

Cockenzie Primary School NEWSLETTER 7 26th January 2023



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>

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 
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Message from Ms Banks:

Happy New Year! The Christmas holidays feel like a distant memory and everyone is settled in school and working hard. We have had a few visitors into the school recently who have all commented on how brilliant our learners are in the school. The visitors have all said how respectful and engaged everyone is. Well done to all our learners for being so positive and respectful.



Absence



Thank you to all those of you who call/text or email in to report an absence. Please remember though to inform us of the reason why your child is off so we can record the absence correctly.

In line with East Lothian's attendance policy, the Senior Leadership Team conduct regular attendance checks and you may be contacted by email and/or letter if attendance falls below 85% so we can offer our support if necessary.

To report an absence, state child's name, class and reason for absence – 3 options

- email admin@cockenzie.elcschool.org.uk
- calling the school absence number – **01875 811327** (Option 1)
- texting – **07860 049051**.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Car Parking



A reminder to please park safely and considerately. There is an issue with irresponsible parking near the school, both on Osborne Terrace and South Seton Park. Please, please be mindful of where you park as some people are blocking driveways, parking on grass and parking on double yellow lines.



Staffing

Mrs Veronica Brown joined the school office team on Monday 23rd January as the Senior Business Support Assistant.



Safer Internet Day 2023 - Tuesday 7th February

We are recognising Safer Internet Day 2023 through assembly and lessons in our classrooms. Parents, Carers and Teachers play a key role in supporting children to learn about how to stay safe online. We achieve this at Cockenzie Primary School by embedding online safety within our curriculum and encouraging our learners to report incidences of cyberbullying and online safety concerns to their trusted adults.

Please take some time to explore the parents and carers guide which can be found here: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>



Children's Mental Health Week 2023 - 6th-12th February

We promote good mental health with our learners all year round. However, each session we place a further focus on this important issue during Children's Mental Health Week. This is introduced to learners at our assemblies and followed up in classes through a variety of learning activities. This year's theme is Let's Connect. Let's Connect is about making meaningful connections. When we have healthy connections – to family, friends and others – this can support our mental health and our sense of wellbeing. As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health. Check out free resources for families at this link: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

East Lothian Council have further information, support and resources available to access here: <https://sites.google.com/edubuzz.org/mhwb-information-point/>

UNCRC Newsletter

The Rights Champions Group of Cockenzie Primary have been working hard to help us achieve our goal of a Silver Award. As a group we decide which article is important to focus on as a school. Our current focus for the whole month is:

Article 30: *(children from minority or indigenous groups) Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, whether or not these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.*

This links in really well with our learning about Scotland and Burns poetry. We have created learning grids for every class which include a variety of tasks such as Scots poems, Scottish art, learning Scottish songs and describing ourselves in Scots! These have been very popular and we are excited to share our learning together!

Next month we will be looking at the importance of staying safe of the internet. We recognise that this is very important to keep us safe. As a group we are planning tasks around 3 main articles that link with this topic. Our focus for February will be:

Article 13: (freedom of expression) Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.

Article 16: (right to privacy) Every child has the right to privacy. The law should protect the child's private, family and home life, including protecting children from unlawful attacks that harm their reputation.

Article 17: (access to information from the media) Every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources, and governments should encourage the media to provide information that children can understand. Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.

We look forward to sharing our learning and successes with you next month!

Further Strike Action

A further 2 days of strike action has been announced by the teachers' union, EIS. The planned dates are Tuesday 28th February and Wednesday 1st March. Further information will be issued by East Lothian Council and I will share this with you when we receive it.

PE Kit and Trainers

A reminder of the importance of learners having appropriate trainers/gym shoes for PE please and PE kit.
Thank you 😊

Water Bottles

A reminder that all learners should bring water bottles to school please. Staying hydrated throughout the day is very important and helps boost capacity to learn. Please ensure the water bottles are filled with water.

