



## GULLANE PRIMARY SCHOOL JUNE 2019 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

We are almost at the end of another school session. A school session that marks the end of the Gullane Primary building as we know it, as work will shortly start on the school expansion.

Many thanks to those parents/carers who responded to our recent survey. The results can be found on our website in the About Us section, under the heading School Improvement Plan.

The results of this have fed into next session's School Improvement Plan, which includes:

- Numeracy - continuing work started this session.
- Health and wellbeing -
  - Building resilience - Introducing a new programme.
  - Relationships, sexual health and parenthood - Introducing a new programme.
- Digital Literacy
- Creative play
- On-going work using the Pupil Equity Fund
- Parental engagement

A copy of our School Improvement Plan and our Standards and Quality Report will soon be available on our website or, if you prefer, you may request a paper copy.

On a personal note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, pupils and parents of Gullane Primary who have supported me as I have settled into my first year.

Seonaid McGillivray



### REPORTS



P1 - P6 end of session reports will be coming home on Friday 14th. Please remember to check your child's bag when they return home that day. P7 reports will come home on the 21<sup>st</sup>.



### SUMMER HOLIDAYS

School closes at the usual time on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June and reopens for pupils at 08:45 on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> of August.

Please check our website for the Session Dates for 2019/20.



### CLASSES 2019/2020



We had hoped to be able to let you know of our class structure for next session; however, for a number of reasons, this is not possible. We hope to have this information in time for our 'moving-up' morning on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June, when your child will spend time in her/his new classroom with her/his classmates and, hopefully, her/his teacher for next session. We are also unable to say which teachers are allocated to specific classes; however, we would hope that your child/ren would be able to tell you this on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

## STAFFING NEWS



As we head towards the end of session we find ourselves saying "Good-bye" to some staff. Ms Ferguson and Mrs

Thomson are moving on to the next stage in their careers. We would like to take this opportunity to thank both ladies for their hard work and the support they have given to pupils, parents and staff during their time with us. I know that they are both sad to be moving on but are looking forward to new challenges.

Mrs Townend has taken the decision to spend more time with her family and so will not be returning to the nursery following her maternity leave. We wish her all the best.



Following her maternity leave, Ms Collins will be returning to school in August and we would like to take this opportunity to welcome her back.



## EUROQUIZ



As mentioned in our May newsletter, we recently sent a team of P6 pupils to the Scottish Parliament to take part in the national final. Edward, Matthew, Toby and Tommy did extremely well to make it into the final 32 of the 470 schools which had taken part. Well done!



## HOUSE CAPTAINS



Each year the children nominate four P7 pupils to lead our houses of Craigelaw, Kilspindie, Luffness and Muirfield. This session, Isla, Freya, Jude and Olivia were given this role and we would like to thank them for their super organisational skills, particularly those required when putting together Gullane's Got Talent. Their

experience this year will stand them in good stead for the future. Good luck!

## MEADOWMILL ATHLETICS



Congratulations to all those pupils in P6 and P7 who took part in the recent inter-school competition at Meadowmill. We are delighted to inform you that Gullane came first in their section. The children all worked very hard and were a credit to the school. A special mention goes to Grace, in P7, who won two gold medals, and Emma and Eilidh, in P6, who each won a gold medal.



## THANK YOU



We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those parents/carers who have taken the time to support the school by helping out with WWW Clubs, paired reading, sporting events, educational outings, work in class, Parent Council etc. We could not manage without you!

A particularly big THANK YOU goes to our PTA. As a result of their hard work throughout the year, they have been able to support us in a number of ways, including:

- providing a Roamer for use in IT
- purchasing Chrome tablets for use in a range of subjects
- funding Generation Science workshops for each class
- financing Mindset Matters workshops for pupils, staff and parents
- paying for the Christmas pantomime and food for parties.

All of the above is the result of fundraising events organised throughout the year. The PTA are always looking for new members and would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in joining their ranks. Please support the School Fair which takes place on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>**.

## MEDICATION



Under guidelines issued by NHS, any unused medication that we hold in school for children must be uplifted at the end of the session by parents, otherwise all uncollected medication will be destroyed.

At the start of the new school year, in August, any required medication should be handed in to the school office and new forms completed, as soon as possible.



## AROUND THE CLASSES



It's a very busy time in the Nursery for our pre-school children who have been enjoying participating in lots of transition events. Throughout June, we will be talking lots about moving on to school with the Pre School Children.

Our thematic learning has progressed from planting and growing to Minibeasts. The children have been having fun creating a range of symmetrical pictures, learning the names of the Minibeasts and facts about them. We have been having fun playing games using the whiteboard and also using this to find out lots of new information.

Practice is well under way for our annual pre-school children's sports day, which will be held at 9am on Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup> of June. The afternoon children have had opportunities in the gym hall, to take part in sports activities such as the egg and spoon race and obstacle courses.

The afternoon children have shown a keen interest in making an ice cream stall and we will further enhance their leaning experiences by creating a role play area and, through discussion, finding out what else they would like to learn.

