

# Golfhill Primary School, Whitehill Campus

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Vision – to nurture a love of learning



@1Golfhill



## Newsletter– September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

The school term is well under way now and children are hard at work. By now you will have had the class newsletter home and parents' night so here is some more information about what's going on in across the school. Watch out for bag drops from Karen our Family Support Worker! Lots going on!

### Oral Health

We were pleased that Michelle O'Shaughnessey from the Oral Health Team visited the school and met with the new Health Committee. The Committee discussed the range of snacks brought to school and the amount of sugar in them. The children then gathered together a range of snacks and were busy studying the nutritional information. Michelle came to speak to all the children at assembly and we are pleased she also supported at the first Parents' Night. The Health Committee have decided to have **Fruity Friday** – please support this.



### Lunch rota

With the new P1 children staying for lunch now, the dining hall is a busy place. P1-3 always get their lunch first and then each day a different upper school stage goes in first. For example it may be P4, P5, P6 and then P7 then next day the order will be P5, P6, P7 and P4 followed by P6, P7, P4 and P5. This system has been in place for some time now and we find this is fair for everyone in the upper school. The rota is on display in classes and in the dinner school to help keep those supervising right!

### Partnerships in our community

We are very fortunate to have a number of partners supporting the children with their learning. This term children in the upper school have been working with PEEK Theatre, Sense over Sectarianism with St Denis Primary and Celtic Football Club. This work will continue next term with Reidvale and Impact Arts.

Reidvale will be in training our P5 – P7 children in first aid. P7 children will take part in a 6 week course and P5 and P6 children will take part in a 3 week course. This will count towards the children getting Dynamic Youth Awards. First Aid is an essential life skill and we hope Reidvale will be able to provide some learning opportunities for parents/carers at the same time.

20 children from the upper school will work with Impact Arts on 'Our Bright Future Project'. This is a community art project and the children will be asked what art they would like to see in Dennistoun in the future. There will be a celebration of the community's work in Impact Arts in December so look out for this. Letters have been sent home regarding this.

**Early Years Scotland** - We are very pleased to partner with Early Years Scotland who will be in school each week running a Stay Play and Learn session for our P1 children and their parents/carers. This will run from 1.15 – 2.45pm and will begin on Thursday 26 October. Karen our Family Support Worker will be there each week too. This is being funded through the Pupil Equity Fund.

**PE in Primary 1** - Mrs Robertson from Glasgow City Council's PEPAS team is working with Miss Jamieson and the children on physical literacy. This proved very popular last session and parents/carers will be invited in to hear a little more about it and join in with the fun.

**Primary 4 and Primary 4/3** – are taking part in Determined to Dance over in the Whitehill Dance Studio. This is a great opportunity for the children to experience movement and lasts until 6 November.

**Primary 5** – Have been enjoying swimming in Whitehill pool each Monday. Some children are really growing in confidence in the water while others are developing their skills. We look forward to seeing how much more they progress in the 13 week block. Mr Hay took the children to Dennistoun library and was very impressed that every child remembered their library ticket and was able to take out a book.

### PE days

Here is a note of the PE days for the classes in the school

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
indoor PE	P2, P1	P4	P6/5	P3/2	P7/6, P4/3, P5
outdoor PE	P7/6, P6/5	P3/2, P4/3	P5	P4, P2	P1

### Indoor space for drama/music/circle time

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Whitehill Lecture Theatre		P4, P1, P4/3, P5	P7/6, P3/2, P4		

**Clubs** – We are thrilled to see so many clubs starting again. Clubs are great ways to build confidence and skill in our children across a number of different areas.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
during the day			Orchestra/ukulele club		
lunchtime				P5-7 SU reading club	
afterschool	P2-4 dance P5-7 dance	P5-7 football	P5-7 hockey P5-6 athletics	P5-7 triathlon	P3-4 tennis P5-7 football

We are very keen to expand the range of clubs on offer. If you have a particular interest or skill and would be happy to support or run a club, please let the office know.

It is great to see the enthusiasm for the clubs across the school. Thank you for encouraging your child to take part. We are looking forward to hearing Hot Cross Buns played for us by the recently formed orchestra. Well done everyone – keep up the practice!

