

Golfhill Primary School, Whitehill Campus

Telephone: 0141 554 7723

Head Teacher: Mairi Thomson

Website - <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/golfhill/>

Vision – to nurture a love of learning



@1Golfhill



Newsletter– April/May 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you all had a lovely spring and Easter break. With the extra day, it seemed like a lovely long holiday and now we are into Term 4 of the school year...where has the time flown?! The summer term in school is always a lovely one as we enjoy better weather and collectively look forward to sports days, welcoming our new P1 children and saying a fond farewell to our P7 children.

Please read on for the news from school and if you have any comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school office.

Staffing update

Interviews for the post of Depute Head Teacher in Golfhill were held in school on Wednesday 26 April. I am delighted to share the news that Mr Allan Fleming was successful and will begin as Depute Head in August 2017. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Mr Fleming on this appointment.

Next session Mr Scott Hay will join the team at Golfhill as a permanent teacher. Mr Hay visited the school on 28 April at the end of the day and is looking forward to beginning with us.

As yet I do not have further details on staffing for next year but will update you as soon as I am able.

Pupil Equity Fund Update

The proposal for using the £98 000 allocated to Golfhill by the Scottish Government to help close the poverty related attainment gap was submitted to the Director of Education earlier this month. The response was positive and stated that the proposal was well-thought out. This means we can continue with the plans parents/carers were consulted on at Parents' Night:

1. Literacy/Numeracy targeted support – additional staffing to enable this
2. Family Learning – Golfhill has commissioned Barnardos to employ a Family Support worker for two days a week to work with families. We are in the process of scoping out what that role might look like. Please share your ideas with us. We would be very keen to hear them.
3. Health and wellbeing - introduce a whole school approach to developing emotional resilience

It is likely that these proposals will begin in August 2017 and we will be preparing the ground work and resourcing/arranging training between now and then. I will continue to update you on progress.

Summer trips



P1- 3 summer trip Blair Drummond Safari Park will take place on **Wednesday 21 June**.

Cost per pupil to be paid = **£8.50**

P4-7 summer trip to Blair Drummond Safari Park will take place on **Monday 19 June**.

Cost per pupil to be paid = **£8.50**

McCreadies Coaches has been booked for both days. Buses leave Golfhill 9.20 am and return to Golfhill for 2.30pm. Provision will be made in school for those children who will not be attending the trip. Payment is now required. Please note the school fund and money raised from the Ladies' Night, football cards and Christmas cards = £1504 and has been factored in to reduce the cost. If you wish to help, please let the office know.

Head lice

Given the warmer weather and the return to school from the holiday period, can I ask that you continue to check your child's head regularly for head lice? It is a common childhood complaint and treatment is available free from GPs/pharmacies. Your support with this is much appreciated. Thank you!

Uniform

As many shops begin to stock school uniform and you begin to consider buying new items for the next school year, our school uniform consists of:



- Blue shirts/polo shirts
- Navy school jumper
- Navy skirts/pinafores/trousers
- In the summer months – gingham dresses are a cool option.

Vision

It was with great excitement that we voted on the six pictures for the vision for our school. Thank you to the school community for engaging with this and for voting. Following the count, I am delighted to confirm that the winning design is by Grace Leese. Congratulations Grace! The design shown here will be painted on walls in our school. If there are any willing parents/carers able to help with this, please let us know.



Eco Week success

Thanks must go to Mrs Baruah and the Eco Committee for organising such a successful Eco Week in school. The foyer was transformed to encourage the children to think about how we look after and care for our world and there were lots of fun activities throughout the week. We were very impressed with the home learning junk models that the children created and thankful to Mr Easton (DHT Whitehill) who had the tough job of judging. Here are the results:

P1-3		P4-7	
Winner	Islay P1	Winner	Rosa P4
Runner up	Abdulrahmann P3	Runner up	Caoimhe P6/5
Next 5	Jessica P1 Dylan P1 Philip P1 Dannii P3	Next 5	Scott P4 Emily P6/5 Aishat P6/5 Sophie P5/4 Iris P6/5

Well done to everyone who participated. We hope the sunflowers the children lovingly planted are thriving and look forward to seeing some pictures of them.



Warmer weather (hopefully!)

As we begin to hit some warmer weather, can I please ask that you consider the use of sunscreen for your children? The children will be outside at the warmest time of the day and we do not want anyone to burn. Please also provide refillable water bottles so the children can stay hydrated during the day.

PEEK Active Play and Play Champs

Just before the holiday we celebrated the partnership with PEEK. Children in P4 and P6/5 sang songs and spoke about the positive impact of the outdoor play sessions. The children were very positive about their experiences and the staff from PEEK said they loved coming into Golfhill. Thanks to all the parents/carers who came along for the celebration and discovered again a love of skipping or playing outside.



SOS Partnership with St Denis and local artist Scott Lang

We were awarded over £2000 to continue the partnership with St Denis' Primary School involving the P6/5 children in both schools. This work has begun and the children have to make a collage about themselves to share. Miss Hayworth will share some pictures of this work as it progresses via the school website.