Since outdoor learning is part of our curriculum, and we are outside every day, we would remind all parents to send children in wearing sun cream, or a light weight cover up, and a sunhat.

We are having a Teddy Bears' Picnic to celebrate the end of term. This will be on Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup>

of June for the pre-school children and Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> of June for the afternoon children. Throughout the week leading up to this we will provide fun activities and getting everything ready. It would be good if your children could bring their favourite teddy to nursery with them that day.

Our school leavers sing song will be held on Thursday the 27<sup>th</sup> of June. Everyone should have received a letter about this; however, if you didn't please talk to a member of the nursery team.

Stay and Play sessions have been going on for the afternoon children throughout the month of May. We would really appreciate your feedback, and there is a sheet within the cloakroom to share your thoughts.

The Nursery Team



P1 will be rounding off our under the sea theme with an excursion to Gullane Beach. This is planned for Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June and we will be doing a variety of activities from exploring sea side habitats and a beach clean-up, to scavenger hunts and sand castle competitions. Fingers crossed for good weather.

We will have a focus on healthy bodies and will be preparing healthy snacks and taking part in fitness challenges.

We will be exploring our environment and investigating measurement. Primary one will be using everyday objects, as well as units of measure, to help us to compare size and amounts.

In RME, we are thinking about religious weddings and looking at similarities and differences between these. If you have any wedding photos that you are willing to share with the class they would be very much appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support over the school year. I hope you all have a lovely summer break.

Mrs Cooper



P1/2 have been learning about sea creatures and their habitats and how they differ from ours. We have been discussing sea pollution and what we can do to protect sea

life. We are looking forward to our educational excursion to Gullane Beach on Monday 3rd June with P1 and Mrs Cooper. We have some nice activities planned: seashore explore, scavenger hunt and litter picking.

We are learning about healthy eating and food groups. We are enjoying making some healthy snacks with Mrs Elderfield. We are creating healthy menus for breakfast, lunch and dinner, taking account of portions of different food types.

In PE, we are focusing on athletics, taking part in the relay, long jump, hurdles and javelin. Everyone has enjoyed our outdoor Friday learning sessions. We have played playground games, taken part in orienteering, created transient art, completed line drawings of landscapes to name a few.

I hope everyone has a lovely summer break. Thank you to all for continued help and support with your child's learning in school.

Mrs Grainger



**P2/3** are having a very busy time in class, and I cannot believe how close it is to the end of term! We all enjoyed our visit to the Recycling Centre, learned loads and would like to

thank all those who came along to our assembly to share this with us. Thank you very much to all the parents who volunteered to accompany us on the trip. As we had a lot of volunteers, we randomly chose four from the people who said they were available. Thanks to Miss Heijmer, Mrs Rootes, Mrs Adler and Mrs Spink for giving up their time to accompany us.

The children have enjoyed doing different composting activities with Mrs Elderfield, as well as making ice-lollies and they are also looking forward to doing some more cooking with her soon.

As the term draws to a close, it would be helpful if children could continue to practise their common words and numeracy skills at home. The Triangles should be able to recall at least the 2x Table, the Circles and Squares are learning the 2x and 3x and the Diamonds are working on their 2x, 3x, 5x and 10x Tables. We are also looking at how the table facts relate to fractions and division.

I would like to thank you all for all your support in many different ways over the past year, and to let you know how much I appreciate it. Thanks for helping your child prepare for the 60s/70s and Christmas Jumper Day. Thanks for sending someone to attend the class drop-in session and for the continued support with homework and reading.

A big thank you to Mrs Tulloch, Mrs Spink, Mrs Ferguson and Mrs Jones for assisting with reading since the start of term. Thank you also to Mrs Nicklas for coming to help with reading on a Monday for the past few months.

When it comes around, I hope you all have a restful and fun summer.

Mr McEwan



**P3/4** have enjoyed exploring forces and magnetism through experiments and had a wonderful session learning about Newton's third law of motion with

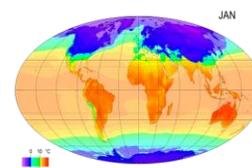
Mr Reynolds. To extend and enhance their learning we have booked an educational visit to Dynamic Earth on 13th June where the class will find out exactly what it takes to journey into space. Look out for the excursion letter and further details which will follow soon.

The class thoroughly enjoyed learning about identity theft and fraud during the MoneySense workshop. A number of children have expressed an interest in working in a bank since the session.

Our next class project will look at examining the needs and wants of the local community. Children will be creating a questionnaire to find out more about the community so be prepared to be quizzed!

The class will start planning and preparing for a personal presentation on a topic of their choosing in the next couple of weeks. The presentations are an opportunity for children to share a personal interest and could be on hobbies, pets, holidays, crafts or something completely different!

Ms Ferguson



**P4** are comparing climates this term revisiting their knowledge of the continents and finding out how living things have adapted to the

various climates and habitats. This follows the Social Studies outcomes covering Planet Earth Biodiversity and Independence.

We have Miss Gillies joining our class completing her student placement with P4 until the end of session. She has already been working with the children and is enjoying her experience.