## School Improvement Update



### Values

The children voted on the last of the values characters. We now have Roy Respect and Rose Responsibility. This completes our values characters. We would now like to make our values characters out of wood.

So, if you fancy a bit of painting and are able to help, please let the office know.

We have 2 Working Parties in school – one is looking at wellbeing and the other at learning and teaching. We will share progress with you.



### Feedback from parents/carers

Thanks for the feedback at Parents' Night. Here is the collated information:

"Tell us what you think!"



	Yes	No	Don't know
I liked the opportunity to meet my child's teacher early in the session at Parents' Night	98	2	4
I got an early indication of how my child has settled in this new session	100	2	1
I feel confident my child will make progress this session	98	2	4
I felt we were able to discuss hopes and aspirations for the year ahead	94	2	4
I managed to ask any questions I wanted to	99		
Any other comments? Please feel to share below			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The teachers are good to students, like my child says.</li> <li>• Enjoyed meeting the teacher, missed seeing work.</li> <li>• Splitting parents' evening into two nights works well. The room isn't too crowded and you don't feel overwhelmed when you come in. Feels like the teachers aren't under too much pressure either.</li> <li>• I am happy with my child's progress. I hope he does well in P* and settles in nicely.</li> <li>• It's nice to get the chance to get confirmation that your child has settled into a new class early on – Hope to have a catch up parents' evening over the next few months to continue checking progress.</li> <li>• We liked the Meet the Teacher event last year but it was also good to have a one-to-one chat with the teacher at Parents' Night</li> <li>• I feel it was useful and feel more informed about my son and how he is during school.</li> <li>• Hopefully there will be another one before the summer.</li> <li>• It was great to hear how the kids have settled in early in the term.</li> <li>• A good opportunity to meet new teacher and also well organised so there was very little waiting time. Thanks. Also to speak to Family Officer and HT.</li> <li>• I know my older child is doing well it's just my younger I would like to keep updated as she struggles.</li> <li>• I really like meeting the teacher early in the year so long as I am informed early if there are any concerns.</li> <li>• All good, a warm welcome and a good opportunity to meet Karen, Barnardos too.</li> <li>• Lovely to meet the teacher early in the term to build relationships and connections.</li> <li>• Really like having it early!</li> <li>• It was a really good opportunity to meet teachers and know how our children do inside the class.</li> </ul> <p>Thank you all.</p>			

Based on this positive feedback we will continue with an early parents' night. There will be further opportunities across the year to speak with staff and see work. Please remember that staff are happy to speak with parents/carers, please feel free to make an appointment via the office.

### Feedback from parents/carers re possible aims

Possible aims	Number of ticks
1. to work in partnership with our families and wider school community	36
2. to provide a progressive curriculum which promotes inclusion, equality and raises attainment	53
3. actively promote literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing through all aspects of school life	67
4. to provide high quality learning and teaching experiences to encourage pupils to be the best they can be	78
5. to develop children who are resilient, adaptable and self-aware who contribute to society	54
Want to suggest any changes or new aims? Write your ideas below.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I couldn't agree more!</li> <li>• To increase physical activity of the kids</li> <li>• Develop individual gifts/talents</li> <li>• No</li> <li>• To promote gender equality in all aspects of school life</li> <li>• That boys and girls to be students to abide to the laws and orders</li> <li>• All relevant. Maybe add outdoors to how you achieve some of the aims.</li> <li>• To promote inclusion in the playground and how to stop/help someone who is left out or being bullied.</li> <li>• Bring back family and partnership</li> <li>• Numeracy, literacy, health and wellbeing are very important as children need these throughout working environment and adulthood</li> </ul>	

Thank you for your ideas. Based on this feedback, we will reflect on this as a staff and discuss with the Parent Council and update you on this progress.

