



LET'S BE positive today:)



Curiosity is the fuel for discovery, inquiry, and learning.



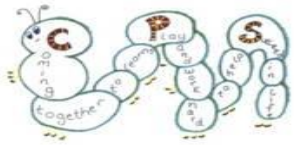
LET'S BE positive today:)



Curiosity is the fuel for discovery, inquiry, and learning.



LET'S BE positive today:)



## Cockenzie Primary School NEWSLETTER September 2019



Curious  
Positive  
Successful

To report a pupil's absence – call 01875 811327 and press '1' to leave message  
Weblog <http://edubuzz.org/blogs/cockenzie>  
Email [admin@cockenzie.elcschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@cockenzie.elcschool.org.uk)  
Twitter @cockenziePS

### What's Going on?



We've had a great start to the term with lots of interesting and exciting learning going on in all our classrooms!

Our P7 pupils have started the term by being creative and applying their knowledge of buoyancy by designing and testing their very own submarines. Many of our P6 pupils have been taking part in their cycling proficiency; many thanks to Daniel from The Community Centre for organising and leading the session. P5 are enjoying learning about the Scottish author, Lari Don and they're hoping the author herself may even visit us in school! P3 have made a positive start to the year by learning about Mhairi Hedderwick, another famous Scottish author. Their learning has been rich and creative and has involved using their knowledge of co-ordinates to create a detailed map of the Isle of Struay. Over in P2, the children are really excited to be learning about Vikings this term. The children are being encouraged to use their enquiry skills to learn more about this fantastic topic. And finally, our P1 pupils have settled so well into P1. RWI is well underway and all the pupils are enthusiastic about their learning.



All our classrooms are now set-up with universal visual displays including a whole class visual timetable in every room. Having a universal approach to displays enables children to follow instructions, use their time efficiently, reduce anxiety and support organisation.

### Staffing News

#### **Recruitment of new Head Teacher.**

We are all very much looking forward to welcoming Ms Banks to Cockenzie as our new Head Teacher. We have just received confirmation from John Muir House that Ms Banks will be starting as HT on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October. Both Mrs O'Connor and myself have met Ms Banks and we are very much looking forward to working with her here at Cockenzie.

#### **Class Teacher Posts**

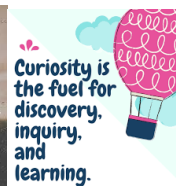
After a very successful recruitment campaign we were able to secure both our vacant class teacher posts. Miss Mackie was our successful applicant in P2 and in P3, we are looking forward to welcoming Miss Sinclair to our team, once all the necessary checks have been completed. We say farewell and thank you to Mrs Smith for all her hard work and commitment over the last two years.



LET'S BE  
positive today:)



LET'S BE  
positive today:)



LET'S BE  
positive today:)

### **Other Staffing News**

We are delighted to share the news that Miss Sleven, who currently teaches P7S, is expecting her first baby in January and is likely to start her maternity leave in December. We will keep you posted on Miss Sleven's replacement.

We have also said farewell to Mrs Sheldrick, our infant playground supervisor. After twenty years at Cockenzie, Mrs Sheldrick is now looking forward to a long and healthy retirement. We certainly wish her well for the future.



### **Family Homework Task - East Lothian's New Town**

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to our first homework task of the year - naming East Lothian's new town. We recognise this opportunity as an exciting time to have a say in East Lothian's future whilst learning a little about our local community. Not only will we consider, then vote as a school for our favourite name, class teachers will also be sharing with pupils the history behind local names, how towns in the past were named and recognising and reading local maps. Once we've chosen our favourite name, we'll let you know!

### **Meet the Teacher Event**

It was lovely to see everyone in school last week for our annual Meet the Teacher event. We do hope you found the opportunity helpful and you were able to gather some information regarding your child(ren)'s learning this session. Please look out for the termly highlights in your child's learning log - this will give you essential information, keeping you informed of our plans between now and October.



