic initiative that really highlights the nurturing approach our older children take.

Parent Consultation Meetings

Thank you for taking the time to book your parents' consultation appointment online this week. The booking system will remain live until 5pm this evening. We had asked you to leave your 1 preferred contact number in the 'comments' box online – don't worry if you forgot or actually did leave a comment. Mrs Fraser and Ms Robertson will attempt to contact you to clarify and it was nice to hear from you anyway!

The success of the telephone consultations will obviously rely on us running to time and I have asked teachers to try sticking rigidly to appointment times. This may mean that they will have to bring conversations to a sudden close if they are in danger of running on – please don't take offence. I appreciate a 10 minute conversation will never seem enough time, so please feel free to get in touch with us if you have any queries at any point in the year and we will always endeavour to get back to you one way or another.

Class teachers will ring identified numbers up to two times. Please be aware that, with all of our landlines in use, our facility for receiving incoming calls will be limited on both evenings. Be assured we will attempt to check up on any missed appointments (of which there will hopefully be none!) in the subsequent days.

Careful Driving

Just a reminder to everyone in our school community (parents, visitors and staff) to exercise the utmost care when driving in the local area and our school car park. I believe the local developers are currently being very responsive to local residents concerns and I know the school community will also be eager to help out. I am sure that you will agree that our children's safety is, at all times, the responsibility of everyone.

Parental Engagement

I'm already starting to miss our coffee mornings, Learn With Us Afternoons, assemblies, forums and all the other events that we were able to invite parents and carers in to the school and nursery class for last session.

With restrictions ramping up again, I am keen to think of how, as a school community, we can maintain at least some level of informal contact. We are increasingly aware of the limitations of virtual platforms and the somewhat stilted interactions they afford us, but I am certainly open to considering any other suggestions you may have. Please do let me know.

Maths Week Scotland

Maths Week Scotland begins on September 28th. We are on the look out for any photos of parents using maths in their everyday lives, at home or at work (or both if you are working from home!) If you are happy to share, this would provide a really fun and engaging stimulus for our children. I know this won't be for everyone, but if you are happy to be a Maidenhill Maths Celebrity please send your photos to schoolmail@maidenhill.e-renfrew.sch.uk

Diary

Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 September; 3.30- 9.00pm- Parent consultation meetings by telephone

Wednesday 23 September; 3.00pm- school closes for September Weekend

Tuesday 29 September, 8.55am- school re-opens

Friday 9 October, 3.00pm- school closes for October Week

Monday 19 October- INSET Day

Tuesday 20 October- school re-opens

Tuesday 27 October- NHS flu vaccination programme

Friday 18 December- school closes for Christmas holiday

Have a great weekend!

Alasdair McDonald

Head Teacher