

Golfhill Primary School, Whitehill Campus

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@1Golfhill



Newsletter – January 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

Happy New Year! We want to take this opportunity to share our good wishes for 2017 with our school community and that this year treats us all well. We hope that you had a wonderful festive break and enjoyed special times with loved ones. The children and staff have come back to school refreshed and we have heard many families comment on how they are pleased to be back in the normal routine.

I hope this newsletter keeps you up to date with what is happening in the school. Looking ahead, it is a very busy term with already lots of exciting visits and visitors to the school. Your help with trips and outings is much appreciated. If it was not for this, we could not manage to take advantage of as many opportunities as we do.

As ever, if you have any suggestions for the newsletter or what you would like to be kept up to date with, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. We would be delighted to see what we can do.

Weather

The Scottish weather is proving as unpredictable as ever with record high temperatures followed by cold spells and rain. The best advice we can give is for children to come prepared for all weathers, that way they will be able to enjoy the fresh air and playtime without the worry of being uncomfortable.

Pupil Voice/Leadership

The children have been hearing about some of the ways they can show leadership and contribute to the wider life of the school. To help us with this, all children have been given a job application form to complete for a number of roles in the school. This was sent home on Monday 9 January. The children will be voting for who they would like to represent their class as the Pupil Council rep and the Eco Committee representative.

Elections will take place in school on **19 January** with the successful candidates hearing at Assembly on **20 January**.

Successful bid

The news that we had been awarded £2000 from the Whitehill Sports Fund was mentioned in an earlier newsletter. This money was allocated for outdoor PE equipment, clothing and Wi-Fi to support the use of iPads in school. We are still waiting on the Wi-Fi (as this is provided by an external company). 31 jackets ranging from size 5-6 – size 13 have been purchased together with a wealth of PE resources. These resources are due to arrive in school this week – hooray!!!

We want all our children to enjoy 2 hours quality PE and this will help us towards this.

Golfhill Primary School - job application



Each committee will have two members from each class.

Name			
Class			
Position applied for (please tick which you are most interested in)			
Name of group	What it does	Link staff member	Want to apply? (tick here)
Health Group	This group will help plan our Health Week and talk about how we can be a healthier school.	Mr Fleming	
Pupil Council	This group talks about things that affect the whole school.	Mrs Thomson	
Eco Committee	This group looks after our school grounds and will help plan our Eco Week.	Mrs Banah	
Library Committee	This group helps encourage reading in the school and helps to develop our library.	Mrs Gray	
Shine Group (new group)	This is a new group that will think about how pupils and staff can work together to improve things in school.	Mr Mackin	
Digital Explorers	This is a new group that will think about how we can use technology in our learning.	Mrs Duff	

Why do you think you would like this role?

Draft vision



At Parents' Night in November you were asked to vote on phrases for our new school vision. These results were collated and shared with the Parent Council in November. The phrases were then put together to create a statement.

**Draft vision statement for Golfhill Primary School is -
To nurture a love of learning.
We will do this by developing skills within a
community that cares, motivates and believes in
possibilities for us now and for the future.**

We will be talking about this draft vision in school with the children. If you wish to share your thoughts on the vision, please return the attached feedback slip. Thank you in advance.

Quick round-up from clubs/classes

Sunshine Room update - The children are settling back in to their routine after the holiday and are delighted to welcome new children into the morning and afternoon groups. The children loved their visit to The Swallow Café just before the Christmas break. They did very well crossing the roads and ordering their food. Staff commented on how well the children behaved. Great news! Miss Thomson and Mrs Todd are going to be visiting other nurture classes over the next few weeks. They will be visiting Pirie Park, Elmvale and St Thomas' to meet the staff and share ideas.



Journalists' Club - Miss Hayworth has started the P7 club and has been very impressed with the creativity of our P7s. We look forward to reading their pieces very soon.

Bikeability – Mr Moore continues with the Tuesday and Friday Bikeability club and has posted some clips of the children in action on the twitter feed.



Developmental PE – Mrs Jamieson takes a group of children during the week to help them with coordination. The children learn and practise exercises such as sausage rolls, angels and windmills and these all help the children with balance and left/right brain work.

Primary 2/1 – the children have been collecting shoe boxes to make cars as part of their science work. We look forward to seeing the models the children produce.

