



MAY 2017 NEWSLETTER

KING'S MEADOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you all had a relaxing Easter break. It's hard to believe that the summer term is upon us when, as I write this, snow is forecast!

We are entering a period of the year when, as a school, we review previous developments and consider what we need to work on next session. One area that does require a refresh is our vision, values and aims. It would be really good to get parents and carers on board with this to work alongside staff and pupils to help develop a common goal. If you would be interested in this please contact the school office.



We would like your views on a number of other areas and would be delighted if you could support us by completing the following survey:
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LT63LH2>

[LT63LH2](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LT63LH2)

The survey will close on Friday 5th May.

If, at any time, you have feedback for us please do not hesitate to contact the school office.



HOLIDAYS

The school will be closed to all pupils and staff on **Monday 1st May**. It will reopen as normal on Tuesday 2nd May.

There is an in-service day on **Monday 22nd May**, which means the school will be closed to pupils. It will reopen as normal on Tuesday 23rd May.

Please see attached 2017/18 Session Dates.

PARENT COUNCIL



The next meeting of the Parent Council takes place in the Drama Room at 19:00 on Wednesday 10th May. All parents/carers are welcome to attend.



SCHOOL UNIFORM ORDERS



It is the time of year when you might be thinking about school uniform for session 2017/18. As you may be aware, the way we handle uniform orders has changed in the last few weeks. We no longer have a May deadline for orders to be placed for the new academic year. You can now order online, direct with our supplier (Border Embroideries) and select whether to have the order delivered free of charge to the school or, for a delivery charge of £4.99, to your home.

Please note: Border Embroideries confirm that orders will be delivered within 28 days. This means that any orders placed after 5th June 2017, for school delivery, will be ready for collection from the school office on **Tuesday 15 August 2017 between 10am - 2pm ONLY**. All orders prior to the 5th June will be given to your child to bring home.

To order, please click on the following link:

www.border-embroideries.co.uk



RED NOSE DAY



Thank you to all who supported this day. We raised a total of £475.42. £115.42 of this came from the selling of hot chocolate by Romilly and Emma. Well done, girls!

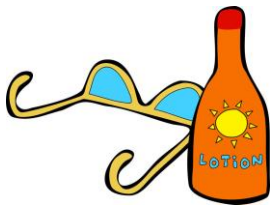
LOST PROPERTY



As in previous years, we continue to find that far too many items of clothing are left behind at the end of the day and, unfortunately, most of this is not named. Your child's clothing and personal items are their responsibility and you should encourage them to take charge of them. School staff do not have the time to look for things that have become lost. We also do not have room to store lost property and would ask that you come into look as soon as you are aware that something is missing. **PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL PROPERTY IS NAMED.**



SUN PROTECTION



Hopefully, we are approaching the time of year when we get a bit more in the way of sunshine and warmth. We would like to remind parents/carers to send their child/ren to school properly prepared for this. This might include providing your child/ren with a hat and some sun cream. It should be noted that the school takes no responsibility for applying sun cream.



DATES FOR THE DIARY



- Monday 1st: HOLIDAY
- Monday 8th: P7 Leavers' photograph.
- Wednesday 10th: P7A and P7B to visit the Risk Factory.
- Thursday 11th: P7C and P7C to visit the Risk Factory.
- Thursday 18th: School sports
- Friday 19th: P4A class assembly. Parents/Carers of this class are welcome to join us at 9.00 am.
- Monday 22nd: In-service day
- Friday 27th May: P4B class assembly. Parents/Carers of this class are welcome to join us at 9.00 am.



AROUND THE CLASSES



P4A has now finished work on Vikings. It has been a great topic and the children have thoroughly enjoyed it. The children worked very hard creating their shields and learning some Viking battle drills. They also created some wonderful poems and Kennings, as well diary entries from the view-point of a Viking child. The class will use the Vikings topic for our class assembly at 9:00 am on Friday 19th May. Parents are welcome to attend this.

Our new topic this term is going to be based around food. We have already learnt about a balanced diet and checked that we are eating one. The children have decided to learn about food preparation and cooking as well as taking a blindfolded taste test! We also have a visit to the school planned from the SSPCA who will discuss food and farming with an emphasis on animal welfare with the class.