### Upcoming events/Dates to note

- 29 September – Dennistoun Community Council’s treasure hunt begins
- 2, 9, 23 and 30 October – GEAAP Greater Easterhouse Alcohol Awareness Project in to work with P6 children
- 2 October – P7/6 and P5 parents/carers – please send in junk material for model making for work with Young Enterprise Scotland
- 2 October – work with Impact Arts begins
- 6 October TBC – 2k run at Alexandra Park for P6/5 and P7/6
- 10 October – school photographer in (individual pictures or family groups – letter to follow)
- 11 October Seafood Week celebrated in Scotland – We are one of 3 schools in Scotland to be chosen to celebrate this event. We will have a professional chef who is also a food nutritionist to do a demonstration with some children helping. Seafish will photograph the event.
- 11 October – P6/5 assembly on Diwali parents/carers of this class welcome, time tbc
- 11 and 12 October Young Enterprise Scotland will be working with P5 and P7/6
- 13 October – in-service day – (staff only) We will be learning about food hygiene (am) and target setting with the Learning Community (pm)
- 16 – 20 October holiday from school Activities with Karen Family Support Worker:
  - 16 October – Den Building and Pop up mud kitchen 2-4pm in Alexandra Park
  - 18 October – Family bike ride and picnic 11am – 1pm in Alexandra Park
  - 20 October Autumn art attack and scavenger hunt 10.30 - 12 in Alexandra Park
- Over the course of Term 2 parents/carers will be invited into their child’s class to see the learning taking place. Teachers will organise this and let you know. Please look out for the date.
- 24 October – First Aid training begins for children in P5-7
- 25 October – P6/P7 Parent/Carer Information Evening in Whitehill
- 27 October – P1-4 Childsmile programme all day
- Hallowe’en fun for P1-3 in school – details to follow
- 1 November – Parent Council Disco
- 2 November – Environmental Task Force will join P4/3 for a litter pick in the local area followed by a litter pick with some older children in the forest in the school grounds.
- 13 November – flu vaccination programme
- 13 November – anti-bullying week – we will have a focus on this at assembly
- 17 November – Hopscotch theatre company in school for a pantomime – Wizard of Oz
- 27 November – Book Week – children hearing stories each day – more on this to follow
- 1<sup>st</sup> week in December – celebration of community art project at Impact Arts 319 Craigpark Drive, Dennistoun
- 4 December - Work experience pupil to join the school this week
- 8 December – Christmas Fayre (more details to follow)
- Week beginning 11 December nativity/show (more details to follow)
- Week beginning 18 December – Christmas parties
- 20 December – non-uniform day
- 4 January return to school
- 9 January Mrs Murray Music teacher begins with P4/3 and P4
- 22 January – Burns Celebration
- 9 February – Open Afternoon – this is a chance to see children’s writing
- 12 – 13 February holiday
- 14 February – in-service day (children do not attend)



## **Welcome back from the parent council!**

We hope everyone's term is getting off to a brilliant start. Here's the news from the PC.

### **Food bank Collection**

TIN TUESDAY: The good people of the Everlasting Food bank have been in touch to report they are low on food supplies for local families in need. We will place a collection box in the school lobby for donations of packaged food. Watch for the bag drop coming soon for more details of what's needed and please give generously.

### **Dates of events – mark that diary!**

DISCOS: 1 November – autumn fancy dress disco & 27 March – spring disco

TEA PARTY: 27 April – tea party (Friday afternoon)

MEETINGS: 3 October; 15 Nov; 16 January; 21 February; 13 March; 30 May (AGM)

*Meetings are at 6:30pm at the school. All parents are welcome to attend or feed in on Facebook or via email. Here's how to reach us: [facebook.com/golfhillprimaryparentcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/golfhillprimaryparentcouncil) or [golfhillpc@gmail.com](mailto:golfhillpc@gmail.com).*

### **Fundraising**

CHRISTMAS: Our Christmas card fundraiser is coming again, watch for them coming home in the bag! Thanks to Jen Wood (Katie's mum) for organising this effort.

P7 FAMILIES - there's an opportunity to step up and take on leadership if you want to organise special fundraising to help defray the overall cost of the trip for each family. You don't have to be a PC member, just be willing to organise your fellow parents and carers to raise some money! The PC will help support you, but this is something anyone can take on.

### **Where the fundraising money is going?**

DRAGON'S DEN: a new bi-annual tradition, the PC dragons will hear pitches from pupils with entrepreneurial aspirations. The opportunity will tie into the Enterprise World of Work topic that the school will be taking on in Term 2.

FLOOR PILLOWS for cosy reading time. We've invested in some big squidgy pillows and two terrific mums have got the sewing machines out and are running up some lovely covers for them. Huge thanks to Jane Clarke (Satin's mum) & Emily Harding (Iris's mum) for putting their sewing skills to work for the schools.