The class has made a really good start on VCOP as part of their Big Writing and thinking together about how to make their writing more interesting. The children are looking forward to doing a class assembly in March.

Primary 5/4 – the children are beginning their topic on Scotland. They will be learning lots of interesting facts and getting ready for the Burns' Celebration at the end of the month.

Music to our ears - Mrs Ryan and Miss Hayworth are looking forward to beginning to play the ukuleles with the children. Miss Hayworth and Mr Moore will start a group on a Friday afternoon in her class during Golden Time.



Orchestra - The orchestra gave beautiful performances at the December Concert and they have reformed in time for the Burns' Celebration. The children have been given some new pieces to learn and we look forward to their performance.

Glasgow's Improvement Challenge Update

We have teamed up with PEEK who will work outside with P4 children over ten weeks to develop their skills in play, social interaction and physical fitness. This work involves a research project to monitor a change in the children's fitness levels before and after this input. Hopefully they will be fitter as a result!

Ten children have been identified in P6/5 to be Play Champs. They will work with PEEK over eight weeks to lead play in our school. We look forward to seeing the children develop their leadership skills. The children who have been identified include: Caoimhe, Hamid, Qasim, Kyle, Iris, Aaron, Haleemah, Aishat, Mason and Sarah.

Mrs Duff has continued to benefit from training in reading as part of Glasgow's Improvement Challenge. She led a session for all teachers looking at reading strategies and how we support children as they learn to read. We are in the process of making resources for use in the classes and we look forwards to sharing these with you.

Photographer Feedback

Further to the feedback shared in the December update, a few more slips were sent in. Updated numbers are shown below:



	Yes	No
I like the style of the casual class photograph	16	11
I would like an individual photo of my child each year	26	2
I would like the option to buy a class photograph each year	18	8
I like a more traditional school photograph	12	12
I like a more informal school photograph	13	10
I think the cost of £14 per photograph is acceptable	14	9

What now? Mrs Jones will continue to contact a couple of photographers to gather costs in preparation for 2017.

Whitehill Secondary cluster work

Some staff will be trained in restorative approaches with Haghill Park Primary, Alexandra Parade Primary and Whitehill Secondary. This means a cluster-wide consistent approach to dealing with behaviour. We are very grateful to the secondary school for this opportunity.

Upcoming dates and events

- Seasons for Growth begins in school 13 January led by Mrs Ryan
- Student teacher Miss McCracken begins again with P1 (week beginning 9 January – Thursday 9 February)
- Monday 9 January P1 and P2/1 - PEPASS physical activity project begins with Andrea Robertson from Glasgow City Council. This lasts for 7 weeks and will include a session for parents/carers.
- Thursday 12 January - P4 Active Play 10 week project with PEEK begins. This learning takes place outside. Special provision will be made for children who due to health reasons can't be outside.
- Thursday 12 January - P6/5 Active Play Champions with PEEK (10 children for 8 weeks) this learning takes place outside.
- Friday 13 January 2017 – P6/5 to Glasgow Science Centre for topic visit Clyde in the Classroom – Miss Hayworth and parent helpers will accompany the children
- Wednesday 18 January – Parent Council Meeting
- Thursday 19 January – P5/4, P7 and P6/5 to Celtic Connections concert – train from Duke Street to Queen Street. **Volunteers needed please**
- Wednesday 25 January - Orchestra to Celtic Connections concert with Mrs Ryan – train from Duke Street to Queen Street. **Volunteers needed please**
- Friday 20 January – P4 Assembly
- Friday 20 January – Film Club 3pm This is a great way to start the weekend 😊
- Friday 27 January – whole school Burns' Celebration (children only)
- Date to be confirmed Thursday 9 February – P3 Assembly
- Friday 3 February – Dental team in to apply fluoride varnish to children's teeth (P1-P4)
- Friday 3 February – Whitehill Swimming Gala for children in P5-P7 - letter to follow
- Wednesday 8 February P5/4 to Cineworld at Parkhead for a showing of Moana (animation) Volunteers needed please.
- To be confirmed Wednesday 8 February P2/1 to Cineworld at Parkhead for a showing of Moana (animation)
- Wednesday 8 February – Theatre company performing a play and workshop for P6/5 and P7 about relationships (endorsed by NHS)
- **Holiday – Friday 10 February, Monday 13 and Tuesday 14 February**
- **In-service Day 4 – Wednesday 15 February (children do not attend)**
- Monday 20 February – Student teacher Miss Differ begins again in P7 until 31 March
- Friday 24 February – Pinocchio performance by M&M Productions in school for whole school
- To be confirmed either 1st or 8th March P7 Athletics Event at Emirates Arena (12 children)
- 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.
- Friday 17 March – Film Club
- Friday 24 March – P2/1 Assembly
- Monday 27 March – Friday 31 March ECO week in school
- Tuesday 21 March – Parents' Night 3.15 pm – 8.45 pm
- 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

