

Golfhill Primary School, Whitehill Campus

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Vision – to nurture a love of learning



@1Golfhill



Newsletter– June 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

It is hard to believe that we are now only days away from the end of school session 2016/17. It has been a quick yet memorable year for so many reasons.

Our Primary 7 children have just had their transition days to secondary school and we have already welcomed our new Primary 1 children into the Golfhill community. These significant events draw us ever closer to the summer ahead. Nonetheless it is still a busy time in school with lots to organise and wrap up in the days to come. Do not hesitate to contact the office if you have any questions.

In the meantime, from us at the school, we wish you all a happy, safe and enjoyable summer break.

Summer trips



Staff and children alike are looking forward to the trip to Blair Drummond Safari Park. Children must be in school on time as the buses will be leaving at 9.20am sharp. Thanks to all those parents/carers who have sent in money - please send in any remaining money if you wish your child to attend. Thanks also to those parents/carers who have offered to help on the day. Trips would not be possible without this support.

Staffing update

Happy news

- We are delighted to hear Mrs Duff's recent news – she is expecting a baby and is due in November. We look forward to this happy event.
- Miss McCarten has been offered a permanent contract in Golfhill and has accepted this position.
- Miss Hayworth will be starting at St Anne's Primary School in August. We wish her well – it's only down the road.

Happy yet sad news

- Mrs Gray is beginning the next exciting chapter of her life as she looks forward to retirement. Her last day of work in Golfhill will be June 26th however she will always be welcomed back as a 'friend of Golfhill'. Mrs Gray has been a much-loved member of staff in Golfhill for many years and we will miss her dearly. I am certain you will join with the staff and children of Golfhill to wish Mrs Gray many happy years to come.

Mr Mackin is currently off work unwell and we look forward to his return. He has appreciated the good wishes sent on to him by families in Golfhill.

The classes for next session are just being finalised. As yet I am waiting on final updates from Human Resources who support schools with staffing. As soon as I have these details I can share them with you.

At present the classification for session 17/18 is as follows:

Class	Teacher	Area of the school	Line up area	Enter school via
P1	Miss Jamieson	downstairs classroom	where P1 and P2/1 currently line up	the ramp and the front door
P2	To be confirmed	downstairs classroom		
P3/2	Miss McCarten	upstairs classroom (current P3/2 classroom)	where P3 currently line up	up the ramp closest to the gate and car park, through the blue fire exit door and up the stairs
P4/3	Mrs Little Mrs Johnstone	upstairs classroom (current P4 classroom)	where P4 currently line up	
P4	Mrs Duff	upstairs classroom (current P3 classroom)	Near the slabbed area diagonally opposite the MUGA	the blue fire exit next to Mrs Thomson's office, up the stairs and through the first floor entrance to Golfhill
P5	Mr Hay	upstairs classroom (current P5/4 classroom)		
P6/5	Ms Buchanan Mrs Baruah	downstairs classroom (current P7 classroom)	Near the slabbed area diagonally opposite the MUGA further away and closer to Whitehill	the second blue fire exit nearer to Whitehill, along the corridor and down the ramp past the Technical department and through the door to Golfhill
P7/6	Miss Munro	downstairs classroom (current P6/5 classroom)		

There will be some movement of children between classes. You will be informed of any change.

As you know, we will be joined by two St Denis' Primary School classes P6/5 and P5 in two of our first floor rooms. Mrs Mackie is intending to have one of her SLT members Mrs Black and a Support for Learning Worker located in Golfhill to supervise the St Denis' children.

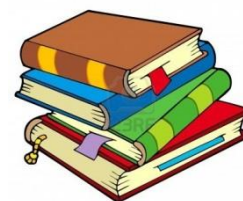


Pupil Equity Fund Update

Thanks to the parents/carers who joined us on Tuesday 13 June to discuss possible questions for the Family Support Worker interviews on Thursday 15 June. We interviewed a number of candidates and I look forward to be sharing some news about how the interviews went.

Reading Challenge

We were delighted to be able to share in the children's success by awarding the Scotia Reading Medals and First Minister's Reading Challenge Certificates to P4-7 children. We were so pleased to hear how many books the children read. A particular well done to Scott (P4), Satin (P5), Ali (P5/4) and Joseph (P7) who read the most books as part of the First Minister's reading challenge in the upper school classes.