News from some classes

The Sunshine Room – recently went to Alexandra Parade Park and represented the school beautifully. The children were searching for nests and spotted a swan building a nest around its mate. The children have been working together with Whitehill Secondary School Nurture Base to make cakes. The results were delicious.



P2/1 – are learning about what is inside our bodies and how we keep them healthy. The tennis sessions and the outdoor play sessions will certainly help with this. Dinosaur magic is happening in this class too so we can expect to see some scary pictures coming our way.



P3/2 – are developing their skills as palaeontologists as they learn about dinosaurs. They have been learning about the theories that led to them becoming extinct and sharing their knowledge by creating fact files for the chosen dinosaur of the week. Look out as there will be dinosaurs about Golfhill!

P4 – Tony came up with a wonderful idea to compost the food we don't eat. He wrote a persuasive letter and presented it to Lesley at Westercraigs. As a result they ordered compost and he and some friends were digging and preparing the soil for new grass. Eco Schools Scotland said "It was brilliant." There has been a real buzz in the air as the children are learning about Extreme Earth. They are finding out about hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis.

P5/4 – enjoyed a wonderful day at the Science Centre taking part in a show and exploring the mall. The children behaved wonderfully well and now know how to travel from Duke Street to the Science Centre changing trains at Partick. The highlight was the show on Future Fuels with lots of explosions and fire. Some of the groups got to conduct a Co2 experiment with students from St Andrews University.

P6/5 will be writing letters to children in Stornoway Primary in the Western Isles to share with them what city life is like. They will receive letters from the pupils there who will share island life...it will be interesting to compare the differences.

P6/5 are learning about Space and are looking forward to finding out in particular about space travel. They are writing applications to send to NASA to become future astronauts. Who knows...watch this 'space'!



Thanks to the Parent Council and the school community for the Marie Curie Daffodil Tea Party.

Upcoming dates and events

- Monday 1 May - Holiday
- Wednesday 3 May – ‘Dads and boys’ group begins today 9.30 am for **6 weeks** – treasure hunts, den making and fun. Interested? Please speak to Mrs Thomson
- Thursday 4 May – In-service Day 5
- Monday 8 May – Health and wellbeing day at Whitehill – P6 to attend 10-12 and P7 to attend 1.30 – 3.30
- Monday 8 May – P7 swimming block begins (7 weeks) 9 – 9.45 am in Whitehill Swimming Pool
- Week beginning 15 May is our Health Week with visitors and experiences a plenty including Road Safety and Dogs Trust. A detailed timetable will be shared with you. The children will be able to come to school that week wearing jogging bottoms rather than full school uniform. Please send a t-shirt or top in to school to change into. Thank you.
- Wednesday 17 May – the first of 5 assemblies exploring our new school values – honesty, cooperation, respect, responsibility and politeness. The children will come home with a challenge each week...so be prepared!
- Friday 19 May – Parent Council Quiz Night in Reidvale
- Tuesday 23 May – Primary 1 Induction afternoon – 1.30 – 2.30pm Adult play and stay session
- Tuesday 23 May - whole school blazer fitting today by Gilmour Sports
- Thursday 25 May – P1 Assembly – parents/carers invited
- Friday 26 May and Monday 29 May – holiday
- Tuesday 30 May - Primary 1 Induction afternoon – 1.30 – 2.30pm children meet buddies and parents/carers hear a little about school over a cup of coffee
- Wednesday 31 May – Parent Council AGM – all parents/carers warmly welcomed
- Thursday 1 June – P7 children to Whitehill Secondary to take part in Game jam (linked to Scratch Coding)
- Week beginning 5 June – Talent Show auditions – staff team are organising
- Tuesday 6 June - Primary 1 Induction afternoon – 1.30 – 2.30pm children play and adults chat over coffee and meet others who will be part of the school journey
- Wednesday 7 June – Sports Day in Whitehill grounds (morning session) supported by Whitehill Secondary Sports Leaders and Active Schools Coordinator
- Thursday 8 June – General Election – children come to school as normal
- Friday 9 June – Sports Day winners will be announced
- Tuesday 13 June – possible Sports Day at Emirates in partnership with Whitehill for P5-7 pupils – to be confirmed
- Wednesday 14 June – alternative date for Sports Day (if weather is very poor on 7 June)
- Wednesday 14 June – Price Waterhouse Coopers (business partner) to work with P7 children in Whitehill Secondary
- Friday 16 June – Pupil reports go home
- Friday 16 June – Talent Show pm
- Monday 19 June – P4-7 school trip
- Wednesday 21 June – P1-3 school trip
- Thursday 22 June – Award Celebration
- Monday 26 June – children meet the new teacher (if staffing confirmed)
- Tuesday 27 June – non- uniform day, school closes 12.45 pm
- Friday 11 August – staff return In-service day
- Monday 14 August In-service Day
- Tuesday 15 August – pupils return with a slightly later start for new P1 children