



King's Park Primary News

Message from Mrs Renton

The February break is always a welcome sign that the lighter mornings are in sight and that Spring is not too far away. A number of our families and staff have been struck down by the various winter bugs that have been around and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our team of staff who work relentlessly to keep our school clean and who work extra hard at this time of year.

Curriculum development is a big focus within our school improvement plan and I am delighted to share that our PTA has very kindly donated a substantial amount of funding to us which has enabled us to purchase wonderful new Maths resources for all of our classes and Nursery. Here in King's Park we have a very supportive Parent Council and Parent Teacher Association and we are continually seeking ways in which we can strengthen our partnership working. We have been very excited to take part in staff learning opportunities to further develop our understanding of numeracy concepts and how we can best support our learners to enable them to achieve their potential. A huge King's Park 'thank you' to all of our families who support the work of the PTA!

I hope that you all have an enjoyable February break with time to enjoy quality family together time.

Warm wishes,

Laurinda Renton

Sporting Success

Our Primary 7 athletics team displayed great skills, fantastic effort and excellent attitude at last month's Sportshall Athletics heat.

Their hard work paid off as we recently received amazing news - King's Park will be representing Midlothian at the East Region Sportshall Athletics Final! The team will travel to Edinburgh to compete on Wednesday 26th February.

A special thanks goes to Mrs Campbell for training our pupils so well. Our athletes will spend the next couple of weeks putting in extra practise to prepare for the big event!

Curriculum Map

When a school has a rationale for its curriculum, it means that everyone involved with the school can answer the questions "What do we want for our learners?" and "How we will work together to achieve this?"

Staff have been working collaboratively to decide on a shared vision for our curriculum map. We thought about what makes King's Park special as we want our refreshed curriculum to reflect the uniqueness of our setting.

We will consult with our whole school community - children, parents, carers and partners - to ensure all stakeholders have had the opportunity to contribute to our curriculum rationale.

P6 Camp

"The best time of my life!" - one child's description of his week at Benmore!
And no wonder; the P6 pupils had an action-packed week of indoor climbing, caving, gorge and forest walks, biking, orienteering and ropes courses.

They displayed perseverance whilst overcoming challenges, team work skills by supporting and encouraging one another, and communication skills by listening carefully to instructions and sharing information clearly and confidently.

Primary 5 Skiing

Our Primary 5 classes have recently started a 6 week skiing block at Hillend Snowsports Centre. Pupils are having fun learning new skills.

Thank you to the parents and carers who have volunteered to accompany the classes to these lessons. We would not be able to provide our learners with these experiences without your support. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Park

The P5-7s are very lucky to be able to use the park during breaks and lunches. This gives them space to enjoy a variety of games and activities. Due to senior pupils using the grass, it is very important that every P5-7 child has a pair of indoor shoes to change in to. This is particularly important at this time of year as the grass can be very muddy.

Staffing

We welcome back Miss Hoffman who has returned after her maternity leave. It's lovely to have her back! She will be working across different classes in the school, supporting learning in literacy and numeracy.

Congratulations to Ms Kennedy who got married during the Christmas holidays. We wish the new Mrs Russell and her husband a long and happy marriage.

Celebrating Success

We have recently reintroduced certificates to our Huddles. Each week, one child per class will be awarded an ACE card or a Super Learner certificate. The ACE Cards are used to recognise when the pupil has been a Successful Learner, Confident Individual, Effective Contributor or Responsible Citizen. The Super Learner certificates are used to celebrate when a child displays one of King's Park's learner qualities.

A new certificate will be launched this month - the Spotlight certificate. This award will be presented to the learner in each class who has gone 'above and beyond'. Our Spotlight assemblies will take place on the first Friday of every month and the recipients of the certificates will celebrate their achievement by joining Mrs Renton for a treat on Marvellous Monday.

We look forward to sharing successes with you and celebrating our learners' skills, talents, effort and attitude.

Health

Within most schools, at any one time, there will be a small number of children infected with head lice. Unfortunately, there's nothing you can do to prevent head lice, but you can help stop them spreading by wet or dry combing regularly to catch them early. We recommend 'Once a week, take a peek'.

A reminder: children and staff with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school for 48 hours after their symptoms have gone. This helps to prevent the illness spreading.

Parent Survey

At King's Park, we endeavour to have a strong working relationship with all of our parents and carers. Please use the following link to complete the council's parental engagement survey:
<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/OL8VW/>