

# Golfhill Primary School, Whitehill Campus

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@1Golfhill



## Newsletter – February 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you all enjoyed the February holiday - it was a real treat having the Friday off too!

The last few weeks have been very busy with a large number of the children out and about on trips. This really helps bring the classroom learning to life by providing links to real life. We can look forward to many more experiences in the weeks to come.

### Vision



We are delighted to say that we have a new school vision. This has been created using ideas from staff, children and parents. Last month the draft vision was sent home in the newsletter and feedback invited. Two slips were returned - both positive. Staff reflected on the draft vision once more and we agreed this is where we are heading as a school.

Our new vision is to nurture a love of learning.  
We will do this by developing skills in a community that cares,  
motivates and believes in possibilities for us now and for the future.

The teachers are going to be talking about this with the children and asking them to come up with ideas for a visual. We are very excited to see their ideas.

**Trip update** - thank to all the parents/friends of Golfhill who accompany the children on outings. We could not do it without your support.

### Calton Fire Station – P7 and P6/5



Last month Primary 7 and P6/5 went to Calton Fire Station to take part in the Junior Firereach programme. The children appreciated the value of communication and trusting each other to help them get out of the dark room. Miss Hayworth has already posted some pictures on the school website and P7 were keen to share their thoughts too.

“It was a really good visit. We got a tour of the fire truck and we did a room of risks where we had to try and point them out. We went into a dark room and shuffled around trying to find a casualty. We all managed it but some of us bumped our heads trying to climb through a hole. We met a few fire fighters and they told us stories about cats up a tree and the most common situations that start a fire. We got to see some pictures of bad accidents where the fire brigade had to go and help.

We learned what to do in a fire situation – get out the building and phone 999. We learned the motto – get out, stay out, call us out. We learned how to stay safe in a fire:

- if you can't get out go into a room, close the door
- put blankets and socks/pillows under the door so the fire can't get out.
- you then need to open the window to get fresh air and scream to get help.
- You then stay on the ground because the smoke rises. “

by Amelia and Allan P7



### Celtic Connections

The orchestra and P5/4 recently went to see bands playing in the Royal Concert Hall. The children travelled by train with Mrs Ryan and loved hearing music from around the world. The children reported that they were spellbound by what the musicians did with just a drum and a triangle. Hopefully we have learned a trick or two to feature in the next performance.

### Glasgow Film Festival

P2/1, P3/2, P3 and P5/4 walked to Parkhead Forge Cineworld cinema for a showing of Moana. Staff reported that the children showed great road sense when walking there and were extremely well behaved. Thanks to the P5/4 buddies who helped look after the P2/1 children and make sure they were ok. The film was a huge success and P3/2 and P3 spirits' were not dampened by being caught in the sleet on the way back.



### Dennistoun Library visit

P4 and P3 visited Dennistoun Library as part of our work to raise standards in literacy and encourage the children to read. Each class will get to visit the library - dates to be arranged.

### Swimming gala – P5/4-P7

The children swam their way to second place at the recent Whitehill Swimming Club gala. The roar from the crowd really kept the swimmers motivated and helped them through to the very last stroke. Well done Team Golfhill!



### SOS bid – working with St Denis PS



Primary 7 successfully linked up with St Denis Primary School earlier in the year to work on a project called Sense over Sectarianism. This was so successful so we decided to extend this work to include P6/5. As a result we submitted a bid to Glasgow City Council and were awarded £2155 to develop a piece of art to gift to St Denis Primary School and them us. The children will be working with a local artist Scott Lang. This work will last 6 weeks and begin and end with a joint celebration. More information regarding dates will follow.

### Pupil Council

The pupil council has met on several occasions now and Mrs Thomson has been very impressed with how well they are doing. So far we have been thinking about how the pupil council runs and thinking about the school rules. We will discuss this a bit more after the holiday. If you have ideas for the pupil council to discuss, please let your son/daughter know so they can pass it on.



### Scripture Union Club



We are soon to welcome Fiona and Mark to the school to run a Thursday lunchtime club. The club will be open to children in P5-7 from 12.10—12.40 and will include a mix of games, stories and fun. Scripture Union Scotland is a christian organisation that works with children and young people to explore christianity.

### Pollination Group

We are taking part in the RSPB Birdwatch in school grounds programme. This will involve children from in the upper school counting the different species in our school grounds. We are really pleased to see a new Pollination display taking shape in the GP room. We are looking forward to the day in March when we get stuck into digging out the sloping ground on the banking behind the football pitches. It will soon become a wild flower meadow attracting bees and other pollinators to our school grounds.