The class will have art with Mr Connell this term where the food topic theme will be continued. We are very lucky to have a rugby coach come on Thursdays to give the class an introduction to rugby as well as developing the skills of those who are already familiar with the sport. This block will culminate with a festival of rugby on Thursday 18th May. Please make sure children have their P.E. kit in school.

In numeracy, we are going to be looking at measure and weight and for class maths we are learning about time



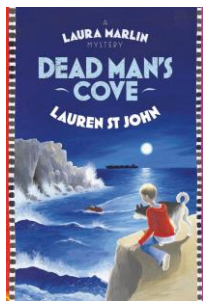
P4B thoroughly enjoyed showing their families all of the work that we have completed throughout the year at the Child Led Parent Consultations prior to the Easter Holidays. I think that the Blubber Experiment was a particular favourite with both the children and adults. Thank you to everyone who came to share in our learning experiences!

Our new IDL topic this term will be Food and Health and will focus on Health and Wellbeing, Technology and Literacy. The children have chosen to find out about creating a balanced meal, the journey of different foods from farm to fork and to follow and make some simple healthy food in class. In conjunction with this our writing will involve creating our own

recipes and seasonal menus, writing instructions using imperative verbs and writing adverts. We will also be having a visit from the SSPCA (Wednesday 17th May) who will share their role in ensuring that farm animals are looked after properly.

We will be having art with Mr Connell this term and have already started looking at the artist Giuseppe Arcimboldi who was famous for creating portraits using fruit and vegetables. 4B will then create their own Giuseppe Arcimboldi inspired portraits.

Starting on Thursday 27th April, 4B will be having rugby taster sessions for three weeks followed by a rugby festival on the 18th May. Please make sure that your child has appropriate outdoor P.E. kit and a water bottle every Thursday.



P4C completed a very successful Vikings topic last term and Mrs Guy would like to say 'Well done!'. The classroom display evidenced work completed to a very high standard - well done everybody!

We are now diving into a topic about Food Technologies. We will consider diet and hygiene alongside how food is grown, stored and prepared using a variety of technological gadgetry. We hope to make healthy snacks, trace the journey some of our favourite foods make from farm to our fork and investigate how some modern appliances, like our fridge and cooker, work. We also have the SSPCA officer coming in on the 17th May to tell us about the regulations surrounding the upkeep of farm animals in the U.K.

Our writing focus will be linked to our topic; instructional language and the use of imperative verbs to write instructions, recipes and promoting eating local and seasonal foods.

In class maths, our focus will be on money and time - in group maths we will learn about length, weight and volume. Our measure will be closely linked to the food technologies planned, for instance - weighing ingredients for healthy snacks.

We welcome the input of our art specialist, Mr Connell, this term and look forward to the fun activities he has planned for us.

Our class novel is called Deadman's Cove and it's written by Lauren St John. If you like the story there are more in the series that you can read independently. Our group novel reading homework

<http://www.edubuzz.org/kingsmeadow/>

will be written into our school diary so that adults at home can share what we are reading on a weekly basis. P.E, on a Monday and a Thursday may involve outdoor work, as we have a series of rugby taster sessions coming up -so please wear weather appropriate clothing and sun cream when required. Sports day has been arranged for Thursday 18th May and we warmly welcome you all to come along and cheer us on that afternoon in Neilson Park.



P5A have launched straight into their new topic after the Easter Break. For the first half of this term we are learning about eco-

systems, food chains, food webs, classification, etc., alongside information handling in maths and writing projects. After much discussion and sharing of ideas, the children have chosen to learn about these things through the context of The Safari Park. We will be exploring this topic whilst designing our own Safari Park and creating a Safari Park Newspaper which we will share with a P4 audience. If you have any unwanted (or are happy to lend) model animals at home we would gratefully appreciate them. We have already been learning outside and exploring the ecosystem of the school garden and classifying things into living and non-living as well as designing our own food chains for a wall display.

In Numeracy and Maths groups, we will be learning about time and measurement this term. As is our normal practice, the children will undertake a pre-assessment test to allow them to demonstrate their knowledge and will then be grouped to ensure that they receive the most appropriate level of pace and challenge.

