



Torphichen Primary School

January - March Newsletter



Dear parent / carer,
Happy New Year everyone! I hope you enjoyed the festive period. We certainly did here at Torphichen Primary.

I look forward to working with you all again in the coming year and all of the successes it will bring. The Torphichen team will continue to work together to provide high quality learning experiences for our children.

Thank you everyone for your continued support.

Rita Angus
Head Teacher

“If you can dream it, you can achieve it.”

– Zig Ziglar

DREAM

Reflections from Last Term

Term 1 at Torphichen Primary School was busy, bustling and brilliant! Pupils across the school were engaged in learning about Scottish geography, music, drama, dance, famous landmarks and much more.

The boys and girls in Primary 1/2 gave a superb, Scottish-take on the Nativity story in “The McTivity”. Not to be outdone, Primary 3 – 7 then took us on a tour of Scotland’s famous folk and landmarks in “Och Aye the News, Tales Through Time”. All of the actors were terrific and spoke so clearly, and the singing from the classes was fantastic.

We were pleased to hold our Christmas Service in Torphichen Church and would like to thank Rev. Alan Greig for his Christmas message. Our choir and string instrumentalists performed at the service and were able to showcase their talents and skills beautifully.

“Tell me and I’ll forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I’ll understand.” – Chinese Proverb

Class Newsletters

We are introducing a class newsletter. This will be termly and will give you and your child an opportunity to discuss the exciting learning experiences for Numeracy and Maths, Literacy and English, Health and Wellbeing and Interdisciplinary learning. There may also be an additional information section outlining key dates for the class and reminders. These will be available in paper form and on the blog.





Visiting the School

In Torphichen Primary School we enjoy the opportunity to meet with the parents, carers and local community and welcome you into our school.

In keeping with **West Lothian Council's Policy and Procedure on Protection of Children and Protected Adults**, we would ask that you use the school intercom to gain access to the school through the front entrance. A member of staff will greet you and assist you in your query.

If you are collecting or dropping off your children or items they may require throughout the day, we would ask that you follow the above procedure and wait in the waiting area. Children can either make their own way back to class or a member of staff will bring your child to you at the front entrance. **We appreciate your support with this procedure.**

"It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop."

– Confucius



"CHALLENGES ARE WHAT MAKE LIFE INTERESTING AND OVERCOMING THEM IS WHAT MAKES LIFE MEANINGFUL."

JOSHUA J. MARINE



Winter Ready?

West Lothian Council has launched its public information campaign Winter Ready West Lothian 2016/17. The campaign highlights the council's preparations for possible severe weather and encourages local people to prepare now. Severe winter weather can include snow, frost and low temperatures, high winds and flooding.

More information is available at www.westlothian.gov.uk/winter

If our school is closed due to severe weather you will be notified through Groupcall Messenger, The School Blog and West Lothian Council's website.

Learning and teaching will continue through the school blog and Glow. There are a selection of activities on the blog which children can complete at home in the event of school closure. **All pupils have been shown where to access these on the blog.**

Extension Update

Thank you to the many parents and carers who came to view the plans for the upcoming extension. We are sure you will agree that this will be an exciting addition to the school building and will improve the learning environment for our pupils.

We are currently awaiting more information regarding the exact start date but hope to hear more about this soon.





Parent Helpers

We are always looking for parent helpers to give an hour of their time to help in the school, or on outings. If you are able/willing/keen to help, please let us know.

All of our parent helpers have to be PVG checked to go out on school trips or if they are in school helping children. If you have volunteered to be a parent helper and are not currently PVG checked with West Lothian Council please ask at the office for a PVG form, complete it and bring in necessary examples of ID to be verified.

We try to promote healthy eating in school and so we ask that children are provided with a healthy choice at break time, for example, fruit, vegetables, crisps and yoghurt based snacks.

A reminder that 'Fizzy drinks' are not allowed in school and we ask that parents/carers provide fruit juice, water or still juice for lunches and snack.
Thank-you.

"The only way to do great work is to love what you do." – Steve Jobs



Pupil Absence

A reminder to please contact the school if your child is going to be absent by 9.30am each day please.

