



Cockenzie Primary School NEWSLETTER October 2018



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Thank You!



It's always nice to start our newsletter by showing our appreciation. Firstly we'd like to say a huge thank you to all the parents who supported the P1/2 and P2 second-hand book and toy sale. The children raised nearly £300 which contributed significantly towards their Dirleton Castle Trip.

We'd also like to say a huge thank you to Jennifer Moodie and the team from Marsh Ltd who chose to spend their volunteering day with us here at Cockenzie. The team worked tirelessly to improve our infant playground through painting and attaching new bamboo fencing. They also tidied up our Outdoor Classroom space and painted the outdoor classroom. This has made a huge difference already to our playground and we're grateful of the help and support we received.



What's Going on?

Learning is well underway in all our classes with a busy term planned for all our children. P2 have enjoyed learning about castles which included a fantastic trip to Dirleton Castle and even real knights visiting the children in school. P6 are enjoying learning about World War 2 and the effects of war on 'The Home Front'. P7 left for school camp down in Newcastleton and we look forward to hearing about their adventures on their return. P5s year-long John Muir Award project has started with hill walking and outdoor days to the Lammermuir Hills. P1, who have settled in so well, are focussing on Me, My Family and My Class as they continue to get to know the school, the people who work in the school and our routines. P4 are focussing on Our Environment and in P3 the focus for this term has been learning all about animals that live in hot and cold lands.



Box Meeting

We held a whole school assembly on Friday 31st August and we were delighted to be joined by our special visitors,

Archie Johnston and Olive Richardson. The display of learning by our pupils at the assembly was outstanding. There was such a rich variety of learning including singing, dancing, drama and public speaking. Thank you to our parents and carers for supporting the school and community with celebrating this important local event.



Family Homework Task



A huge thank you to everyone for their fabulous efforts with our family homework tasks. The boxes were fabulous, many of the informative posters have been displayed around the school and the East Lothian Foodbank were overwhelmed by our generous donations.

Dress Down Days



Thank you to everyone who supported our Dress Down Day in September. We were able to raise £353.00 for our whole school pantomime trip. Our next Dress Down Day will be on **Thursday 11th October**. We will send out a reminder closer to the time.

Harvest Service

Our P4 classes will be leading our Harvest Service at Chalmers Church on Friday 12th October at 0930hrs. We are very much looking forward to this and we hope to see you there.

Parents' Consultation Evenings



We are in the process of allocating a time for your October Parents / Carers Consultation. Due to the complexity of the task and the amount of time it takes office staff to complete we will not be changing the day of the week or the time of your 2nd appointment come March. We will notify you of the appointment with an acceptance slip in March. Appointments that do not suit will be rearranged around the completed timetables.

School Photographer

Thank you to the office staff and the two parent helpers for the mammoth task of organising the school photographs. Unfortunately, one of the photographers called off sick so the one photographer, who was left, needed to take the photographs over two days instead of the usual one day. Please accept our apologies for this and many thanks for your patience. Despite the last minute change of plans, we were still able to get the proofs straight away. Please return all photograph money by Friday 12th October so we can get the order away. Please make cheques payable to 'Tempest Photography'

Meet the Teacher Event

Huge thanks to all the parents and carers who supported our Meet the Teacher Evening on 28th August. It was great to see so many of you attending and supporting the work we do in school. If you were unable to attend the event, a copy of the presentations can be found on our school blog:

<https://www.edubuzz.org/cockenzie/2018/08/30/meet-the-teacher-event/>

Payment in Schools

East Lothian Council are in the process of implementing a new online payment system for how we pay for school lunches, milk and trips. Your child will have come home from school on Wednesday 3rd October with a letter containing a unique registration code. Please keep this safe. You will need this code when setting up your new online payment account. Once you're set up, you will be able to order school lunches in advance, pay for trips and order milk all online. <https://www.edubuzz.org/cockenzie/school-pay/>

PTA Update

The minutes from the last PTA meeting held on 18th September can be viewed by clicking on the below link:

<https://www.edubuzz.org/cockenzie/2018/09/20/pta-meeting-minutes-18th-september/>



Halloween Disco - Friday 26th October

Halloween Disco letters will be available from 1st October.

Please put a 26th October in your diary and let our PTA know if you can help with either or both discos.

- P1-P3 6.00 - 7.15pm
- P4-P7 7.30 - 8.45pm

You can email our PTA at cockenzieprimarypta@gmail.com

Dates for the Diary

Useful Dates for the Diary:

- 12 Oct - Harvest Service at Chalmers Church @ 0930hrs
- 15 Oct - October Holidays. School reopens on Tuesday 23rd October for pupils
- 23 Oct - Sex Education Talk (P6 Parents only) 1830hrs
- 25 & 30 Oct - Parent Consultations
- 09 Nov - P6 Remembrance Assembly - parents welcome
- 23 Nov - P3 Scotland Assembly - parents welcome
- 29 Nov - P3 Ceilidh (evening)



Get your Newsletter emailed

We are trying our best to cut down on our paper usage. We also try to be sensible with the school budget! It would help us enormously if we could email the majority of our newsletters. If you would like your newsletters emailed to you please email us at the following address with your request - admin@cockenzie.elcschool.org.uk.

Newsletters are always posted on the school website if you misplace your copy.

Debbie Mercer
Acting Head Teacher