



King's Park Primary News

Head Teacher's Welcome

Dear Families

We are well into the new term and settling in to our new ways of working. I have been amazed and impressed at how well the children have returned to school and adapted to the new classroom layouts, ways of working and routines. We are really missing having parents and carers into school and we know that you will be finding it hard too. We are looking at creative ways to ensure that you feel part of our school community throughout the year. Making our school as safe as possible is our key priority at this time. Thank you to all those families who are following the guidance that has been issued from school, our local authority or Health Protection Team. As part of this, we have restrictions in place to reduce the number of adults in our playground at any one time. Please help us to keep everyone safe by ensuring that, when you are in or around the playground, you wear a face mask and keep more than 2 metres physically distanced from children and adults who are not from your own household.

I was delighted to be able to announce our new House and Vice Captains to our Primary 7 learners this week. All of our P7 children have demonstrated creativity, resilience and determination in overcoming the challenges of our current situation to ensure that the election campaign continued and that voting was able to take place. Well done to all P7 pupils for their contribution! I am looking forward to working with our House Captains and to hearing their views over the course of the school year.

As we are about to embark upon the October break, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support both personally and for the school. I wish you all a safe, relaxing and enjoyable holiday.



Mrs Renton

ELC Update

It was lovely to welcome back the children in our ELC setting in August. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new children and their families. As mentioned earlier in the term, Midlothian remains committed to offering all of our children 1140 hours and we are doing lots of work behind the scenes with the team at the centre to make this happen. We look forward to sharing our proposals with you imminently and thank you for your patience in this matter.

Please keep an eye on our twitter page and website to get weekly updates about all of the exciting learning taking place. Some of the highlights so far have been exploring floating and sinking, our senses, our emotions and learning how to play dominoes!

Maths Week

It was fantastic to see all of our learners, from our ELC right through to P7, taking part in various maths activities for Maths Week Scotland. We all took our learning outdoors and the playground came alive with angles, bar charts, shapes and symmetrical patterns, to name but a few.





Home Learning through Seesaw

Following the success of using Seesaw during our period of Distance Learning, class teachers are now going to be issuing weekly Home Learning tasks this way.

Each child in the school and Nursery has been set up with a Home Learning Seesaw account. Parent account information has also been sent out to those not connected to their child's account.

If you have difficulty accessing your Seesaw account please email the school office and we can organise for this information to be resent to you.

Seesaw can also be a really useful way for you to communicate with your child's class teacher. Please message them directly with any questions you may have regarding your child or their learning.



Health and Wellbeing

As a school, we have had a focus on Health and Wellbeing this term, particularly looking at the impact of 'Lockdown'. Children have been using the Zones of Regulation and Emotion Works programme to help them to name and talk about their emotions.



Each class looked at a book or digital text to link into their Health and Wellbeing topic, identifying different emotions in characters and looking at similar emotions they may have experienced.

We will continue to have a focus on Health and Wellbeing over the coming months, which is particularly important as we enter the darker months where outside play is more restricted.

What Zone Are You In?			
Blue	Green	Yellow	Red
Sick Sad Tired Bored Moving Slowly	Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn	Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control	Mad/Angry Mean Yelling/Hitting Grogginess Out of Control

We have shared the following links before, but thought it would be helpful to send these again.

- <https://www.parentclub.scot/>
- <https://www.parentzone.me/>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk> (BBC Bitesize)
- <https://www.healthforkids.co.uk>

Lockdown Art Project

Congratulations to our pupils whose art work was chosen to be displayed in the Midlothian Resilience Art Project. The selected pieces were chosen to showcase and celebrate the resilience of children and young people during the Coronavirus outbreak. The project supported the key principles of Resilience and Nurture which underpin the Midlothian Health and Well Being Recovery Curriculum designed for all of our children this year.



The successful artists were Alex (P1), Jessica (P1), Olivia (P2), Sophia (P2), Sophie (P2), Elijah (P5), Emily (P5), Gracie (P5), Lucy (P5), Ollie (P5), Ruby (P5), Sanuli (P6), Abby (P7), Elias (P7), Junior (P7) and Lily (P7). Thank you for representing our school!

Inclement Weather

We are aiming to get our children outside as often as possible. This might include days where we are experiencing inclement weather. Please make sure that your child comes to school wearing an appropriate outdoor jacket.

We currently have no capacity to bring children into school early due to inclement weather so we ask that your child does not come to school until their start time on these days.

work hard
& be kind.

that is
all.

Toilet Twinning

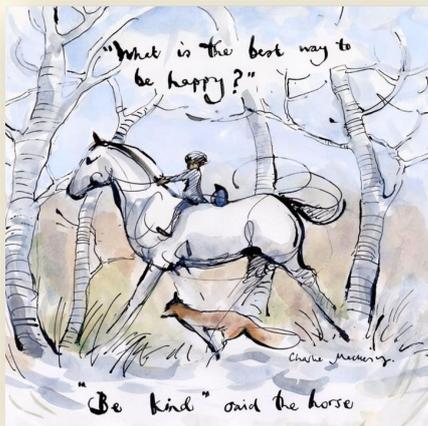
P7 pupils organised our Blue for the Loo day on September 11 2020, which raised a total of £400 This means we are able to twin our pupil, staff and disabled toilets with communities in Pakistan, Malawi, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uruguay.

New School App

During our Distance Learning period, we were very excited to launch our new School App. Feedback has been very positive regarding our App and the features have helped to improve school communication. The new App incorporates information about events, term dates, school news and alerts in one place. You can also choose which classes you receive notifications about, which means the information and messages you receive are more relevant.

Each class teacher has written an overview for the learning that they plan to deliver this term, following our Virtual Curriculum Evening. This can be found in the 'Classes' section of the App.

To access the App, you need to download "Scot Ed" from your Apple or Android app store, then select King's Park Primary from the list.



School Contact details

The School Office can be contacted on:

0131 271 4610

For general enquiries please email us at:

KingsPark.PS@midlothian.gov.uk

and we will reply to you as soon as possible.

Body Percussion

Our Primary 4 pupils took part in our first ever Virtual Body Percussion class last week. These were organised by the Infectious Grooves team, who normally teach our children African Drumming. Throughout these sessions, children will learn about other cultures from around the world and some of the background to this form of music.



The children (and teachers!) looked like they really enjoyed these sessions!

Staffing Update

We have had a number of changes to our staffing since we have returned in August.

We have said goodbye to:

Mrs Paton our Learning Assistant has moved to Saltersgate School where she will be able to further her skills in supporting children with additional support needs.

Miss Smith and Mrs Stables who both supported our nurture groups.

Mrs Tierney from our Early Learning and Child-care Setting (ELC) has moved on to Lasswade ELC.

We wish all of the staff who have left, good luck in their new posts or ventures!

We welcome:

Mrs Kay will be joining the Senior Leadership Team as our new Principal Teacher at the beginning of November.

Mr Ross Foley, who joins us as a Learning Assistant.

Mrs Lorri Sutherland and Mrs Deborah Taylor join our ELC Team.

As always, please join me in giving our new staff a warm King's Park Welcome!

