

# Clovenfords Primary School

**Kindness Respect Honesty**

Weekly Update – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024



## Head Teacher's Update

Dear all,

Our Scots Focus Fortnight this week has provided many opportunities for the children across the school to come together and share poetry, songs and a range of learning. We have very much enjoyed all the recitations, and our whole school assembly allowed all the classes to see and hear what has been happening around the school.

Our P7s had their Burns Supper celebration on Wednesday with the haggis piped into the hall by Norrie who we are hugely grateful to for giving up his time and coming to support our celebration. This was followed by the Address To A Haggis and a toast with a nip of Irn Bru. More poetry, singing and dancing followed, and Julie our school cook, together with Fiona, made the tastiest of Burns Suppers.

The children also received their P7 Leavers' Hoodies this week. Thank you to the Parent Council for supporting this in a number of different ways, such as organising the hoodies to be here in time to be presented at the Burns Supper. It was so nice for the children's families to see them being handed out.

School was also busy on Monday afternoon as we hosted fourteen visitors from Austria and Apple Education UK, who came to hear about digital learning in our school. The children had opportunities to share their learning and showcase how they use their iPads to support their progress. Feedback from our visitors was very positive with particular mention of the children's ability to explain and discuss their learning.

For our Caddon families who have children in P2-P7, please come along to our Citizenship Gathering on Wednesday morning to share in your child's learning and to support them to continue to use their voice effectively. The focus will be on Health and Wellbeing learning.

Next Friday is the Galashiels Sportshall Athletics competition. Miss Fairbairn is currently finalising details for this and we will Groupcall parents whose children have been chosen in order to confirm attendance and transport arrangements.

We have begun a new feature in our Weekly Update called '**Parent Handbook Bitesize**'. We hope you will find this useful. See below.

Wishing you all a safe and peaceful weekend.

*Mrs Saxon*

## Dates for the Diary

<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January</b>	P7 Transition Evening at Clovenfords Primary School 6.00pm
<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January</b>	P6 Bikeability Week (Mon-Wed)
<b>Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January</b>	Citizenship Gathering - Caddon House Families invited – 9.15am
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February</b>	P2/3 Class Assembly – 1.30pm – all P2/3 parents welcome
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Building Resilience Family Learning task issued – Have A Goal
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Half Term begins – school closed to all
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b>	In Service Day – school closed to all pupils
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Pupils resume
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	World Thinking Day – pupils invited to come to school in Brownie/Scout/Cubs etc. uniform
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March</b>	World Book Day

<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Building Resilience Family Learning Task due – Have A Goal
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Open Afternoon Café Conversations – 1.30pm
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Pupil Progress Consultations - 5.00pm-7.00pm
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	P6/7 Class Assembly – 1.30pm – all P6/7 parents welcome
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>	Pupil Progress Consultations - 4.00pm-6.00pm
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Easter Holidays begin
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April</b>	All resume

### **Junk Modelling**

We are looking for clean, recycled plastic bottles, cardboard boxes, tubes etc., to support the children's creativity and problem solving skills through being able to use these in their junk modelling play. If you are able to provide any of these items we would be very grateful. Thank you.

### **Parent Handbook Bitesize**

Each year schools are required to update and publish their latest Parent Handbook which details relevant information parents need to know in order to support expectations, communication and relationships between school and home. Although an easy read, there is lots of information included so we thought we would share the parent handbook in bitesize chunks via the Weekly Updates to support everyone having access to this information as well as making it more manageable to read. Much of this will be familiar to you, and of course you can access the whole handbook via our school website. We will share the handbook in chronological order as it appears in the handbook, starting with some of the practical information:

### *Practical information*

#### **School Hours:**

##### **ELC**

Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 3.05pm, Friday - 8.30am - 12.05pm

##### **P1 - P7**

Monday - Thursday 8.45am - 3.15pm (Morning Break 10.30am-10.45am; Lunch 12.15pm-1.00pm)

Friday 8.45am - 12.15pm (Brunch - 10.45am-11.15am)

#### **Drop Off and Pick Up**

ELC children are welcomed into their setting each day by the staff who will confirm with you who is collecting your child at the end of each day. If there is a change to this arrangement you must contact the school.

