



<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/wl/midcalderps/>
<https://midcalderprimary.westlothian.org.uk>

25th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope you are all looking forward to the Easter Break when it comes, Let's hope we have some lovely Spring Weather! A wee reminder the Nursery remains open with the exception of the Bank Holiday Monday.

Check out our lovely Nursery video which talks about our super outdoor learning opportunities!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijaWU2qf1s8>

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

Thank you so much for supporting the Ready Steady Read sponsored read event! We have raised £1359.50 which is unbelievable! Usborne then give us 60% back in free books, so that means we have £2175.20 to spend! As a wee prize, the two children who raised the most from each class will be able to spend £100 of our total on books for their class. Your support with this has been much appreciated.

Key Dates for your diary

Big Walk and Wheel 2022 **21 March-1 April 2022 (Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel)**

Wednesday 30 March & Thursday 31 March Parents Evenings- Details to follow

Friday 1 April Easter Break up

Tuesday 19 April 2022 School Return

Thursday 21 April P1 Health screening

Thursday 5 May School Closed INSET day Nursery open as usual

Thursday 12 May Community Clear Up afternoon P3 P3/4 and P4/5 classes

Thursday 19 May School Class Photos

Wednesday 1 June Silent Disco sessions P1 to P7

Staff and Pupil Absence

We have now had a total of 12 staff absences during the last 3 weeks. I am pleased to say that this has not impacted too much on our children with our staff able to change timetables and take up class teaching often at very short notice. I am a very fortunate head teacher to have such a committed team who work together so well in support of our young people. Inevitably there has been some interruption to our Music lessons, targeted support, Support for Learning sessions and HWB lessons but considering the numbers of staff off, I think you would agree we have been able to deliver our usual learning routines with the minimum of disruption.

Some of you may receive an attendance letter for your child. Any child below 90% falls under the WL guidance attendance policy. This does not include Covid absence and the school is aware of disrupted holiday arrangements and parental precaution due to possible symptoms which may have contributed to our children's absence falling below the recommended levels.

PSA

Many thanks for your continued support of the Easter Egg Design competition which will be judged this week and winners announced on the PSA page.



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Parents Evenings This week

A wee reminder to book your on line parent consultations this week and do contact the school office if you are experiencing any difficulties. Please make sure you have a phone nearby during the appointment. Staff may utilise a mobile if there are interruptions to internet signal. Please note the number will not be the school office number.

Parental Support

Thank you to Mr Ritchie who has collected an item for our nursery to promote our reading culture there. A special thank you to Mr Barnett and his colleague who supported the school acquiring some reclaimed furniture for our class breakout areas and staff room. The areas look so much better!

Parking

A polite request to remember our local residents when parents and carers are parking in the residents parking in Spottiswoode Gardens. It has come to our attention that a small minority of our parents have been inconsiderate and also verbally aggressive.

Water Bottles and Lost Property

With the warmer weather please could you remember to pack an extra water bottle for our children since communal water fountains are still not in operation. Please could you ensure all items of clothing are labelled particularly hoodies, sweatshirts and cardigans as this supports finding items and reuniting them with children! Thank you so much.

Well done to Alasdair in P4/5 who achieved success in the under 10 age Mountain biking category and had to ride with a partner taking it turn about to each do a lap over 40 minutes. Alasdair and his partner won the under 10 mixed gender pair category, despite being some of the younger riders in the age group!



Please do get in touch with the school via e-mail or phone and someone will respond to you as soon as possible: 01506 882092 wlmidcalder-ps@westlothian.org.uk

Kind regards,

Hazel Thurlow