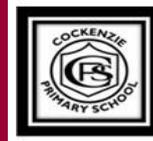


# Cockenzie Primary School NEWSLETTER 5 November 2021



Curious  
Positive  
Successful  
Respectful

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

## Curious

- Asks questions
- Solves problems
- Loves to learn



## Positive

- Has self-belief
- Shows resilience
- Is kind and helpful



## Successful

- Always tries hard
- Wants to improve
- Achieves success



## Respectful

- Includes everyone
- Respects others' feelings and property
- Polite and shows good manners



### Message from Ms Banks:

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to Miss Murray who joined the Cockenzie Team last week as our new Depute Head. Miss Murray will take the lead in Early Years, as well as P2. Miss Murray's remit will involve Pupil Support in these stages.

If you would like to pass on any information or require a call back from a teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team then please call or email the school [admin@cockenzie.elcschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@cockenzie.elcschool.org.uk). Any correspondence will be passed to the relevant staff member. I would remind you please not to email staff directly on their gmail or school emails as all correspondence must go through the school office. Thank you for your co-operation. ☺

### Message from Miss Murray:



I would like to say a very **big** thank you to all the children, staff and parents and carers for making me feel so welcome during my first week in post at Cockenzie Primary School. I have had a lovely week visiting classes and getting to know the children. I have noticed very quickly how polite, friendly and kind the children are and how positive the atmosphere is in the school. I feel very lucky to be joining such a great school!

This coming week I will be meeting with the Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSO) to talk through their role in the school and how I can help them with this leadership role. I am also hoping that a small group of children will take me on a tour of the local area so that I can become familiar with the resources that are available locally to us.

Should you see me out and about or in the playground, please come and say 'hello' or stop for a chat as I am keen to get to know our learning community.

### Reminders

- **Christmas Lunch orders** – letters have gone home this week. Please ensure you order your child's Christmas Lunch option on School Pay by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November. Christmas Lunch is on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. The options are traditional Christmas Lunch or Quorn Sausages. If your child does not wish either of these choices, then a packed lunch must be provided from home. Thank you ☺
- **Milk orders** – last day and time for ordering milk for next term is Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 8am. NO orders will be accepted after this as the system is closed from then. Thank you for your co-operation in this.





## Christmas Countdown

The Christmas Countdown calendar is attached to the email detailing events leading up to the Christmas holidays. A reminder too that we will be writing Christmas messages to each other in December as we are an ECO school and therefore request that no Christmas Cards are sent into school/nursery. Thank you ☺

## Curriculum Update

We have had a busy few weeks with lots of learning related to COP26 and Anti Bullying Week. Some examples of learning activities in classes include:

### **COP26**

- P2 children learned about looking after our environment and had a special visitor from a parent who read a story virtually. The story discussed the importance of caring and respecting our environment. The children discussed with their learning partners the ways they can look after our planet.
- P4 learned about what COP26 was and the importance of taking action against climate change. The classes created Earth window panes to promote COP26, made promises for what they would do to help the environment and wrote some promises that they wanted world leaders to stick to on climate change.
- P5 attended a dance workshop based on renewable energy. The children learned the different types of renewable energy that we have and created movements for them. They also researched climate activists and thought about how each of us can help change the world. Letters were written to world leaders about the climate crisis.



### **Anti-Bullying Week**

- P1 children have been learning about what it means to be unique and having your own likes and dislikes. They created odd socks full of their favourite things and our friends had to say "one kind word" about these. The children are also aiming to say at least "one kind word" each day.
- P3 have been learning about the importance of kind words and how these make us feel good. They have been enjoying listening to and joining in with the 'One Kind Word' song and created puzzle pieces with their kind words. The children created our own odd socks bunting to show that we are all unique and different and that's okay.
- P6 were focussing on acts of kindness and positive comments about others in their class and school.
- P7 classes have been learning about what bullying means and how we can spread more kindness. They have discussed different ways in which they can help to prevent and report bullying in school. The classes also discussed what an act of kindness looks like and how it makes them feel.

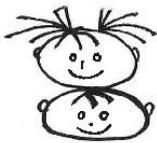


### The Big Idea

Many classes including nursery were involved in East Lothian's What's The Big Idea Competition. Children were asked to come up with ideas to help pupils feel safe, happy and included in school – and win up to £200 to bring their idea to life! We had a lot of success in this competition with the P6B class coming 1<sup>st</sup> with their idea of turning the castle in the P3-7 playground into The Caring Castle. The P6B class came up with creative designs to turn the castle into the colours of the Zones of Regulation and turn the area into a brighter place, winning £200 to get the great idea started.

