

Maidenhill Primary School

Head Teacher's Bulletin



Friday September 3 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers

I heard the fantastic news this week that Maidenhill Primary and Nursery Class has been recognised as one of the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland's (RIAS) Buildings of the Year 2021 (the award was postponed from last year):

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-58416687.amp>

This is a testament to the insight and creativity of the architect team from BDP and everyone involved in the planning and build from East Renfrewshire Council and BAM.

This is the second prestigious architecture award for Maidenhill and whilst those of us who work and learn here can't claim any credit for the quality of the design and build, it can't help but fill us with pride and gratitude that we have the opportunity to spend our days in one of Scotland's very best buildings.

In other news, I am sure you are more than aware of the difficulties and upheaval schools and nurseries across Scotland are continuing to face. The education of our children must be of paramount importance and, even as resources are unavoidably stretched at this moment in time, we will always endeavour to ensure our children continue to learn and grow. Your cooperation and patience is, as always, greatly appreciated and I am extremely grateful to everyone who follows the precautions and mitigations which remain in place for the good of our children.

PE days

I often get asked at the gate about the days on which each class has PE.....and 9 times out of 10 my complete inability to retain this information only serves to disappoint! Here then, for the benefit of us all, is the definitive word from our class teachers:

P1- Tuesday and Friday
P2alpha- Monday and Wednesday
P2bravo- Tuesday and Friday
P3alpha- Tuesday and Thursday
P3bravo- Tuesday and Thursday
P4alpha- Tuesday and Wednesday
P4bravo- Wednesday and Friday
P5alpha- Thursday and Friday
P5bravo- Monday and Wednesday
P6- Monday and Wednesday
P7- Wednesday and Friday

NHS Flu Vaccination

You will already have received consent letters for this year's NHS flu immunisation programme to be held for all children in P1-7 in Maidenhill on Monday October 4. The vaccination will be available in the form of a nasal spray (or an injection, if requested). Parents/ carers of nursery age children should speak to their GP or health visitor.

Ms Robertson and Mrs Fraser are collating the consent forms on behalf of the NHS, but for any further information about the immunisation programme itself please visit www.nhsinform.scot/childflu

House System and Parliament

Next week will see our P7 pupils canvassing for the honour of being elected House Captain or Vice Captain for each of Blair, Culzean, Eilean Donan or Stirling. Children will shortly be able to vote for their preferred candidate through a link in their Google Classroom. Our House Captains and Vice Captains will then have the task of ensuring their house reigns supreme as House Champion for 2021/ 2022. Will Stirling retain the title two years in a row or will Blair, Culzean or Eilean Donan be victorious for the first time?

Following our house elections, I will be looking to form Maidenhill's first parliament. Giving our pupils a strong voice in how we carry forward improvements within our school and nursery class and will be one of the cornerstones of our drive towards Rights Respecting Schools Status. Equalities Reps will be joined within the parliament by a MMP (Member of the Maidenhill Parliament) for each class, with staff members (and parents!) co-opted as appropriate.

Staffing News

Now that the dust has settled, I can officially welcome Michele Collins (Acting Senior Child Development Officer), Amera Ali (CDO) and Tracy Kelly (CDO) to our nursery class team. As our team grows, we will be recruiting a further 2 permanent CDOs in the coming weeks. Congratulations to Mr Johnston, who is one of the teachers in our nursery class. He has recently welcomed 2 new additions to his family and will be taking extended parental leave until the end of the session. Miss Alice Burdge will join Sarah-Jane within our nursery class teaching team from Monday.

Welcome also to Miss Nicola Johnstone, Miss Claire Ionta and Miss Jennifer Mercer who are all new members of our teaching team this session. It has been great to see our team grow, not only in size but also in expertise.

Finally, we are advertising a Business Support Assistant role within our office. The two-woman team of Mrs Fraser and Ms Robertson have done a power of work since our school opened (and indeed even before that!) but the increase in our school roll means that an extra pair of hands will be most welcome.

Diary

Friday September 24 and Monday September 27- September Weekend holiday

Monday October 4- NHS Flu Immunisation Programme

Tuesday October 5 and Thursday October 7- Parent Consultation Meetings (possibly by telephone- tbc)

Friday October 8- School closes for October Week holiday at 3pm/ Nursery Class remains open to 6pm

Monday October 18- In-service day

Tuesday October 19- Children return

Please have a great weekend!

Take care,

Alasdair McDonald
Head Teacher