

Message from Head Teacher

Dear parents and carers,



What a few weeks it has been since returning from the Festive Break! From sub-zero temperatures to a super Robert Burns celebration, by way of sewing and cooking, it's been busy busy at Golfhill!

In this newsletter, you'll find a recap of what's been happening across the school, things which are coming up, and a few important reminders. All our staff work really hard to provide great learning experiences for all our pupils, both in the classroom and outwith. We recognise that there are challenges to overcome, but the commitment of our staff and the valued support from our parents and carers will help us continue to improve.

As always, if there is anything you would like to discuss, or something that I can help with, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Yours,

Iain Morrow
Head Teacher

Staffing

This month we are delighted to be welcoming back our Support for Learning Worker, Mrs More, following her maternity leave. We are also currently recruiting another Support for Learning Worker, further to approval from the Education Directorate. This extra staffing will allow us to better support the needs of all learners across the school.



In January we welcomed John Burns, a football coach from North Kelvin Sports, to Golfhill. He is developing technical skills and teamwork with our P3s and P4s at lunchtimes.

We have a number of student teachers from Strathclyde University working across the school for the next couple of months:

BA (Education), Year 2

P1 Mr Wilson
P2 Miss Wilson
P3 Miss Atwell

PGDE (Primary)

P4/3 Miss Houston
P5/4 Miss Walbaum



In addition, we have two Social Care students with us from Glasgow Clyde College. Tiegan and Callum will be with us every Wednesday until June.

Some important reminders

Latecoming

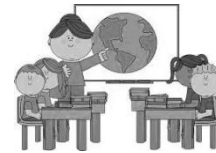
Our school day starts at 08:45. While we appreciate that this is different to most other schools across the city, it is not a new arrangement.



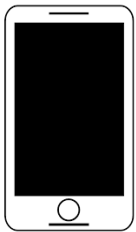
We have been monitoring latecoming over the last few months, and have found that an average of **forty** pupils are late every day. The figure varies between **14** and **67**.

The start of the school day is vitally important, as routines, expectations, learning intentions and news are shared at this time. All the latenesses add up, meaning that some children are regularly missing between *one hour* and *one day* of education each week.

Please endeavour to get your children to school on time.



Mobile phones



An increasing number of pupils are bringing phones to school. While we entirely discourage this, if phones *are* brought, they **must** be handed in to the office on arrival, and collected at 14:45. Pupils will not be allowed to access them at any point.

Please note, we cannot and will not take any responsibility for any phones which get broken or lost in or around the school grounds.

Football strips

In line with Glasgow City Council policy, pupils must not wear football strips to school. This includes the strips of all local and national teams. The policy applies to PE / gym sessions, after-school clubs, and any excursions.

We would really appreciate your support in this matter.



Illicit trading (*sounds worse than it is!*)

Some children have been trading cards (football, Lego, Pokémon etc) then being unhappy about the swaps being made. We would encourage everyone to leave their cards at home.



It has also come to our attention that there has been some unauthorised buying and selling of sweeties and small toys (NB: for very small amounts). While this is all very entrepreneurial, if anything is to be sold in school, you will receive a letter beforehand with all the details.

Therefore, unless it's specifically requested, we recommend only sending enough money to school to cover lunch costs (if applicable in P5 – P7), or to buy one of the very popular lunchtime cookies.

Sewing

We were delighted to form a new partnership with local seamstress Alis Le May. She visited Primary 5 to teach them the basics of sewing. The level of concentration was incredible!

The following week, P5 visited Alis' pop-up shop on Duke Street, Decent Projects, where the class set about developing their stitching skills.

Everyone enjoyed the experience, and learned something new!



Cooking

A few months ago, Miss Munro successfully applied for a grant from the *Food for Thought* education fund. This has allowed us to develop cooking skills across the school. Lessons have been taught by class teachers, supported by Mr Hay and a local chef.

So far, pupils have made bruschetta, pitta pizzas and Nutella cake, and it's all been absolutely delicious!



Next steps include visits to *Celino's* on Alexandra Parade to see how a real café operates, and the installation of a polytunnel in our school grounds to grow our own produce.

Robert Burns Celebration



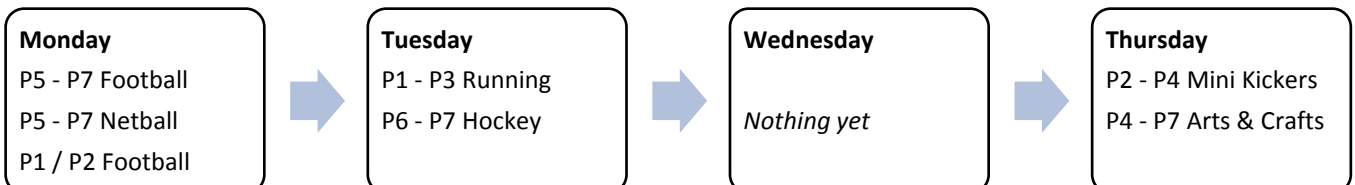
Thank you everyone who came along to our special Robert Burns celebration on January 25th.

Each class performed a Scottish song or poem, with the whole event rounded off by an exhilarating recital of *Tam O'Shanter* from P7.

Thank you to all our friends and families who came along to support this event. Thanks also to Miss Munro for co-ordinating it, Mr Hay for assisting with all the technology, and to the class teachers for producing artwork, choreography and tunefulness!

Afterschool clubs

We have a variety of after-school clubs running this term, from 14:45 – 15:45. Some have started, while some will begin after the February holiday. Keep an eye out for information...



NB: If two sessions are missed, names will be removed from the register.

Dates for your diary

<i>Film Night</i> ♥ (Parent Council)	Friday 8 th February @ 18:00	
<i>February mid-term</i>	Monday 11 th and Tuesday 12 th February	
<i>In-service Day</i> (no pupils)	Wednesday 13 th February	
<i>Parent Council Meeting</i>	Tuesday 5 th March @ 18:30	<i>new members wanted!</i>
<i>School closes for Spring Break</i>	Friday 29 th March @ 14:15	
<i>Spring Break</i>	Monday 1 st – Friday 12 th April	
<i>Return to school</i>	Monday 15 th April 2019 @ 08:45	
<i>Parent Council Meeting</i>	Wednesday 17 th April @ 18:30	<i>new members wanted!</i>
<i>Easter Weekend</i>	Friday 19 th and Monday 22 nd April	
<i>May Day</i>	Monday 6 th May	
<i>In-service Day</i> (no pupils)	Tuesday 7 th May	
<i>Parents' Evening</i>	Wednesday 22 nd May	
<i>May Weekend</i>	Friday 24 th and Monday 27 th May	
<i>Parent Council Meeting & AGM</i>	Wednesday 5 th June @ 18:30	<i>new members wanted!</i>
<i>School closes for summer</i>	Friday 28 th June @ 12:45	

Until the next newsletter, please keep an eye out for letters and notes coming home. We will also communicate via text message and Twitter.

Keep in touch...



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