



October (2) 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we embrace the colourful autumn season, we're excited to share all the wonderful activities and events happening over the coming months.

Parent Council

Dates of Parent Council Meetings:

Wednesday 6th November 2024 @ 6pm

Wednesday 19th February 2025 @ 6pm


Wednesday 7th May 2025 @ 6pm



Parent Voice Meeting – Friday 1st November 2.00pm

The Parent Council has sent out a questionnaire to gather parents views for our Parent Voice meeting next week. Some topics that have been raised so far are:

- Communication
- Sports day
- Website
- Extra-Curricular activities
- Behaviour



All children have all these rights, no matter who they are, where they live, what language they speak, what their religion is, what they think, what they look like, if they are a boy or girl, if they have a disability, if they are rich or poor, and no matter who their parents or families are or what their parents or families believe or do. No child should be treated unfairly for any reason.

If you are interested in attending the meeting next Friday, please email the school office FAO Parent Voice Meeting.

Halloween – Dressing up 1st November.



Halloween dress up/down day will be on Friday 1st November, the day after Halloween. This will allow the other days of the week to maximise learning time and then have fun at the end of the week. All children can dress up or down for Halloween at school. **Please remember there should be no weapons or masks brought with outfits.**

Outdoor Classroom Day – Friday 8th November

Outdoor Classroom Day is a global movement to inspire and celebrate outdoor learning and play. Here at Heathfield, we have a vision for all children to be participating in a range of progressive and creative outdoor learning experiences. Time outdoors at school improves children's health, supports engagement in learning and leads to a greater connection with nature. It not only teaches critical life skills such as resilience, teamwork, and creativity, but is central to children's enjoyment of childhood. We look forward to Outdoor Classroom Day each year.

Please could children come to school in dress down sensible outdoor clothes.



Children can join or set up groups or organisations, and they can meet with others, as long as this does not harm other people.

Anti Bullying Week – week beginning 11th November.

We have a pupil group called our **Anti Bullying Ambassadors** who will be planning events which will include:

- A pupil led citizenship reinforcing the importance of choosing respect over bullying (linked to children's rights).
- A review the school's Anti-Bullying Policy with pupil feedback.
- Creating anti bullying posters which will be used on our Anti-Bullying display board.

Positive Relationship Policy

As you are aware we are currently updating our policy and are looking for a group of parents to help us review our systems. The next meeting will be at 9.15pm on Friday 15th November 2024. If you can attend, please email the office FAO Parent Forum PRP.

Children in Need – Friday 15th November



For Children in Need on 15th November 2024, pupils can wear something spotty, dress in yellow or dress down, and bring a donation of £1, if possible. Pupils will be engaging in a range of activities linked to Children in Need throughout the day and will be exploring this in relation to their own and other's rights within the UNCRC.

Pupils in Primary 1 and 2 will design an entry for our 'Design Pudsey's Bandana' competition, and Primary 3-7 will design an entry for our 'Design a Pudsey Tee' competition. We will also have a special visitor in our school, who is ready to show off some dance moves...

Book Week Scotland – week beginning Monday 18th November.

The Pupil group are discussing ideas to celebrate Book Week Scotland to promote a rich reading culture across the school and positive attitudes to books.

Road Safety Week – week beginning Monday 18th November.

The JRSO committee have been very busy over the past few weeks planning for Road Safety week. This will be taking place 17th – 23rd November 2024. During the course of Road Safety week, the JRSOs will be raising awareness linking with this year's focus which is 'After the Crash – every road victim counts.' The Road Safety Week competition this year will be to create a poem with the title 'After the Crash' (Primary 3-7). Primary 1 and 2 will be asked to design their own poster.'

St Andrews Day Saturday 30th November

St Andrews Day falls on a Saturday this year, but to celebrate our Patron Saint we will be inviting children to wear a flash of tartan with their school uniform on Friday 29th November.

Rights Respecting Schools

There are a few articles linked to this busy time of year.

Remembrance Day – 11th November

Primary 7 pupils will walk to Prestwick Cross on Monday 11th November. In addition, staff and pupils will attend the memorial service on Sunday 10th November.

World Children's Day – 20th November

World Children's Day is UNICEF's annual day of action for children, by children. It takes place each year on the 20th of November, the date when world leaders adopted the Convention in 1989.

From climate change, education, and mental health, to ending racism and discrimination, children and young people are raising their voices on the issues that matter to their generation and calling for adults to create a better future.

Article 45

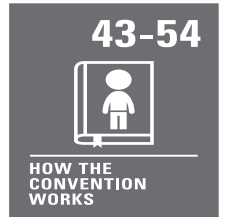
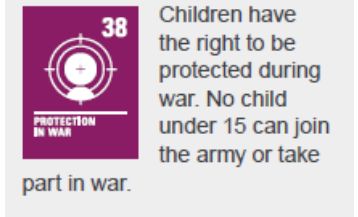
Article 45 says non-governmental organisations, such as UNICEF and other United Nations bodies, can provide advice and assistance on children's rights.

Thank you all for your continued support. It is a pleasure to be part of this vibrant and caring community.

Best wishes,

Gaenor Hardy

Gaenor Hardy
Headteacher



Child Protection and Safeguarding



“All children and young people (including unborn babies) have the right to be cared for and protected from harm and abuse and grow up in a safe environment in which their rights are respected and their needs met. Children and young people should get the help they need, when they need it and their safety is paramount.”

(National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021).

Our Child Protection Co-ordinators are:



Gaenor Hardy – Headteacher



Kathryn Hamilton - DHT



Natalie Spence DHT Mon – Fri



**Laura Boyd PT Mon – Thursday
DHT - Friday**

Dates for your diary

November

Primary 3 - 7
Friday 1st
Friday 1st
Wednesday 6th
Friday 8th
Monday 11th
Monday 11th
Friday 15th
Monday 18th
Monday 18th
Monday 18th
Monday 25th

STAR Reader Assessments and P4 and P7 NSAS
Halloween Dress up or down day and activities.
Parent Voice meeting
6pm Parent Council Meeting
Outdoor Classroom Day **Please note change of date.**
Anti Bullying Week
Primary 7 to Prestwick Cross for Remembrance
Children in Need - Dress Down Day
Book Week Scotland
Road Safety Week
P7D to Dolphin House
P7G to Dolphin House

December

Monday 2nd
Wednesday 4th
Friday 6th

Tuesday 10th
Wednesday 11th
Thursday 12th
Friday 13th
Tuesday 17th
Tuesday 17th
Wednesday 18th
Wednesday 18th
Thursday 19th
Friday 20th

Friday 20th

Christmas Post Boxes out
P7 Christmaths
Dress Down day and bring a Bottle for the Christmas Fayre
P1 and 2 Cinema Trip
P3 - 7 to Panto at Ayr Gaiety Theatre
EYC to P7 Christmas lunch
Christmas fayre
P1 - 3 Nativity
P5 and 6 Party PM
P1 - 3 Nativity
P3 and 4 Christmas Party PM
EYC Show AM and EYC Party PM
Winter assembly
P1 and 2 Party - AM
Close at 2.30pm