Learning Update (Nursery to Primary 7)

The **Nursery** has been very busy since we returned after the Christmas break. We have welcomed a number of new children, who are settling in and learning the routines of nursery. We have been responsible rhinos by making bird feeders to keep the birds fed during these cold months. We have also been examining ice, learning what ice is made of and what conditions are needed to make it. We have also been exploring the Chinese New Year and how this is celebrated. We have made Chinese lanterns, listened to the story of the animals in the Chinese zodiac. We are also going to have a Chinese themed snack. We have used rainbows to compare sizes and have been learning to sign and sing the colours of the rainbow.

Primary 1 and 2 were very excited to welcome some P6's and P7's to our classes recently. They shared their learning on Chinese New Year with us and we had lots of fun crafting with them. We have just completed some 'Myself and Burns' portraits to kick start our new context and are now looking forward to comparing our lives with his.

Primary 3 have been curious about Scotland. We have been looking back at the decades, learning about the famous Artist Steven Brown and creating our own 'McCoos'. In PE we learned Scottish dancing and had our very own mini Ceilidh. We were successful in researching all about the famous landmarks around Scotland. We then presented our findings to the class to help share our knowledge. We are excited to start looking and finding out information about Space.

Primary 4 have been working hard on goal setting since returning back to school. We have reflected on our P4 year so far and thought about our 'Big Dreams' as well as short term goals in our learning. We have been excited about our new context for learning - Earth, Moon and Sun, and have been showing lots of curiosity! We particularly enjoyed our 'ask the scientist' session with Mr Dewar. P4 now have the challenge of completing a moon diary and we're looking forward to seeing the phases of the moon over the next few weeks!

Primary 5 have been curious to learn all about friction and how it affects movement through a series of experiments. These are very simple to replicate so I am sure they could share these at home and explain what's happening!

Primary 6 have been curious to learn about Scotland and the different aspects of our Scottish culture. We have been looking at Scottish music and have even begun to write our own piece of Scottish music through Alan Penmans Song Writing Project! We have also been looking at Robert Burns and his poems, where we have taken inspiration to begin writing our own version of 'To A Mouse'.

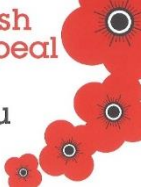
Primary 7 have been curious about the Rainforest and have been learning about the different types of Rainforest and where they are located in the world. We also had two very successful Drama sessions with the authority's drama specialist, Shonagh. Our Boys did us proud finishing 4th in their group in the P7 Boys' Indoor 5-a-side tournament.

Parent/Carer Consultation Dates

Parent/Carer consultations will take place on **Tuesday 21st and Thursday 23rd March**. Your appointment time will remain the same as your previous time in October. A reminder of your date and time will be send out nearer the time.

The Scottish
Poppy Appeal

Thank you



Poppy Appeal – Thank you

A massive thank you to all those who donated money to the Scottish Poppy Appeal and thank you to Primary 6 for organising this - **£222.02** was raised.

Diary Date(s)

Children’s Mental Health Week:	Monday 6 th -12 th February 2023
Safer Internet Day:	Tuesday 7 th February 2023
February Break:	Monday 13 th to Friday 17 th February 2023
In-service Day:	Monday 20 th February 2023
Pupils resume:	Tuesday 21 st February 2023
Potential Strike Days	Tuesday 28 th February & Wednesday 1 st March
World Book Day:	Thursday 2 nd March 2023
Parent/Carer Consultations:	Tuesday 21 st & Thursday 23 rd March 2023
Easter Holidays:	Last day of term Friday 31 st March /return Monday 17 th April 2023
May Day Holiday:	Monday 1 st May 2023
Additional Public Holiday:	Monday 8 th May 2023 (to mark the King’s coronation)



Reporting Absence

Please contact the school office by 9am if your child is absent from school/nursery. You can do this by email admin@cockenzie.elcschool.org.uk, calling the school absence number – **01875 811327** (Option 1) or texting **07860 049051**.

You must state your child’s full name, their class and the reason for absence.

If we do not receive any notification about your child’s absence then this will be marked on the register as an ‘Unauthorised Absence’. Thank you for your co-operation.



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
Head Teacher