



Cockenzie Primary School NEWSLETTER 3 September 2021



Curious
Positive
Successful
Respectful

To report a pupil's absence – call 01875 811327 and press '1' to leave message
admin@cockenzie.elcschool.org.uk
<https://www.edubuzz.org/cockenzie/> <https://twitter.com/CockenziePS>

<p>Curious</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asks questions • Solves problems • Loves to learn 	<p>Positive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has self-belief • Shows resilience • Is kind and helpful 	<p>Successful</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always tries hard • Wants to improve • Achieves success 	<p>Respectful</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes everyone • Respects others' feelings and property • Polite and shows good manners 
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Message from Ms Banks:

The weeks seem to be flying by and it won't be long until the October break. We have parent/carer consultations starting week beginning Monday 4th October for P1-P7 and an email was sent out early last week with instructions on how to book an appointment for your child. If you have any issues with booking, etc then please contact me via the school office email.

Sharing My Learning Booklets came home yesterday for all P1-7 pupils and these should be returned to school by Monday please. Please take the time to read and comment in your child's booklet.

As the weather turns colder/wetter, please can you ensure that your child/ren have suitable jackets and can I ask you again to ensure that ALL sweatshirts and jackets are named? I have collected at least 30 sweatshirts over last 2/3 weeks with no names.

Staffing

As previously emailed, we are delighted to announce that Miss Lisa Murray is the preferred candidate for the Depute Head post. Miss Murray will hopefully join us at Cockenzie mid-November after all the relevant checks have been carried out, etc.



Playground Improvements

What a wonderful job so many of the playground volunteers have made to the school playgrounds and nursery garden. Planting boxes have been painted, areas weeded, picnic benches painted, the characters for our school values have been painted on the wall, the Cockenzie Caterpillar is taking shape, areas have been trimmed, nursery garden has been given a makeover and the slide repaired and numerous other jobs that have been carried out by so many children, mums, dads, carers, grannies, grandads and wider family. Thank you so much to you all. We have informed the children in some of the assemblies and have shown pictures to share with all the classes too.



Learning Across the Nursery and School



Nursery have been exploring the work of Vincent Van Gogh. We looked at his pictures of sunflowers and harvest fields and then we used them as inspiration for our own masterpieces.

Some of the children have been exploring time and making watches after one of the children wanted to bring his new watch in to show his friends. We have also made apple and pear crumble using the fruit from our garden and some from the gardens of our children.

Next month we will be exploring autumn. If you are out walking please encourage your children to look for signs of autumn which they could collect and bring in to add to our displays.



Primary 1 have been busy learning lots of new sounds. We have been using these sounds to help us read and make words. The boys and girls have been enjoying using Play-Doh to create faces full of expressions, allowing us to discuss our emotions. Over the last few weeks we have explored the school values and the children have now completed a wonderful display. This will now remind us of how we can be Curious Cats, Positive Penguins, Successful Snails and Respectful Rhinos.



Primary 2 have had lots of fun learning how to tell the time. We have been looking at o'clock and half past on an analogue clock and are starting to learn about digital time this week. The children are also enjoying taking part in 'Singing Out' sessions outdoors every Tuesday. We are excited to start learning all about the Vikings.



Primary 3 have been curious to find out how animals have adapted to live in very cold or very hot places. We have been researching about these animals and using this information to create fact files.



Primary 4 have all settled back into school really well. In our context for learning, we have been learning about the Human Body, with a particular focus on our skeleton and organs. We made a moving model of the human skeleton to show our learning and are going to be preparing presentations about an organ that we have researched in cooperative learning groups. We have also been learning about Harvest, in preparation for our assembly in a couple of weeks.



Primary 5 have had such a busy start! It was such a big change for us to start in new classes, with new faces. We have really focussed on team building activities in our cooperative groups, to make new friends and create a positive learning environment.

Recently, we have been stranded on an island! Every Thursday, we visit an island. We are currently exploring the island, and all of its inhabitants. So far we have found Ernest Shackleton, the adventurer. This month we will be starting our John Muir focus with some exciting virtual visitors and workshops.



Primary 6 have been engrossed in learning about WW2 and focusing on the experiences of evacuees. We have been writing diaries based on the evacuee in our class novel. We have also been busy learning about angles in maths and place value and multiplication with different strategies to solve addition, subtraction, multiplication and division problems.



Primary 7 have settled in really well and are very excited about all of the different roles and opportunities that this year brings. We have been working really hard on our applications to become House/Vice Captains and we are excited to have elected our JRSOs for this year.

We are really enjoying our Context for Learning all about the Rainforest. We have been busy creating interesting fact files on Rainforest animals and have particularly enjoyed creating beautiful Rainforest art. Ask your child at home to share their Rainforest learning with you.

Curriculum Update

RSHP is a national resource for teaching the Experiences and Outcomes of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenting organiser of the Health and Wellbeing Curriculum. This resource was created by the NHS, and aims to cover a range of issues such as consent, emotional wellbeing and friendships. This resource is free to use not only for staff but for parents as well and can be accessed: <https://rshp.scot/>. As a staff we have looked carefully at the issues and topics covered, as well as taking into account our context for learning in the school year. We have mapped each unit across N – P7, and will begin to use this consistently in the school/nursery this year. You will receive a letter soon detailing the units, the language being used and the progression across Early, First or Second Level. This will allow you to see what your child is learning, as well as help with any conversations that you may have at home. If you need further information you can access the website where you can download the resources and PowerPoints that will be used in class.

Bikeability

After the October holidays our P6 and 7 pupils will participate in 'Bikeability'. Bikeability Scotland is the national cycle training programme for school children, supporting the next generation of confident and responsible road users. We will be delivering two levels of training:

- Level 1: developing cycling skills in a safe off road environment
- Level 2: learning to ride safely and confidently in a road environment. This will take place in the local area.



More information about this will be sent to P6 and P7 families before the October break.

Volunteers required

If you have a PVG Scotland membership and would like to volunteer to assist us with Bikeability, we would love to hear from you. If you do not hold a PVG certificate but would like to help, we would still like to hear from you. Please email admin@cockenzie.elcschool.org.uk FAO Mr Stitt.



Houses

The next round of voting for our new school houses is underway! Our pupils are voting for their favourite and shortly we will be able to share with you all our top 3 finalists. A family vote will follow and we hope to announce our new school houses sometime after the October holidays. Many thanks to all for your engagement in this exciting new venture for our school.

School Uniform Clothing Bank

Our [PTA](#) are running a school uniform clothing bank on Monday's, 9am – 11am at Port Seton Community Centre. If you are unable to get along during this time, please message them and they will be able to assist with alternative arrangements.



Reporting Absence

If your child is unable to attend school, please call that morning as early as possible to let us know on 01875 811327 (Option 1). Please phone this number and leave a message giving your child's name, class and the reason for absence.

Dates for your diary

From 4th – 14th October: Parent/Carer Consultations
18th – 22nd October: October Break
25th October: In-service Day 3
26th October: School/nursery reopens
30th November: P1-P7 Flu immunisations (for those that have given consent)

Contacting Us

A reminder, like always, that if you would like to contact us, please email admin@cockenzie.elcschool.org.uk and your email will be passed on to the appropriate member of staff. Please ensure that you inform us by telephone or email if your child has any appointments and requires to be collected from school during the school day or is coming in late due to an appointment.



Thank you

Lynda Banks

Ms L Banks
Headteacher