We have a focus on using money this term and we enjoyed a 'MoneySense' workshop introducing this theme prior to the Easter break. The children will be using a range of strategies to support their money problem solving, so lots of additional practise at home and when out and about using coins will help. Keep practising the 3 and 4 times tables too.

Mrs Simpson has been working on building the pupil's stamina and core strength in PE and as the weather becomes more reliable the children will be doing a lot more outdoor sport including basketball, tennis and rounders. Promoting good sportsmanship and supportive team work.

May I take this opportunity to thank all the extra support I have had in class this session supporting the children, especially in reading. Each and every child has reached their individual targets and this is a team effort. They are a credit to us all and make my job truly rewarding.

Mrs Cowie.



P5 would like, once again, to thank the parents who have been into class recently to share their knowledge and expertise. Business tips and

exploding rockets have fired us up for our Jobs Kingdom Live event on May 29th.

These last few weeks of term will be packed full of fun as our John Muir work comes together with an assembly on Thursday 13th June. The following week we will be visiting the John Muir museum on Tuesday 18th. We also have a dance workshop and time with a ranger to explore the Millennium Woods. We're going to be busy!

The class are keen to litter pick and we will be busy around the schools grounds. We hope to be outside learning as much as possible.

Mrs MacIver will be taking volleyball sessions and the children will be trying athletic activities with Miss Gordon.

The children will also be involved in researching an artist of their choice; they will be presenting short talks to the class.

Enjoy the end of term mayhem and thank you for your continued support in class and at home.

Mrs Shepherd



P5/6 had a brilliant educational excursion to Dynamic Earth, which helped our learning about natural disasters. We are now

constructing a huge 3D volcano display for our classroom and are about to start science experiments in outdoor learning based on what we know about earthquakes, volcanoes, floods and tidal waves.

In drama, we are rehearsing a one act play called Pompeii Up!!, which depicts the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. We are excited to bring it all together!

In music, we are learning to listen to and appreciate different types of music styles and instruments from reggae to pop to classical.

In French, we have been studying the weather and will be presenting weather forecasts to the class. We are hoping the weather stays nice as in PE we are now practising sports for Sport Day!

Looking to the future....

P5 prepared for the Job Kingdom Live event, which took place at Queen Margaret University, by researching different jobs and the skills and qualifications required so that we could ask more about them on the day. This will hopefully help us think about what we want to do when we grow up.

P6 have been spending time with the nursery children every Thursday - who will be their P1 buddies next year :)

Mrs Thomson



P6 are having a busy time at the moment. Our team of 'Euroquizzers' attended the Euroquiz final last week. Having won the East Lothian heat, they were invited along, with another

31 schools to the final at Scottish Parliament. The

Gullane team did so well and should be incredibly proud of their achievements. They were also an absolute credit to the school!

Primary 6 also enjoyed a fantastic trip to Dynamic Earth last week. We saw a super 'film' in the cinema dome about volcanoes, and then attended a workshop where we all developed our knowledge further. After lunch, we did the Dynamic Earth tour, which was excellent! A great day all round.

Over the next couple of weeks several children are participating in the athletics festival at Meadowmill and a hockey tournament in Glasgow. We wish them all lots of luck.

Over the rest of this term we will continue with our learning about natural disasters and Hawaii. This will include a formal presentation which the children will have as their homework task for the next 3 weeks, presenting to the class the week after that. We will continue with the learning outlined in April's newsletter and are particularly looking forward to doing some team debating in class! The children are loving their regular visits to nursery and have now all been allocated nursery buddies, they will continue to visit a few more times before the end of term and possibly do a couple more 'Fit 15' sessions with their buddies too.

Again, thank you to parents for your continued support with home learning and especially to those who have kindly helped on our various class outings this year. We couldn't manage without you!

Mrs Gordon



**P7** will be busy with various events both in and out of school. For example, we will be planning and then running Sports Day for the rest of the

school; we have our formal transition days to the high school, with the children following their S1 timetable within their new classes on the second and third days; we will have a visit from some former pupils, who will share their experiences of the move to high school, as an additional part of transition; we will be planning and running our leavers' day.

The children recently organised and ran an enterprise event, as part of their Virgin Money challenge, and, once costs were taken into account, made a profit of around £200. Great work!

I'm looking forward to hearing the presentations that the pupils have been working on. For these, they will self-assess their performance before getting comments from their peers and then from myself.

We will be working on our leavers' project, which we will share at the leavers' assembly. This includes photos from camp and photos of the pupils as they've grown up. If you haven't already done so, please could you forward via the school office a photo of your child as a baby, as a toddler, and in their first year of school, at your earliest convenience. Thank you in advance.

It's good to be back with P7, and the week we had at camp was a good way for me to start to get back into the swing of things after such a long absence. We were so lucky with the weather at Dounans, making what is always a wonderful week even more enjoyable.

Mr Adamson



Finally ...

We would like to wish all P7 pupils, and their parents, best wishes as they move on to the next step of your educational journey. Good luck!

As we say "goodbye" to our P7s we are looking forward to welcoming our new P1s and all of the pupils who will be joining us next session.