Our P1-P7 children line up outside their classroom doors when the bell sounds at 8.45 am. Their class teacher will welcome them into school. We do not encourage children to arrive before 8.30am as the playground is not supervised. Between 8.30am -8.45am there is limited supervision. There is suitable shelter outside each classroom for inclement weather, however if the weather is particularly bad the middle door will be open for children to come in from 8.35 am. Children may be asked to go to the main hall instead of their classrooms until the bell rings.

We understand that there are occasions where children may arrive late for school. Any pupil arriving late should come in via the main school entrance.

At the end of the school day, all children will be dismissed from their classroom doors. Children from P1-P3 should be collected by their parent. There is no supervision in the playground at the end of the school day.

If you are delayed in collecting your child, they will be asked to wait in the main school entrance until you arrive. If you know you are going to be late, or there is a change of person collecting your child, we ask that you contact the school office before the end of the day.

#### **Cloakrooms**

All children have their own peg and space for a change of shoes outside their classroom doors in the main corridor. We do not require children to change into indoor shoes on a daily basis but ask that they have a

change of shoes in school if they arrive in snow boots or wellingtons or to change into if their shoes are wet. Having a pair of indoor shoes also supports times when the playground is muddy as it stops dirt being spread in indoor areas.

When it is the children's PE day we ask that they come to school in their PE kit. The children can still arrive wearing wellies or boots if required however they should have a pair of trainers to change into.

### **Please label all items of clothing and footwear**

We do have a lost property box, however if items of clothing are not clearly labelled we are unable to return items to the correct child. Please check your child's uniform and PE kit etc., regularly as washing and wear and tear can remove labelling.

Clovenfords Parent Handbook pages 5-6

### **Parent Council Update**



Thank you to those parents who were able to make our recent meeting. Minutes from this will be uplodaded onto the school website.

### **Arrangements for winter school transport/cancellations/route amendments**

Please remember that during the winter months SBC's School Transport team now use the Scottish Borders Council website to provide updates on school transport affected by weather or road conditions. The webpage can be found at [www.scotborders.gov.uk/wintertransport](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/wintertransport) and will be updated from 7.30am as and when required.

It is important to remember that in normal circumstances children should not wait more than 15 minutes for the bus, but in severely cold weather please use your own judgement. If you decide to take your young person to school yourself, you will be expected to collect them at the end of the school day.

### **Scots Assembly**

We had our Scots sharing assembly this week where all the children took part in showcasing some of the Scots learning that has been taking place across the school over the last couple of weeks. We really enjoyed this and some of us have definitely learned some new Scots words!

Congratulations to the following Star Achievers for showing our school values in action, for using their learning powers effectively to support their progress, and for showing their ongoing understanding of our school aims:



ELC	Tommy
P1/2	Arthur
P2/3	Harris
P3/4	Summer
P5/6	Ellis L
P6/7	Magnus





### School's Out Clovenfords



A reminder you can contact School's Out at: [admin@schoolsoutclovenfords](mailto:admin@schoolsoutclovenfords)

### Clothingfords



Clothingfords is available for you to come and browse at any time across the school day as well as during after school and evening events. Please do not be shy about coming in to use this great facility! There is a great mixture of good quality, used items, including clothes embroidered with the school badge; as well as brand new uniform kindly donated by Asda. Small donations are gratefully appreciated but not expected. Our goal is to provide you with good quality school uniforms free of charge. Please pop along when you can to use this great facility.

#### **WANTED!**

If you have any children's wellies that no longer fit and are in good condition we would love to have them for our hub. Thank you for the donations so far – keep them coming!

### Communication

If your child will not be in school, it is important that you inform the school office by 9.00am. You can report absence by phone or email.

**School office phone number:** 01896 662755

**School office email:** [clovenfordsps@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:clovenfordsps@scotborders.gov.uk)

**School Twitter (X) :** @Clovenfords\_ps

**School website:** [Clovenfords Primary School – Kindness, Respect, Honesty \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](http://Clovenfords Primary School – Kindness, Respect, Honesty (glowscotland.org.uk))