In Literacy, we are looking at writing our own "adventure" based fiction stories. We will be employing our Higher Order Thinking Skills to do this and using a mind map to plot out and plan our stories. The children have already started to use this method to map out their setting, characters, plot, etc. and are beginning to share their ideas with their peers. Reading workshops will continue (supported by Accelerated Reader) and weekly homework tasks will be sent home.

Our John Muir Award project continues this term and our Railway Walk has been rescheduled (3rd time lucky) for 25th May. The children have made organic

bird feeders in preparation for the walk and will be identifying wildlife and plant life during the excursion. If you are able to support us on this day please let me know.

The class have the expertise of our Music Specialist this term and Mrs Arnold for PE.



P5B are settling into our new co-operative learning groups and are getting to know new working partners. We have some fun names for the groups, such as 'The Blue Snowdrops'

and 'The Trampolining Spiderpillars'. It's good to have a change of people to talk to and learn with.

In class, we discussed the learning intentions of our new topic and came up with a context - 'I'm at the bottom of the food chain, get me out of here'. Among other things, we will be finding out about classification, vertebrates, invertebrates, food chains and adapting to environments. We will also be linking this with information handling and IT, considering the best ways to share our work.

We are still working on our John Muir Award. We will be looking at why he is such an important figure in conservation. Next month we will be visiting his birthplace in Dunbar.

We are problem solving in PE. Mrs Arnold has linked these activities with our John Muir Award. We have had to plan journeys across a 'swamp', getting our team to safety.

We are continuing to learn French and many of us are becoming much more confident in speaking the language. This term we will be focussing on days, months and food!

By request, we have the Daily Mile back in our timetable. The children are given the opportunity to be timed on this, but reminded that it is about improving their own performance and being able to run for longer, not about competing with classmates. It's great to see everyone taking responsibility for warm up exercises and cool down stretches.

Last week we were golfing at Haddington Golf Course. We had been practising the skills before the holidays and it was lovely to be able to put them into play. Each of the holes was a par 3 and all teams came in below par - well done 5B. We have photos on

our web page. Thank you to our parent helpers for accompanying us that afternoon.



P5C have gotten off to an exciting start this term with an action-packed morning of events at Haddington Golf Club. The children

were a real credit to the school showing good manners, great team work and fantastic sportsmanship! Well done, P5C! In Term 4, we will be building upon all the grammar groundwork that we put in in Term 3 to help us create some effective writing based around the work of John Muir. We will be producing several different text types as we write about John Muir as an inventor, as a conservationist and as an adventurer. Watch this space! To help us with this work, we have booked a trip to John's birthplace in Dunbar to help us better understand his life and even see some artefacts from that time period. In maths, this term, we will be continuing with our theme of developing real-world maths skills by working with money to calculate change and totals of amounts. Alongside this, we will also be looking at the topic of time; learning to read the time (both 12 and 24 hour clock), read the time within context such as timetables and solve time related problems. In P.E., Mrs Arnold will continue to work with P5C on developing other life-skills such as team-building and working together as part of a group. These skills will really help our children in all areas of the curriculum. Finally, we will be continuing our work around Growth Mindset - another skill for life - and learning to understand that even if we find something new hard and tricky, with perseverance and resilience we can succeed!



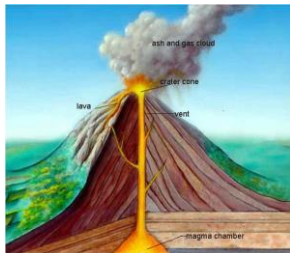
P6A plan to explore a range of natural disasters, this term. We will be investigating what they are, how they

are formed and the impact they have on the people and the landscape. We will also be considering how the basic human needs of victims are met after a natural disaster occurs and what organisations are able to

help them. Through our writing, we will be focusing on imagined personal responses in relation to natural disasters. We will learn to describe personal experiences and include description. We will also use appropriate vocabulary to convey thoughts and feelings in our responses to try and capture people's experiences of natural disasters.

