

# Golfhill Primary School, Whitehill Campus

Telephone: 0141 554 7723

Head Teacher: Mairi Thomson

Newsletter May 2016



@1Golfhill



Thanks to all the children, staff and parents for your congratulations and good wishes following my appointment as Head Teacher. I have been very touched by the warmth with which I have been welcomed into the Golfhill community. It is hard to believe it is almost a month since I joined the team!

I hope you find this newsletter informative and that it helps to keep you up to date with some key events within the school. If you would like to see anything further included, please let us know.

## **Foyer**

You may have noticed the foyer has undergone the beginning of a revamp. The children have been asked to create a design to display photographs of everyone in Golfhill. As a school we will vote on and select the winning design and work together to create it. Your help with this would be much appreciated. Designs have to be returned to the school on **Friday 20 May** for voting to begin week beginning **23 May**.

## **Security/entering the school**

As a school we continually review procedures and this month, our focus is on security and health and safety. To help keep our children safe we will be locking both the car park gate and the Onslow Drive gate during break and lunchtime.

With the re-design of the foyer, we kindly ask that all parents/carers and visitors to the school first use the foyer window to speak to clerical staff. We are keen to extend the use of the area outside P1 and P2/1 for learning and teaching rather than as a waiting area. This means that any adult visitor/parent/carer will, having signed in, be asked to take a seat in the foyer. Your help with this is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

## **Thoughts please...**

At Parents' Night, you were asked to identify the school's strengths and areas for improvement. Thank you for taking the time to complete this exercise. Information was collated and displayed as a graph. Staff discussed the results and a focus group of children and the Parent Council are doing the same on **Friday 20 May**. We hope to make this information available to all shortly afterwards.

## **Election campaign**

Just as the country went to the polls on 5 May, so did Golfhill, led by P7/6. The children teamed up, created party names, logos and prepared and presented their manifestos to the whole school. As politicians they were certainly persistent and used every opportunity to campaign and win votes. It was a tight contest overseen by Mrs Baruah with votes being counted and verified by P6/5. In the end the 'Let Scotland Flourish' party won by a margin of two votes. This experience gave all the children the opportunity to vote and not wait until they are sixteen. Well done everyone for entering into this with a positive spirit.

### **Coding**

P7/6 recently took part in a Learning Community coding experience in Whitehill Secondary. The children teamed up with others from Alexandra Parade and Haghill Park. We were delighted to hear that six children are progressing to a competition to be held in Glasgow City Chambers later this term. Well done to Grace, Shamita, Tommy, Neve, Anya and Flora.

### **Toy Sale**

Yoana (P5) demonstrated an entrepreneurial spirit when she asked if she could organise a toy sale following a clear out at home. This idea sparked others and soon a team of children were sharing their idea at assembly and setting up a stall to sell their much loved toys. This venture resulted in £61.97 being raised for school funds. What a result! Thank you and well done to all those who supported the toy sale.

### **If you are interested... 'Respect Me' training for parents/carers**

**What?** A workshop that will introduce you to bullying behaviours and help you to recognise the range of responses that can be used to address bullying.

**When?** Wednesday 31st August 2016, 7-9pm

**Where?** Carmyle Primary School, Hillcrest Road, Glasgow, G32 8AG.

**Who?** Presenter: Lisa Armstrong – Respect Me Trainer

**Booking?** Email [yvonne.keenan@education.glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:yvonne.keenan@education.glasgow.gov.uk)

### **Science brought to life**

Edinburgh Science Festival workshops were held in school last week. The older children were treated to an engaging session about Wonderful World of Water and the younger ones about Day or Night.

### **Wider achievement - Musical Success**

We are delighted that three of our pupils Yoana Hadzhigeorgieva (P5), Alba Devlin-Rubio (P6) and Flora Taylor (P7) continue to attend the East Glasgow Music School and will be enjoying their annual concert on 21 May. This concert gives the children the opportunity to showcase what they have learned throughout the year and take part in group and solo performances. We wish them well for this concert look forward to hearing how it goes.

### **Wider achievement - Caoimhe hits the stage**

Caoimhe Smith (P4) has been on stage in The Kings Theatre in Glasgow with Starstruck Theatre Group performing Joseph the musical. Singing alongside Joe McElderry from the X Factor, Caoimhe has combined her school work together with the demands of performing and come to school the next day with a smile despite the late nights. Staff who attended the show were very impressed. Well done Coimhe!



