

Maidenhill Primary School

Head Teacher's Bulletin



Friday September 17 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers

My favourite time of the school day is always just after lunch (and not just because lunch duty is over!) I often stand upstairs, facing out over the atrium with a pretty good view of each class and just take in the 'buzz' of energy from the children as the great hand-washing procession comes to an end and they set about their afternoon learning. Needless to say their energy levels at this point of the day supersede mine to an overwhelming degree, but it is always great to see the independence and enthusiasm our children demonstrate.

In addition, any time spent in our nursery class is a pleasure. I made the fatal mistake this week however of getting involved in some real expressions of creativity at the painting easel whilst wearing some nice fawn chinos. You would think I would have learnt after 20 years!

Parent Consultation Meetings- P1-7

Our first round of parent consultation meetings for parents/ carers of children in P1-7 are scheduled to take place from Monday October 4- Thursday October 7. I use the term 'meetings' loosely as it is still necessary for our consultations to take place by telephone (although current guidance to schools is due to be updated after the September Weekend, it is highly unlikely that any change will involve groups of parents being able to enter the school building).

Each teacher will hold their conversations on either Monday 4 and Wednesday 6 (P2alpha, P2bravo, P3a, P3bravo, P7) **OR** on Tuesday 5 and Thursday 7 (P1, P4alpha, P4bravo, P5alpha, P5bravo and P6). Conversations will last for 10 minutes and will run from 3.30-6.50 for the Monday and Tuesday sessions and from 4.40-7.40 for the Wednesday and Thursday sessions.

Mrs Fraser and Ms Robertson have set up our online booking system:

<https://maidenhill.schoolcloud.co.uk/Admin/Evenings/Detail/320630>

Please follow the link (the system will go live today at 3.30pm) to book your appointment slot on either of the days allocated for your child's class. **You will be able to see all four dates listed but, depending on which class your child is in, you will only have access to two out of the four.** Online booking will remain live until 5pm on Tuesday 28 September. **In the comments section of the booking portal, you will be asked to leave 1 preferred contact number for the conversation- it is important that you leave a number as this is the one number our teachers will use to contact you.** I have attached a simple guide to help you with online booking.

We continue to appreciate, like so many things at the moment, that this is not the ideal way of 'meeting' with you and although our teachers are only able to logistically manage 10 minute meetings, we hope this will be a useful time to touch base and find out how your child has settled into the new session. If none of the times on the dates above are possible for you, please get in touch and we will endeavour to set up a 10 minute chat on a date later in the term.

House Captains

Election fever hit Maidenhill this week! I want to thank again all our prospective P7 candidates for their hard work during their fantastic campaigns. I am pleased to announce the following candidates were elected by their peers:

Blair– House Captain: Maria and Vice-Captain: Max

Culzean– House Captain: Emme and Vice-Captain: Badri

Eilean Donan– House Captain: Eva and Vice-Captain Hadiya

Whilst we were able to easily spot and discard some of the votes that clearly were not made by the children (!) in all houses; we were unfortunately unable to un-tangle Stirling's vote count (this has definitely been a learning experience– let's just say Rudi Giuliani would have a hard job putting a positive spin on this one). To that end, we will ask the children of Stirling to vote again next week (once only!) and we will hopefully be able to announce Stirling's Captain and Vice-Captain then.

Maidenhill All-Stars

Congratulations to the very first Maidenhill All-Star recipients for the new session:

P1– Remi

P2alpha– Isabelle

P2bravo– Alasdair

P3alpha– Mariam

P3bravo– Martiya

P4alpha– Gurleen

P4bravo– Charlotte

P5alpha– Sanvika

P5bravo– Holly

P6– Anna

P7– Blake

Our September All-Star Awards have traditionally (or as traditional as it can get in a 2-year old school) been awarded to children in each class who go out of their way to demonstrate friendship, compassion and a real respect for their fellow classmates. I know our class teachers will have found it tricky to nominate only one All-Star, so a huge well done to our recipients.

MUGA

Thank you for all your messages of support in relation to the difficulties we have been experiencing in ensuring the MUGA is in a fit state for our children during the school day and for local groups who have gone through all the right channels and booked a community let.

The bottom line is, that if the MUGA continues to be available for ad-hoc use (outwith the requirement to make it available for community lets), myself and our dedicated facilities staff hope to feel confident that it is under the same supervision/ monitoring that is in place during the school day and during community lets.

I am delighted that the local community's willingness to support this is clearly there. We are ever hopeful that when we go home in the evenings and at weekends, we will return to find the MUGA in the same condition we left it in.

September Weekend

Don't forget that next week is a four-day week. School will close at 3pm on Thursday 23 and re-open at 8.55am on Tuesday 28. Our nursery class remains open until 6pm on the Thursday as usual.

This weekend, however, is of the standard non-long variety. Enjoy it nonetheless!

Diary

Friday September 24 and Monday September 27– September Weekend holiday

Monday October 4– NHS Flu Immunisation Programme

Monday October 4 –Thursday October 7– Parent Consultation Meetings (by telephone)

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

Friday October 29– Hallowe'en Fun Day (more details to follow)

Take care,

Alasdair McDonald

Head Teacher