Our Maths work will also be linked to our topic. We will be learning to understand, interpret and create scale drawings and maps. In Numeracy, we will be learning about time. This will include the link between 12 hour and 24 hour time, devices for time, units of time, how to read and interpret timetables and the link between speed, distance and time.

In Health and Wellbeing, we will be focusing on "Keeping Myself Safe". This covers a number of scenarios including how to keep safe online; recognising the physical signs when something is wrong; knowing how to share and talk about a problem; being able to resist pressure from friends or peers to take risks and knowing how to trust and where to get advice. In PE, we are continuing to focus on athletics in preparation for Sports Day. We have been put into teams and have a chance to work with children from other classes.



P6B have been very busy recently as we have started to learn all about natural disasters. As part of our IDL, we have chosen to investigate volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis

and we are looking forward to learning how these form and the effects they have on people and the landscape. We plan to carry this theme across the curriculum and investigate scale as part of our maths learning. We hope to look at the scale of natural disasters and carry out some mapping tasks involving scale measure. In our writing, we will be creating an imagined personal response and putting ourselves into the shoes of someone who is reacting to a natural disaster. In our numeracy learning we will be focussing on telling the time; investigating both 12 and 24 hour time, reading time tables and calculating time durations. We are continuing to develop our reading comprehension skills in literacy as well as developing our knowledge of punctuation and grammar. In French, we plan to learn about French foods and have already begun learning about the French names for fruit. Miss Grantham is

<http://www.edubuzz.org/kingsmeadow/>

impressed by how quickly we are remembering the pronunciation for some of these fruits. In health and well-being, we will be learning about how to keep ourselves safe. In P.E, Mrs Arnold will be focussing on fielding and striking games as part of our learning. If you have any spare time, P6 would welcome the support of parents and carers in class.



P6C are delighted to be working with Miss Ferguson from Moray House during May. Miss Ferguson will be leading lessons across the curriculum including our

Earth, Wind, Fire and Water topic which takes in scale in maths, writing an imagined personal response and discovering the process of and impact of natural disasters.

In addition, we will be learning appropriate personal safety strategies and how to use them in health and wellbeing and continuing to expand our vocabulary in French with a focus on food and shopping. Our numeracy lessons are all about time which is a vital skill for life, learning and work.

In PE, with Mrs Arnold, we have been experiencing different aspects of athletics such as high jump and relays. We hope to put these skills to good use in our teams for Sports Day when we will be competing alongside P7A. We are thrilled to be working with Mr Connell in art and have already begun exploring the work of French artists.



P7A are developing their athletic skills in preparation for Sports Day. The class will be working with 6C to form 4 teams and, hopefully, make a winning combination to compete on the day. 7A are a very

sporty class in general and we have quite a few sports stars so we have high hopes for success! In addition, our stars will be competing at an athletic event on Tuesday 2nd May.

We have had a very busy start to the term. On 26th April, the class experienced a numeracy transition day at Knox. This was a full day of maths activities and gave the class the opportunity to work with other P7 children, including those from Yester and St Mary's schools. This was followed on 27th April with a presentation, "Make £5 Grow", from Virgin Money. This is a scheme designed to enable P7 to plan, organise and run an enterprise event to raise funds.

Virgin Money provides an interest free loan and the children then aim make a profit and pay back the initial £5. P7 have always managed to do this in previous years!

There is a second transition event at Knox on Tuesday 9th May that will include PE in the morning and literacy activities in the afternoon. The following day, 10 May, the class will attend the Risk Factory, which is a series of discussions and activities designed to help develop Keeping Myself Safe skills.

The class had great fun participating in a design challenge. The brief was to use their knowledge of sustainability to design and build an eco-house to include as many eco-friendly features as possible. In addition, this activity involved working cooperatively, using problem solving skills and managing resources (including tidying up - which involved a lot of encouragement!) Each group then presented their finished house and their peers voted on their favourite design using a set of success criteria. This concluded their Sustainability project.



P7B ended last term with a 'challenge' day at beautiful Ravensheugh beach and woods. We worked with Andy Duff from East Lothian Council Outdoor Learning

Service. As well as undertaking some 'place responsive learning', we made dens, prepared damper and cooked it on the open fires we had built.