A Groupcall message will be made in the first instance then a phone call to parents or carers if any child is not in school by this time and we have not heard from you.

Class Assemblies

We have regular class and pupil group assemblies throughout the year. Parents are invited to come along to see their child perform.

The upcoming class assemblies will be a showcase of the children's interdisciplinary learning and you will be invited to visit your child's classroom after the assembly. This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to discuss and share their learning with you. **A list of assembly dates is included in this newsletter.**



A child's life is like a piece of paper on which every person leaves a mark. – Chinese Proverb





Aspirations for 2017



P1/2- Samuel Neville: "I am looking forward to learning new sounds and reading common words in my books."

P1/2- Ross Fresson: "This year I hope to learn more about using the dictionary."

P3/4- Kathryn Murphy: "This year I will try and spell most of my words correctly in my writing."

P3/4- Tensho Husokawa-Mercer: "I hope to learn and know all of my times tables off by heart."

P4/5- Izzy Mcmorrow: "This year I will try to write longer more interesting stories."

P4/5- Alfie Muir: "I would like to achieve neater handwriting and get better at spelling."

P6/7- Grace Samper: "I will try to improve the variety of interesting words, connectives openers and punctuation in my writing activities."

P6/7- Jenna Turpie: "This year I will try to be more confident in mental maths."

Talk To Us!

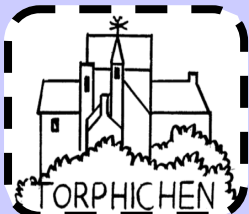
A member of our school management team will be available at the start and end of the school day. If you wish to discuss any questions or concerns, come talk to us.

Our Leadership Team

Mrs Angus — Head Teacher

Mr Barrowman — Acting Depute Head Teacher

Mrs Webber — Acting Principal Teacher



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Dates for your Diary

Week beginning 16th January - After School Clubs resume

Wednesday 25th January - Scottish Evening (6.00–7.00pm – Invitations to follow)

Monday 30th January - Blog Share it Evening (More information to follow)

Tuesday 31st January - Eco Assembly

Thursday 2nd February - Parent Council Meeting (6.30pm)

Friday 10th February - Holiday for all

Monday 13th February - Holiday for all

Tuesday 14th February - Holiday for all

Tuesday 21st February - Rights Respecting School Assembly

Tuesday 28th February - Primary 1/2 Assembly

Tuesday 7th March - Primary 6/7 Assembly

Tuesday 15th March - Primary 3/4 Assembly

Tuesday 21st March - Primary 4/5 Assembly

Monday 27th March - Easter Service

Wednesday 29th March - Parent's Evening (3.30–5.30pm) and (6.00-8.30pm)

Friday 31st March - Last day of term

Tuesday 18th April - All return

Tuesday 25th April - Pupil Council Assembly

Monday 1st May - Holiday for all

Tuesday 2nd - All pupils return to school

Thursday 4th May - In-service day

Friday 5th May—All pupils return to school

Tuesday 9th May - Global Citizenship Assembly

Monday 5th - Friday 9th June - French Focus Week

Tuesday 13th June - Holiday

Friday 16th June - Pupil reports issued

Thursday 29th June - Leavers Assembly

Friday 30th June - All break for summer holidays



“Few things can help an individual more than to place responsibility on him, and to let him know that you trust him.” – Booker T. Washington



Communication

GOT A QUESTION, CONCERN OR FEEDBACK?

If you have any concerns about your child and school we would encourage you to contact your child's class teacher by letter, telephone or school email in the first instance to discuss and work together to resolve any issues.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome please arrange to speak with Mr Barrowman or Mrs Webber. If we still fail to resolve any issues or concerns you may have, then please arrange a meeting with Mrs Angus at the office.

There are several ways to get in touch with us:

Telephone:

01506 652246

Email:

wltorphichen-ps@westlothian.org.uk

Looking for Information:

Visit the School Blog: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/wl/Torphichen/>

Complaints

Schools in West Lothian have been advised of changes which have recently been made to the West Lothian Complaints Procedure. To Make a complaint to Customer Care in West Lothian in writing it should be addressed to:

Customer Care

Education Services

West Lothian Council

Civic Centre

Howden Road South

Livingston

EH52 6FF

