

# Maidenhill Primary School

## Head Teacher's Bulletin



**Friday 25 February 2022**

**Dear Parents/ Carers**

For the first time in nearly 2 years we were able to hold a whole school assembly.....in person! It was really poignant to see everyone from P1-7 gathering together and returning to something so simple that we all used to take for granted. Our youngest children have never known anything other than my remote assemblies- which let's face it, were nothing to write home about! We were even able to invite some of our nursery class children along and it was a real pleasure to see everyone in the one place. It also really brings home, if we didn't already realise, how much our school has grown. Everyone has worked so hard in recent times to maintain our sense of school identity and community; being able to meet again at assemblies will only make that easier- long may it continue.

Huge congratulations to our fantastic February All-Stars. It was great to be able to present their certificates in person. Well done to:

P1- Brook  
P2alpha- Anna R  
P2bravo- Thomas  
P3alpha- Fatima  
P3bravo- Benjamin  
P4alpha- Arianna  
P4bravo- Murray  
P5alpha- Sam  
P5bravo- Kendal  
P6- Ralph  
P7- Charles

### **Nursery Class Parent Consultation**

Parents/ carers of our nursery class children in their pre-school year have received information about making an appointment to chat with our nursery class teachers, Eilidh or Sarah Jane, by telephone. This will take place on either Tuesday 8 or Thursday 10 March from 3.30-6.00pm. If you have not already had the chance to sign up for an appointment slot at the door, please speak to Eilidh, Sarah Jane or any member of nursery class staff.

Please note that children in their 'ante' year will continue to receive pastoral update telephone calls from a key worker.

### **World Book Day**

Thursday 3 March is World Book Day; a global celebration of the joy of reading which perfectly ties in with our own approach to developing literacy skills. Mrs Barr and our class teachers are preparing a range of activities to help our children join in the celebrations.

Whilst mindful that 'dressing up' for World Book Day has gotten a bit of a bad press in recent years and has maybe detracted from the original intention of the day, we remain happy if children wish to dress up as a character clearly from a favourite book or novel. In this case, it would be good if the children could actually bring a copy of the relevant book or novel to share with their teachers and peers. Absolutely no pressure or expectation from our side- if children are happy to simply bring a prop or not to dress up at all, there are plenty of other activities planned for them to take part in.

### **Beat the Street**

With the final flurry of snow hopefully behind us and warmer weather on the way (ever the optimist!), it is time to look out your walking shoes for the return of Beat the Street. The aim of the game is to earn as many points as possible for you and Team Maidenhill by walking, running, scooting or cycling between Beat Boxes across East Renfrewshire. All children have been issued with their Beat the Street pack today, containing a map and 2 cards - one for parents/ carers and one for children. There are three boxes located within Maidenhill; one outside the school, one at Ayr Road on turning into the estate and another at Torlum Crescent at the top of the path from Ayr Road.....and although we are not at all competitive in any way and wish all our neighbouring schools the very best, GO TEAM MAIDENHILL!

For more information on Beat the Street please visit <https://www.beatthestreet.me/eastrenfrewshire/>

### **Review of Numeracy and Mathematics**

A Review of Numeracy and Mathematics took place in Maidenhill this week against a backdrop of high winds, blizzards and extremely excitable children. That being said, the children did us proud and the review team spoke very highly of the children's engagement in and enthusiasm for the learning experiences we provide.

The team visited nearly all classes across the school, including the nursery class, feeding back to me at the end of the day on the creative and engaging learning experiences they saw. I was delighted to hear their feedback and so pleased that they had clearly enjoyed their time at Maidenhill.

I have always been confident in the quality of the learning experiences at Maidenhill but have sometimes wondered how objective I am able to be. Welcoming a review team into the school is a great way of modifying my own professional judgement and ensuring an objective and critical eye. I was so proud of what the team were able to tell me and cannot praise the hard work of our children and staff enough. Well done everyone!

### **Diary**

**Tuesday March 8 and Thurs March 10- Nursery Class parent consultation meetings for pre-school year children**

**wb Monday March 7- P7 Lockerbie Manor residential visit**

**wb Monday March 28- parent consultation meetings**

**Friday April 1- School and nursery class close for Spring break**

Enjoy your weekend.

Take care,

**Alasdair McDonald  
Head Teacher**