### **Wider achievement – charity walk/run**

Lexi (P3) proudly wore her medal to school yesterday after she took part in the Race for Life. Well done Lexi! Katie (P3) is also planning to do Race for Life having done it three years in a row. Great achievement!



### Health Week Round Up

We were treated to spectacular weather last week for Health Week. A busy week was planned so we have included a quick update on some of the experiences the children took part in.

**Celtic Football Club** coaches delivered a number of football sessions outside in the MUGA. The children were encouraged to be active and work as part of a team.

The **campus police officers** talked to the upper school children about online safety. They were impressed at the level of knowledge the children had and how aware they were of the recommended age for social media apps. They will return this week to speak to the infant classes. Lynzie Foster has agreed to run a session for parents/carers on online safety and we look forward to securing a date soon.

**Healthy snack tuck shop** – P7/6 planned, organised and ran a very successful healthy tuck shop each day. This venture supported learning as they calculated cost price, selling price and profit together with food hygiene and excellent customer service.

P6 enjoyed the challenge of following instructions and building **wheelbarrows** in teams. Thanks to Jessie the janitor for helping to supply the tools.

**Skipathon** run by Gerry our Active Schools Coordinator saw the children skip as much as they could.

The walk to **Alexandra Park** took place in glorious sunshine. P4-7 ran round the duck pond while the infants enjoyed the play park. We were delighted when the London Road police officers stopped the traffic to let us all cross safely.

Miss Gordon helped the school chill out with **meditation** and the staff engaged in some end of the day mindfulness and relaxation too. It was great to make time for this.



I learned that lots of vegetables help me be healthy  
Lachlan

I enjoyed the fruit because it was yummy.  
Tiegan

The daily mile is quite fun and tiring.  
Leonard

I enjoyed having no sweets to be healthier.  
Katie

## A spotlight on some classes



**P1** are learning about the seaside this term and enjoyed learning together with some nursery children who will be joining us in August. As part of this, the children made sparkly fish and explored shells.

The arrival of the eggs and the hatching of the chicks has spread excitement from **P3** right across the school. The children and Miss Munro are now well used to the many visitors who want to pop in for a visit and a wee hold. The children have been able to confidently talk about the different stages of growth which has helped us all to understand. We will all be very sad to see the chicks leave Golfhill this week.

**P6/5** entertained the whole school and parents/carers on Friday 13 May with their wonderful performance of the Princess and the Magic Mirror. The staff and the children worked extremely hard to put on this show so quickly after the spring break. It was a great way to end Health Week and made us all think about the benefit of exercise and healthy eating in a fun way. A particular thanks to Mrs Ryan, Mr Mackin and Whitehill Drama department for their help in putting on this show, not to mention the children and those at home who helped with the learning of words. The children did a great job and we are very proud of all their efforts.

**P7** spent two days in Whitehill Secondary as part of their transition programme. They followed an S1 timetable to help them get a taste of what life will be like in August. They all seemed to enjoy the experience and Mr Campbell (Whitehill Acting Depute Head Teacher) commented on how successful the days were.

“It was good because we got to know everyone who will be in our class. We go to meet all the teachers and see what they are like. You don’t talk in the middle of the class and you need to listen to find out where you are going. There’s at least fifty teachers. I think it’s better going round different classes because you get to know more teachers.” Anya, Flora, Bryan and Adam

## Upcoming dates and events

- Thursday 19 May - Big Maths Workshop P4-7 parents 1-2 pm and 6.30 – 7.30pm
- Friday 20 May - Celebration Assembly remember to post GLOW awards box and slips now located in the foyer
- Thursday 26 May - Non uniform day
- Holiday weekend – Friday 27 May and Monday 30 May children are off school
- Week beginning Tuesday 31 May Outdoor Week
- Thursday 2 June (pm) School sports on the Whitehill pitch (9 June alternative date)
- Friday 3 June – Celebration Assembly
- Wednesday 8 June – P5-7 to take part in Learning Community Sports Day at the Emirates
- Wednesday 22 June – 9am infant awards ceremony, 1pm P7 Leavers’ service and P4-7 awards’ ceremony
- Thursday 23 June – Talent Show
- Friday 24 June – non uniform day, school closes 12.45 pm

Best wishes

Mairi Thomson Head Teacher