### **Beat The Street**

Beat the Street is coming to East Lothian! Beat the Street is a fun, interactive game that encourages children to walk, run and cycle around their local neighbourhood. The children will be given small fobs which they can use to collect points as they follow a map around Cockenzie, Port Seton and Prestonpans. Launch date is 11th September and fobs have been issued to children. Please follow this link for more details: <https://beatthestreet.me/eastlothian>

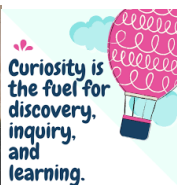
### **Aldi's Kit for School Initiative**



Cockenzie Primary School is collecting stickers for Aldi's Kit for Schools promotion; which is giving 20 primary schools the chance to win £20,000 to kick-start a health legacy for their school. How can you get involved? Every time you spend £30 in store, you'll be given a sticker for a poster we have in school. Once the school has collected 300 stickers, we can then enter our poster in the draw. If you are able to collect stickers, please ask your child to bring them to school so they can stick them to our poster. Please follow this link for more information. <https://www.aldi.co.uk/kitforschools>



LET'S BE  
positive today:)



LET'S BE  
positive today:)



LET'S BE  
positive today:)

## P2 Teddy and Book Sale



Primary 2 will be running a teddy and book sale in school on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September. This is an opportunity for all pupils, across the entire school, to buy some second-hand books or teddies. Primary 2 are looking for donations of teddy bears and second hand books to sell at the sale on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September. The money raised from the **Teddy and Book Sale** will go towards the Primary 2 trip to the National Museum to support their context for learning. Any donations of books or teddies would be greatly appreciated and can be handed into the school on or before Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September. We are also looking for parent/carers volunteers to help on the Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help, please let a member of the office staff know. Your support is greatly appreciated.

## Uniform Swap Shop

We are hoping to open our very own Uniform Swap Shop here at Cockenzie Primary School. We plan to turn one of our small rooms into a shop where parents and carers can come in and exchange or take uniforms for free. If you would be interested in helping set up this initiative, please let us know. Your support in getting our swap shop up and running would be very much appreciated. We would also like to thank everyone for their kind donations of uniforms. Unfortunately, due to the large amount of donations and lack of space, we are unable to receive any more donations at the moment.

## Payment in Schools

We would encourage all our parents to sign up for East Lothian's Lothian Council's online school payment system. By signing up online, you can select and pay for school lunches in advance and pay for school trips using a cashless system. If you follow this link, it will take you to our school blog where you'll find a video explaining how the system works and how to set up your account. Many thanks to the parents who have already done this.

<https://www.edubuzz.org/cockenzie/school-pay/>

## Parent Link Update

Members of the Parent Link met with myself and Mr Stitt on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August. The meeting was really productive and we were able to discuss a wide range of issues including:

- Anti-social behaviour in our playground during evenings and weekends
- Different methods of communication for parents / carers
- School Improvement Plan and how the Parent Link can engage in our self-improvement plans
- The 1140 expansion in the nursery
- Parking outside the school gates during busy times

If you would like to raise an issue or concern that you may have for the Parent Link, you can do so by contacting Claire Jamieson, Marie McMath or Louise Clarke (our co-chairs).

## PTA

Key PTA events are:

### **Halloween Disco - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October**

Halloween Disco letters will be available from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Please put a 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:cockenzieprimarypta@gmail.com)

## School Photographs

The school photographer will be in school on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September for individual and family photographs. We would be looking for some parent/carer volunteers to help with the coordinating of this event. If you are able to help, either in the morning or in the afternoon, please could you let a member of the office staff know? Many thanks!

## Dates for the Diary

Useful Dates for the Diary:

- 25<sup>th</sup> Sept - P2 Teddy and Book sale (opportunity for all pupils)
- 26<sup>th</sup> Sept - School photographer in all day
- 11 Oct - Harvest Service at Chalmers Church @ 0930hrs
- 14 Oct - October Holidays. School reopens on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October for pupils
- 08 & 14 Nov - Parent Consultations
- 08 Nov - P6 Remembrance Assembly - parents welcome
- 28 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](mailto:admin@cockenzie.elcschool.org.uk).

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

*D. Mercer*

Debbie Mercer  
Acting Head Teacher