The Tesco Summer Reading Challenge will be taking place again this summer – look out for it at your local library. Invitations to take part were sent home to children in our infant department. Thank you to all who supported our sponsored read this year. We raised a fabulous £290 which has been used to buy new library books for every class. Thank you also to all who completed the questionnaire about Book Bags. The responses from both pupils and adults were very positive with some helpful suggestions to take forward.

Engineering Challenge

Primary 4 children recently received certificates for their science, technology and engineering work with Mrs Duff with several children being awarded merit and distinction. Well done P4!

Sports Day

We had a very successful Sports' Day on the Whitehill pitches. The children worked very well together and gave the various stations their all – well done! Thanks to the parents/carers who made it along to cheer on the children. The winning teams were as follows:

1st place – Westercraigs

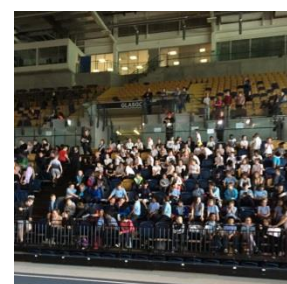
2nd place – Armadale

3rd place – Hillfoot

A big thank you must go to Mr Fleming and Gerry our Active Schools Coordinator for their preparation which certainly helped the day to run smoothly. We were very grateful to Asda who provided the water on the day.



P5-7 took part in the Whitehill Learning Community Sports' Day at the Emirates Arena. The children relished the big venue and competed well. Thanks to Ms Campbell (Whitehill Faculty Head) for extending the invitation to the feeder primary schools.



Vision and values



Some of our Primary 7 children have been hard at work painting our vision picture – *to nurture a love of learning* on a wall in school. It is looking amazing! Well done Grace, Lia and Amelia.

The children have been learning about our values each week in assembly through stories, songs and challenges. Thanks to parents/carers for your support with the home challenges too.

The Pupil Council have been very busy shortlisting the value characters for the rest of the school to vote on. The characters we have chosen so far are:

- Colin Cooperation (bee) designed by Ayush, Haddy and Lia (P7)
- Olie Honesty (bird) designed by Ayshat (P6/5)
- Polly Politeness (butterfly) designed by Kara (P5/4)

We are still working on the characters for respect and responsibility – watch this space!



Uniform

Uniform orders have come home. Uniform will be available to collect on the In-service Days in August. 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.

We have a significant amount of lost property in school. Please take some time to go through the items and claim what is yours as we are not able to store items over the holidays. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Playground update

I would very much appreciate it if a group of parents/carers could work with us next session to submit an Awards for All bid to renew the seating area outside in the infant playground. The outdoor classroom is a good number of years old and has sadly disintegrated. As the wood is coming loose, I have asked Amey to remove it for health and safety reasons. We can expect this to be done in the summer holiday. Please let the office know if you can help submit a bid.

As part of the bid, we wish to source longer lasting material as the free standing wooden bench was subject to vandalism by youths and had to be removed. Can I ask that if you live in the area that you maintain a close eye on the school grounds and report any damage to the police. Thank you!

Milk update - We Love Scottish Milk



In a bid to encourage primary school pupils to drink milk and further reduce the amount of sugar in our Fuel Zone menu (in line with the Scottish Government recommendation) Cordia will provide only plain milk in all primary school Fuel Zones from 15th August 2017. This promotion campaign is titled: 'We Love Scottish Milk'.

Milk provides many nutrients which play an important role within the body throughout the different stages of life. In primary school children, milk continues to provide essential nutrients for growth and development, as well as helping to protect teeth.

Posters will be placed around the Fuel Zone highlighting key facts about milk and the benefits to the body. Pupils will receive a sticker when they opt for a carton of milk during their lunch break.

All pupils are entitled to a free carton of milk each day in the Fuel Zone regardless of whether they use the service for their lunch. So pupils who have packed lunch or go home for their lunch can still take a free carton of milk every day.

Upcoming dates and events

- Thursday 22 June – Award Celebration 10 am P1-3 and 1pm P4-7
- Monday 26 June – children meet the new teacher (where staffing is confirmed)
- Tuesday 27 June – non- uniform day, school closes **12.45 pm**
- Friday 11 August – staff return In-service day, uniform can be collected
- Monday 14 August In-service Day, uniform can be collected
- Tuesday 15 August – 8.45 am pupils return with a slightly later start of 9am for new P1 children. **Please note the new places for lining up and entering the school building.**

Dates for
the Diary: