



MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER

KING'S MEADOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you all enjoyed a good Easter break, despite the fact that we did not get the best of weather!

As you will be aware from recent communication, a decision was taken by East Lothian Council to close Haddington Infant School and King's Meadow Primary Schools and establish a new primary school covering Nursery to P7 for Haddington and its associated catchment areas. Scottish Ministers will now consider the council's decision and have a period of 8 weeks to make a determination.

This is the time of year when we would normally work on our School Improvement Plan; reviewing previous developments and considering what we need to work on next session. However, in light of the decision, we will be working with Haddington Infant School to develop a consistency of practice across Literacy and Numeracy. We will also be continuing our work on Visible Learning and Cooperative Learning.

Should Scottish Ministers agree with East Lothian Council decision our priorities may change as we focus on bringing the two schools together.



HOLIDAYS

The school will be closed to all pupils and staff on **Monday 7th May**. There is an in-service day on **Tuesday 8th May**, which means the school will be closed to pupils. It will reopen as normal on Wednesday 9th May.

The school will be closed to all pupils and staff on **Monday 21st May**. It will reopen as normal on Tuesday 22nd May.

Please see attached 2018/19 Session Dates.

PARENT COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Parent Council takes place in the Drama Room at 19:00 on Wednesday 2nd May. All parents/carers are welcome to attend.



JOINT BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Know the Rules



As mentioned in last month's newsletter, staff at both King's Meadow Primary and Haddington Infant School have been reviewing their behaviour policies in order to produce a joint policy. This is now attached and we would welcome your feedback.



LUNCH MONEY

The number of children who either have no money or not enough to pay for their meal has been greater this session than any other. Despite monthly chasing up by the office staff, at this point in time outstanding dinner money stands at £159.65. This shortfall has to be met from the school budget, which means that there is less money to spend on resources. Parents/carers have a duty of care to ensure that they have made arrangements for their children to have lunch.



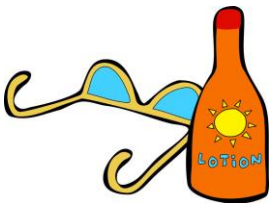
LOST PROPERTY



Once again, we have a large collection of lost property, including a number of jackets. In order to save you from unnecessary expense we would request that you **name all property** and encourage your children to take responsibility for it. 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.



SUN PROTECTION



Despite a pretty grim Easter break, we have recently had some warm and sunny weather. 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 7th: HOLIDAY
- Tuesday 8th: In-service day
- Thursday 10th: P7 to visit Edinburgh College to take part in a transition STEM project.
- Friday 11th: P4A class assembly. Parents/Carers of this class are welcome to join us at 9.00 am.
- Wednesday 16th: SCHOOL SPORTS
- Thursday 17th: P7A and half of P7B to visit the Risk Factory
- Friday 18th: P4B class assembly. Parents/Carers of this class are welcome to join us at 9.00 am.
- Monday 21st: HOLIDAY
- Friday 18th: P4B class assembly. Parents/Carers of this class are welcome to join us at 9.00 am.
- Tuesday 22nd: P5C to visit John Muir's Birthplace in Dunbar.
- Wednesday 23rd: P5A to visit John Muir's Birthplace in Dunbar.
- Thursday 24th: P7C and half of P7B to visit the Risk Factory

- Friday 25th: P6A class assembly. Parents/Carers of this class are welcome to join us at 9.00 am.
- Wednesday 30th: P5B to visit John Muir's Birthplace in Dunbar.

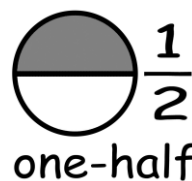


AROUND THE CLASSES



P4A were glad to see the sun as we returned to school after a wet and windy Easter break! As well as finally enjoying the spring weather we have embarked on lots of new teaching and learning experiences since the start of term. Our first topic, 'Healthy Me' brings together elements of science, literacy and health and wellbeing. We will be completing a number of research tasks in our new co-operative learning teams as we develop our knowledge of major body organs, the need for sleep and common diseases amongst many other things. In reading lessons, we are going to be exploring different genres, creating questions of our own and sharing our favourite author and books with our classmates. We will continue to build quick and accurate recall of forward and backward number sequences in numeracy, which will support our work on fractions, multiples and factors.