The finale to our sustainable living topic has now been completed in class. We worked in our co-operative learning groups to design and build an eco-house model. Our models have lots of eco features; everything from roof insulation to solar panels, vegetable patches to compostable toilets. We have really engaged with learning about how to live in a sustainable way and, hopefully, we will try hard to live more sustainably from now on!

We are starting this term by looking at Keeping Myself Safe and Substance Misuse. We also have a class visit to The Risk Factory, which will teach us how to deal with or avoid risks in the safe environment of an interactive safety centre.

In P.E., we are focussing on athletics at the moment. This is in preparation for Meadowmill but also for sports day. Our class will be working in teams with 6B this year. The events include long jump, triple jump, sprint, relay and the hammer throw.

This term sees our transition to Knox in full flow. We have a maths transition day, a literacy transition morning as well as our two full days in June.

Finally, at the end of May we have our activity week and Benmore residential trip to look forward to. What a busy month!



P7C have come back from their Easter break ready and excited for their final term of primary school. This term promises to be a very busy term and there is a lot for the children to look forward to.

The children have taken part in a challenge day to design and build an eco-house. They were asked to apply everything they had learned last term about living more sustainably. They worked really well together in their groups and the final products were very good indeed. There are photographs of the groups and their models on the school website. Thank you for all the junk and art materials that were sent in from home.

We have started reading a new class novel called "Abomination". So far the children have been really gripped by the story and the book will provide the basis for all of our reading work this term.

The children will be covering a few different topics this term including drug education, Keeping Myself Safe, a Virgin Money enterprise project and a personal project about a job/career they may want to pursue when they are older. There will be information to follow about the personal project. The children will have the opportunity to work on it in class but there will also be a homework task to share what they have found out in a presentation. As part of Keeping Myself Safe, P7 will visit the Risk Factory on the 11th.

The year group will be taking part in the Virgin Money "Make £5 Grow" project. Each child in the year group has been given £5 by Virgin Bank and their challenge is to come up with a small profitable business that will earn enough money to pay Virgin Bank the money back as well as provide some funding for a P7 end of term treat. The children will be fully involved in the process, from deciding upon what their business will

be, planning and resourcing their business and deciding what they want to spend the profits on.

In numeracy and maths, we will be finishing our work on money from last term, learning about time and looking at negative numbers. The class recently took part in a numeracy transition event at Knox Academy. All of the children seemed to enjoy their first experience of high school and had fun taking part in the different problem solving activities they were set. The children will visit Knox again on the 9th for a PE and literacy transition day.

In P.E., the children are focussing on athletics to prepare for the Meadowmill Athletics competition as well as sports day. 7C will be working in teams with children from 7B and 6B for sports day and they will be taking part in a series of team building lessons where they will look at each other's strengths and abilities in order to decide who will perform in each event at Sports Day. Some of the children in the class have been chosen to captain the Sports Day teams and they will be helping Mrs Arnold in organising the day. The class will also have rugby taster sessions on the 24th and 31st May and the 7th June.



P7D have a busy time ahead this term and have already had our P7 leavers' photograph taken for the Courier. We have visited Knox Academy for a maths event and have more transition visits planned. On

Tuesday 9th May, we are going over for our Transition Sports and a literacy event. Later in the term we will be spending two days getting to know the school.

In numeracy, we have finished work on fractions, decimals and percentages and have now re-grouped for a topic on Time. In maths, we are continuing to look at money.

At the moment, we are working on personal safety topics and drug education. Some of the 'Keeping Myself Safe' stories are very detailed and provide pupils with learning experiences presented in short, animated stories. The children are encouraged to discuss the issues raised in each story and assess which personal safety strategies are the most appropriate to the situation. As part of this topic, we will be attending the Risk Factory in Edinburgh. This is a centre where everyday risks are created in

a safe environment for the pupils to experience and respond to.

Alongside the safety topics, we are going to be working through the BBC Active programme on drug education. The children are going to be learning what is meant by a drug and what effects a range of drug have on the body.

In PE, with Mrs Arnold, we have been experiencing different aspects of athletics such as high jump and relays. We hope to put these skills to good use in our teams for Sports Day on the 18th May. We are thrilled to be working with Mrs Roberts again in music.