Golfhill Parent Council Report January 2017

Christmas events

We hope you all had a wonderful festive break! The PC loved being part of this year's Christmas Fair and took the lead on the Tea room, Teddy Tombola, Lolly Pick, the No Parent Present Room and Guess the Weight of the Cake. Congratulations to Yoanna Hadjigeorgieva who's guess was the closest – she won the cake!

We also started a new holiday tradition, which grew out of the regular bi-weekly Film Club. The Family Festive Film Night was a special evening movie screening of a holiday classic held on 16 December. We showed *Miracle on 34th Street*, which won the popular vote on the PC Facebook page. Mince pies, bags of sweets and freshly popped popcorn added a festive air to our usual cinema snacks.

Particular thanks and recognition to all of you who made time in your busy pre-holiday schedules to support these events with lots of energy, with your donations of delicious home baking, teddies and bric-a-brac ready for a new home, by turning out to participate and by volunteering your time to help. This spirit is what makes Golfhill such a lovely school.

Upcoming dates

18 January: PC meeting (GP room at Golfhill) – all welcome! 6:30pm – 8pm.

20 January: Film Club* (Whitehill Lecture Theatre). 2:45pm – finish time TBC

3 February: Film Club* (Whitehill Lecture Theatre). 2:45pm – finish time TBC

17 February: Film Club* (Whitehill Lecture Theatre). 2:45pm – finish time TBC

*Tickets will be available from the school office

Leaver's Hoodies

The PC were pleased to be able to subsidise and organise the P7 leaver's hoodies again this year. They were so popular last year that we decided to get them made up earlier so that pupils would have an opportunity to wear them for more time. Especial thanks to Andrea Williams and Claire Macdonald who coordinated with the printers and the pupils on this project. The hoodies look great and we're glad to see so many P7s enjoying them.

Fundraising

Huge thanks to all the pupils and families that have been selling football cards and who purchased their holiday cards through the school. Thanks to you over £400 has been raised toward the school trips. This in addition to the funds raised by the Ladies' Night in the autumn will mean a reduced burden on the school to fund this year's trip.

Education Governance Review

You may have been hearing in the news about a controversy around the Scottish Government's Education Governance Review consultation. The SPTC published a

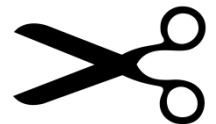
response that was critical of the Scottish Government's consultation on behalf of parents. Their criticism was the consultation excluded many parents by assuming too much 'inside' information about the education system and used specialist jargon that most people couldn't understand. The SPTC said: "It is ironic that a document which has as one of its stated aims that parents should be more empowered in fact excluded very many parents from participation."

Ashley has been staying involved in the Scottish Government's Education Governance Review by attending and contributing on behalf of the Golfhill PC to both the Government's public consultation session (10 November) and the Glasgow Parent Council Forum open session on the consultation (3 October). We will continue to watch this space and feed in on behalf of Golfhill families.

That's all from the Golfhill Primary Parent Council for January. If you have any questions about any of the above, please contact us via email, Facebook or in person.

Email: golfhillpc@gmail.com

Facebook: /golfhillprimaryparentcouncil



Golfhill Primary School Draft Vision - Feedback

Draft vision statement for Golfhill Primary School is –

To nurture a love of learning

We will do this by developing skills within a community that cares, motivates and believes in possibilities for us now and for the future.

	yes	no
I like the draft vision		
I think the draft vision describes where we want our school to be		
I think the draft vision reflects what I want for my child		
Any comments/suggestions?		