Lastly, we hope to see you all to share our learning our re-arranged class assembly on Friday 11th May!



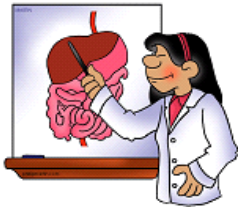
P4B have begun to look at simple fractions, beginning with a half ($\frac{1}{2}$) and a quarter ($\frac{1}{4}$) in Numeracy. The children have been really enthusiastic with this new topic and are showing a great growth mindset

by not giving up when they find it tricky, which has been super to see. In Maths, we are learning about symmetry and compass points.

In Literacy, we have almost finished the P4 spelling lists so will move on to focussing on the Rainbow Spelling words for the rest of the term. This is a list of 500 common spelling words, split into 7 groups. The children will colour in the levels, starting with Red, on their Rainbow Word Certificate and this certificate will stay with them throughout their time at Kings Meadow until they are able to spell all of the Rainbow Words successfully.

In Health and Wellbeing, we are looking at the importance of diet and exercise as part of a healthy lifestyle. We are still enjoying our outdoor PE lessons and are continuing our focus on our athletics skills. The P4 Athletics Festival in March was a great success; the children really enjoyed taking part alongside children from other schools. We will continue to work on improving our athletics skills ahead of the Sports Day on 16th May.

In interdisciplinary learning, along with our 'Healthy Me' topic which ties in with Health and Wellbeing, we are also looking at the function of major organs in the human body and the skeleton. The children are working on group presentations on different organs in their cooperative learning groups and will present these to the class at the end of the topic. The children have really worked hard on their presentations this year, both group and solo, and it has been lovely to see their confidence grow when speaking in front of the class.



P4C will be focusing on health, this term. The topic will be split into two parts - Food Experience and Healthy Me. For Food Experience, we will study nutritional needs and create healthy snacks. In

addition, the class will learn about food handling hygiene, organising a hygienic work station and the safe use of utensils. They will research food journeys and make comparisons between local and foreign produce. Healthy Me will concentrate on how to keep healthy and make healthy choices. This will also include studying the skeleton and biological systems, which involves identifying major body organs, learning about their functions and naming body parts. We will find out about common diseases. Writing this term will follow the same theme and the children will be asked to create recipes for healthy snacks and for what makes an ideal parent/carer. French will also link in with a focus on food vocabulary and phrases. We will learn about the food associated with different religions and family celebrations. Looks like we are going to be really busy!

To help develop listening and talking skills together with thinking, we are working through a series of interesting stories designed to wake up the mind! We started with a story about a queen who had

constant headaches because her brain was full of answers. She needed to add questions to remove the pain but it was taking too long so she wanted the world's best question so that she could cure herself quickly. So...what was the question? The second story was about a little girl who decided to run away from home and she had to make lots of choices along the way. Discussion included lots of debate about the outcome of different choices. In addition, we looked at a decision-making strategy called Challenge, Choice, Consequence. This means identifying the challenge, making a choice then checking the consequences before the final decision is made. A handy life skill!

In PE, this term, we are developing ball skills and techniques and improving overall performance and fitness. The focus will be on games, especially those using striking and fielding. We hope to organise a series of cricket lessons with the help of the Development Officer.



P4D are about to embark on a topic, Healthy Me! During this time we will touch upon many areas of the curriculum as we investigate the food we eat and the parts of our body which are

essential for our growth and fitness. We will explore the finest ways to become the mentally and physically strongest we can be.

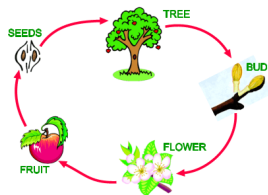
In maths, we will explore decimals through measure - recording length as we investigate our vital statistics; are our feet really the same length as our elbow to our wrist? We will apply use grams and kilograms to weigh actual measures when we make our healthy snacks from seasonally available healthy ingredients and compare volume when we look at the recommended daily intake of water we should have. In numeracy, we will explore simple algebra, transferring our super multiplication and division skills to detect missing numbers and solve numerical riddles. In writing, we will be looking at advertising and how this impacts consumers and the products we choose. We will create our own adverts to promote an area of healthy living and will learn how to write a diary entry to recognise our thoughts and identify emotions, keeping our brains healthy and mindful. We will also continue to focus on transferring our spelling skills to extended writing. Our reading groups are digging deep into their new novels and, from the feedback, seem to be keen to find out what happens next. Our

class novel is a Lauren St John mystery called *Deadman's Cove*, set in St. Ives Cornwall - a setting which should be preparation for all the sunny weather we are due to get this term.

