

Maidenhill Primary School

Head Teacher's Bulletin



Friday October 9 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

Just a quick update today, before the holiday week.

Maidenhill All-stars

Congratulations to our Maidenhill All-stars for October; Finlay (Nursery), Finlay (P1), Jamie, Maria, Adam (P3), Emily, Anna, Daniyal, Hadiyah and Adam (P7) have all done us proud- well done!

Supported Study Initiative

As part of our overall recovery strategy, all of our teachers in P1-7 have volunteered to run Rollercoaster Readers or Mind-blowing Mathematicians clubs for some of the children in each class. These will run over the course of next term as either a weekly after-school club or a twice-weekly lunchtime club. These groups will allow some of our children to consolidate core skills in a small-group, active, games-based context. Teachers are inviting small groups of children for whom this approach will hopefully be impactful and further information should have been e-mailed to relevant parents/ carers today.

This is just one way in which teachers are eagerly supporting our children following the extended period of lockdown last session and we recognise that all children may benefit from a range of new approaches over the course of this session- this is something we are continuing to monitor and track on an ongoing basis.

If you have any queries on this or any other matter, don't hesitate to get in touch via schoolmail@maidenhill.e-renfrew.sch.uk.

Improvement Planning

Our Standards and Quality Report for Session 2019/ 2020 is an evaluation of the progress we made last session. Despite it being our very first year in existence and given the totally unpredicted nature of how the session ended, it has been great to actually look back and see just how much we managed to achieve. Thank you to you all for your contribution in this process.

Our School Improvement Plan 2020/ 2021 sets out our improvement agenda for this session. Following government and local authority guidance in relation to recovery planning, you will see that our priorities very much focus on Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing.

Please follow the link to the School Improvement tab on our website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/maidenhill/school-improvement/>

Nursery Class Update

Thank you for the feedback you provided on our care and support during COVID. It was lovely to hear such positive views with regards to how we have continued to support your children in their return/ start of nursery. Our nursery staff team have worked tirelessly to make sure all children feel safe, secure and loved in our setting and your feedback as shown that this has not been in vain.

As we move in to the new term, our staff have been consulting with the children about what they would like to learn, and preparing them for a small change upon their return after next week. Each group of children and staff will be moving to a different zone in the nursery. This will ensure that children continue to have a breadth of experiences, inside and outdoors, and are able to continue to develop their skills in the full range of contexts. I'm sure that the children will be able to share their excitement with you about this move.

We appreciate that we need to open different channels of communication with you – we wish we could go back to welcoming you inside the nursery when your children are being collected and provide feedback on their day but, given the current circumstances, this is not possible. As an alternative, we aim to begin regular phone calls home to you in the new term, as well as having a weekly post on the nursery google classroom to keep you in the loop with the different learning experiences the children have been engaging in throughout the week. You will need to use your child's Glow login to access the classroom. If you have any issues logging in, you can find help here: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/public/maidenhill/uploads/sites/17578/2020/03/27141853/Parents-Guide-to-Online-Learning1.pdf>.

If you do not have your child's Glow login, please don't hesitate to contact the school via schoolmail@maidenhill.e-renfrew.sch.uk and we will send it out to you.

Diary

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

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the hard work and commitment of our staff team over the course of this term. The examples of people in all roles within the school going above and beyond the call of duty are numerous. The recognition of the importance of keeping our school open and the dedication that our staff show towards this everyday has been outstanding. Sincere thanks.

I know the staff team are looking forward to a well-earned week of rest. Foreign holidays and dining out are most definitely off the cards, but much needed family time (where possible) is always something to savour.

I know all of you will feel the same and I hope you have a fantastic week. See you all on Tuesday 19.

Take care,

Alasdair McDonald
Head Teacher