Benmore week and Activity Week are fast approaching. It looks as though it will be a very exciting time.



**EAST LoTHIAN COUNCIL
RESOURCES AND PEOPLE SERVICES
SESSION DATES 2017/18**

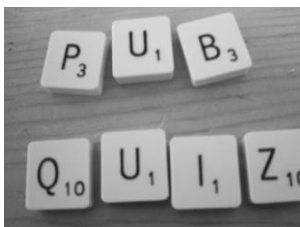
TERM 1	Staff In-service Day 1	Monday	14	August	2017
	Staff In-service Day 2	Tuesday	15	August	2017
	Pupils Resume	Wednesday	16	August	2017
	Autumn Holiday (schools closed)	Friday	15	September	2017
	Autumn Holiday (schools closed)	Monday	18	September	2017
	All Return	Tuesday	19	September	2017
	All Break	Friday	13	October	2017
	Staff In-service Day 3	Monday	23	October	2017
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	24	October	2017
	Term Ends	Friday	22	December	2017
TERM 2	All Resume	Monday	8	January	2018
	All Break	Friday	9	February	2018
	Staff In-service Day 4	Monday	19	February	2018
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	20	February	2018
	All Break	Thursday	29	March	2018
	Good Friday – 30 March 2018 Easter Monday – 2 April 2018				
TERM 3	All Resume (Staff and Pupils)	Tuesday	16	April	2018
	May Day (Schools closed)	Monday	7	May	2018
	All Resume	Tuesday	8	May	2018
	Staff In-service Day 5 (pupils off)	Monday	21	May	2018
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	22	May	2018
	Term Ends	Friday	29	June	2018
2018/19 PROVISIONAL					
	Staff Resume	Monday	13	August	2018

King's Meadow P.T.A.

May Update

Hope you had a lovely Easter. First of all, an update on our last event ...

Our very first **Pub Quiz** held on Sat 11th March at Haddington Rugby Club was a big success and raised a fabulous **£396.80** for the School!



The evening was well attended by parents, carers and teachers alike – thank you to everyone who bought tickets and generously donated raffle prizes. Finally, a big thank you is due to John Arnold who made a brilliant Quiz Master!

Upcoming Events

**P6 Challenge Night: Tuesday 9th May
6:15-8:15pm**

Working in teams, our P6s will have the chance to take part in lots of fun games requiring both physical and mental stamina and all against the clock!!!



Think you've got what it takes to be part of the winning team? Flyers have already been issued so make sure you return your ticket money (£2.50) and ticket request form soon to secure your space!

We would also be very grateful to hear from any parents who would be willing to help out on the night.

Please e-mail kingsmeadowpta@gmail.com if you are able to lend a hand. Thank you.

King's Meadow Festival Café Monday 29th May

We are delighted to be running a King's Meadow Festival Café during this year's Haddington Festival!



This is our biggest fundraising event in the school year but in order to make it happen **we need lots of parent and carer support, in particular over the busy lunchtime period (12-1pm).**

Please either return the helpers flyer to the School Office or e-mail kingsmeadowpta@gmail.com with your availability for the day. We need help from 8:30am until 2:30pm. If you can't help on 29th May, we would welcome help with preparations before the event too. Thank you in advance for your support.

Easyfundraising

Thinking of booking your summer holiday soon? Did you know that whenever you book holidays and travel online you could be raising a free donation for King's Meadow Primary School? There are over 3,000 retailers including Expedia, Booking.com and Thomson who will donate a percentage of the amount you spend to King's Meadow to say thank you for shopping with them. It's really simple, and doesn't cost you anything. All you have to do is:

1. **Register@**

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/kingsmeadowps/>

2. **Sign up for free**

3. **Get shopping** – your donations will be collected by easyfundraising and automatically sent to King's Meadow. It couldn't be easier!

There are no catches or hidden charges and King's Meadow P.T.A. will be really grateful for your donations. Thank you for your support.

How can I get involved?

**Next P.T.A. Meeting: Tues 23rd May 2017,
6:30pm in the Meeting Room**