The panel of judges also very much liked the P5B class idea of a school pet. While the panel couldn't fund a school pet, they have arranged a visit from a Therapet animal to visit the class on Friday. Nursery also won! (Please see below in Nursery Section). Well done to all our winners and to everybody who entered.

## Nursery



The nursery have been very busy over the last few weeks. Both sides of the room built their own dark den so we could investigate nocturnal animals, with the children learning which animals sleep all day and come out at night.

We spent lots of time talking about Remembrance Day and what the red and purple poppies represent. The children then created their own poppy pictures to display in the nursery. Each group then took a walk to the war memorial to see the poppy wreaths laid there. The orange group also took one that they made and laid it with the others.

We have started visiting the library again and each group will have a chance to visit before Christmas to listen to some stories and enjoy the books available there. Our walks to the library and the war memorial have given us the chance to share our knowledge of road safety and we have been accompanied on our walks with Ziggy our road safety alien.

Our achievements from home wall is filling up nicely, giving the children a place to share all of their fantastic achievements with their friends and the nursery team, so thank you to everyone who has sent in a certificate.

We also entered a competition during Anti-bullying week called What's the Big Idea. The children decided they would like a friendship den in the garden where you could go if you needed a friend. They wanted to decorate the den with fairies to cuddle you when you are sad, wizards and knights to keep you safe and butterflies to play with you. We were delighted to find out that the children's design was picked as a winner!

## United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

As we continue our journey to becoming a Silver Rights Respecting School, staff have recently been trained on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) Bill Scotland (2020). This legislation dictates that all adults and agencies involved in a Child's life must consider and uphold the Rights of the Child. Staff had time to reflect on what this means for us as a school. We look forward to developing this work as a staff in line with our Health and Wellbeing Curriculum. To help us with this and gain your insight, please could parents/carers complete the attached survey. <https://forms.gle/e8f7aTvPMcV6tGMw5>

## Pupil Support at Cockenzie Primary School

Mr Stitt is currently working in partnership with staff, pupils and families to develop a 'Pupil Support Guide' for our families. The purpose of this guide is to inform parents and carers about how we provide support for our pupils at school. The guide will outline and explain our many approaches including how GIRFEC (Getting it right for every child) is implemented, what the Child's Plan process means and who it is for, our Child Protection policy, Our Promoting Positive Relationships (Anti-Bullying) policy, what nurture looks like at Cockenzie and more. If you have any suggestions for content you would like to be covered in the guide, please share these views with Mr Stitt via [admin@cockenzie.elcschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@cockenzie.elcschool.org.uk). All feedback or suggestions are welcome.

Also, the current ELC Respect For All – Promoting Positive and Respectful Relationships in All Our Schools Policy can be accessed on our blog. [East Lothian Council Policies | Cockenzie Primary School \(edubuzz.org\)](https://www.edubuzz.org/post/2021-03-18-East-Lothian-Council-Policies-Cockenzie-Primary-School)



## Poppy Scotland

Poppy Scotland have sent a thank you certificate into school - we raised **£355.21**. Thank you to the P6s for organising this and thank you to all those who donated.

## School Houses

Top 6 finalists' designs were sent out for a family vote which closed on Friday 19th November. There was a draw between the top 2 choices which were both local castle themed. Mr Stitt will work with House Captains to share this news upon his return to work. The pupils will be split into 4 houses across the school. Siblings will not necessarily be in the same house. The role of our school houses will evolve over time and pupils will be involved in these decisions. When our Pupils as Leaders (P.A.Ls) groups return this will be one key way our House System is used along with Sports Days.



### Children In Need

We raised the amount of **£466.20**. Thank you to all those who donated money for this cause.

## Queens's Jubilee – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022

It has been announced that Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2022 is to be a public holiday to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. The school and nursery will be closed to all staff and children on this day.

## School Uniform Clothing Bank

Our [PTA](#) run 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

26 <sup>th</sup> November:	Last day to order Christmas Lunches
30 <sup>th</sup> November:	P1-P7 Flu immunisations (for those that have given consent)
December dates:	See Christmas Countdown
1 <sup>st</sup> December:	Last day to order milk for next term (by 8am!)
4 <sup>th</sup> December:	PTA Christmas Fayre
17 <sup>th</sup> December:	Last Day of Term
5 <sup>th</sup> January:	First Day of New Term

## Contacting Us

A reminder, like always, that if you would like to contact us, please email [admin@cockenzie.elcschool.org.uk](mailto: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