### Burns Celebration

The Burns' Celebration was a highlight for the children in the school. We were entertained through song, dance, poetry and drama and our hands were sore from clapping by the end. It was a really special event which the children and staff had worked hard to put together. Unfortunately space wasn't on our side to be able to have parents/carers joining us. We hope you managed to pick up some of the pictures tweeted from the event.



### Successful bid from East Area Partnership



Thanks to the six children – Emma, Grace, Lia, Temi, Yoana and Satin who confidently represented the school and appealed to the community for money for the school. We were delighted to be awarded **£2407** for the project and this money has been used to buy cooking kitchens for the school. Thanks to the children and the families who supported this.

### Improvement Update

This week we had a visit from a Quality Improvement Officer (Gerard McKernan) to see the work the staff and in particular Mrs Duff is taking forward around reading. He popped into classes and talked to children and staff. We are delighted to say this was a positive visit.



### Pupil Equity Fund

You may have seen news recently around the Scottish Government's plans to provide funding to schools to help raise attainment and what has become known as 'close the poverty related gap'. The amount of money allocated is based on the number of children entitled to claim free school meals. Golfhill is to benefit from this money. At the moment Glasgow City Council is helping schools begin to develop ideas as to how this money could be used.

### Water bottles



Please send in water bottles for the children to use in the dinner hall. (Please write their names on the bottles so they don't get lost – thank you!) This is to help reduce the chances of anyone slipping. Water bottles can be stored in the packed lunch buckets and taken home each day.

### Lost property

We seem to have collected a significant amount of lost property again. This is located in the outer foyer should you wish to have a look.



### Vegetable patch



You may have noticed that the blue container that was in the school grounds disappeared over the February holiday. This has left an area that is perfect for growing. As a result, we have applied for a £300 bid to help provide the money to convert this into ideal growing space. We are delighted to have permission from Amey who look after the building to do this. Please support this bid by following this link and voting for the school. Thank you!

<http://www.galaxyhotchocolate.com/fund/profiles/golfhill-primary-school>



### Good news

- We were delighted to hear that Aaron in P4 received a medal for his efforts at the football club. Well done!
- Ewan in P6 displayed great courage when he helped a friend who was ill.
- Carly P6 stepped in to help someone when they were choking.

### Upcoming dates and events

- From Monday 20 February until 31 March – Student teacher Miss Differ begins again in P7
- Tuesday 21 February – Parent Council meeting 6.30 pm
- Friday 24 February – Free tennis sessions for P1, P2/1, P3/2 and P3
- Friday 24 February – Pinocchio performance by M&M Productions in school for whole school
- Tuesday 28 February – P6/5 (am) and P7 (pm) to Mitchell Library for Wee Write
- Wednesday 1 March – Marvellous Magnets workshop for P3 by Generation Science
- Wednesday 1 March – P1 (am) and P3/2 (pm) to Mitchell Library for Wee Write
- Wednesday 1 March – P7 children to Whitehill Secondary School for a skills building afternoon with Price Waterhouse Coopers (business partner) 1.15 pm – 3.25pm late dismissal
- Friday 3 March – Mr Fitzsimmons finishes working with P5/4
- Friday 3 March – P4 soccer begins outside 1.45 – 2.45 pm in MUGA
- Friday 3 March – Film Club
- Friday 3 March – P3 (pm) visit to Mitchell Library for Wee Write – children will be late back
- Monday 6 March – P5/4 (am) visit to Concert Hall for Wee Write
- Wednesday 8 March P7 Athletics Event at Emirates Arena (12 children)
- Wednesday 8 March – P1-3 plus Eco Group plus St Denis Eco Group and P7 children have a Professor Eco Show in Whitehill Secondary Conference Room
- Thursday 9 March – Open afternoon for parents/carers
- Friday 10 March – Parent Council run discos
- Beginning Monday 13 March SHRE lessons taking place in school (Sexual Health and Relationships Education) more information to follow on this. (P7 have already taken part)
- Friday 17 March – Film Club
- Tuesday 21 March – Parents' Night 3.15 pm – 8.45 pm
- Friday 24 March – Red Nose Day
- Friday 24 March – P2/1 Assembly
- Monday 27 March – Friday 31 March ECO week in school
- Friday 31 March – easter celebration
- Friday 31 March – non-uniform day (contribute £1 towards school funds)
- Friday 31 March - school closes 2.15pm

Any further updates will be sent home where possible via letter, text message, twitter and on the web. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me via the office.

Best wishes

Mairi