During R.M.E, we will be investigating how Christianity and other World Religions mark milestones in our lifetimes such as birth, naming ceremonies, birthdays and funerals.

The children will have the opportunity to be leaders of their own cardio programmes over the course of the project, as they are challenged to choreograph and deliver short aerobic dance sessions to the rest of our class. Davina may have competition in the DVD market next Christmas!

I am looking forward to dusting off my trainers to join the class in their quest for improved and informed health and fitness!



P5A's year has certainly flown past quickly and, hopefully, from the Child Led Parent/Carers' Night you will agree that we have also achieved a great deal of

learning. It's hard to believe that it's the final term already.

Since our return from the Easter Holidays we have started our new topic which centres on Food Chains, Food Webs and Ecosystems. The children have already shared what they currently know about these areas and what they would like to find out. The class certainly had a good idea about food chains from previous learning but knew less about food webs and ecosystems. Our topic will be linked to literacy and technologies as well as science. As part of our challenge activities at the end of our block of learning I am hoping that the children will be able to share their knowledge through the creation of a food web, chain or ecosystem animation.

Our John Muir Award activities come to a close this term. We still have our visit to John Muir's Birthplace to look forward to as well as a visit with the Countryside Ranger service to the River Tyne. We will also be out and about in the month of May with our visit to Haddington Golf Club as part of the children's participation in Club Golf and their learning of the basic skills of golf with Mrs Arnold.

In Literacy, we will be writing extended stories that will allow the children to transfer the skills that they have learned in grammar. We have already

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used our knowledge of adverbs and adjectives to write a paragraph to describe a setting. This week we will be using these skills to describe characters and after this we will then begin to write our own fictional stories based around different genres.

In Numeracy, we are learning about measure and angles. We will initially be covering length, perimeter and area before moving onto capacity and mass. We will also continue to focus on number to make sure that the children are consolidating their addition, subtraction, multiplication and division skills.

We have now moved on to learning about fruit and vegetables in our French lessons. The children have already learned some basic vocabulary for fruit and we will be extending this into some role play and a little writing. This term the children have the expertise of Mrs Roberts for Music and will continue to be supported by Mrs Arnold in PE.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any issues or would like to offer your expertise to help the class.



P5B are studying Food Chains, Food Webs and Eco Systems, as well as continuing working on our John Muir Award. After this we will be carrying out a Visit East Lothian topic, where we will study the surrounding area, the

places we can go, and the jobs carried out. We will also be starting to plant our raised bed in the school garden, along with studying the eco systems and food chains we can see within the school grounds and those in the world around us.

In maths, we will be looking at angles. In numeracy, we will be continuing to focus on number knowledge, and starting a topic on measure. This will encompass area and perimeter, as well as weight, volume and length. We will be carrying out many practical activities, as well as written, and will be testing out different tools of measure.

For literacy, we will be creating leaflets, carrying out pieces of creative writing and focusing on the Rainbow Words for our spelling, using active spelling methods.

In French, we will be learning the vocabulary needed to discuss our families, as well as revising colour, numbers 0-31, days of the week, months of the year, pets, school supplies and basic commands.

In RME, we are focusing on the 6 main religions: Buddhism, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Christianity* and Sikhism*. Each class has two religions* to become experts in and then we will teach the other classes,

through cooperative learning, what we have learned over the term.



P5C are continuing to work hard in all curricular areas. We have recently started our new science topic which is Ecosystems, Food Webs and Food Chains. We have been busy working in our new cooperative learning groups to sort the school garden ecosystem into living and non-living things and learning about different types of habitats for plants and animals.

In Literacy, we have been focusing on grammar to ensure that our writing is up to scratch. We have been learning about different types of connectives we can use in our writing to make it flow better. We were able to put this into practice when we wrote an account of our Easter holidays and used lots of time connectives. We will shortly be moving onto creative writing.

In our Numeracy groups, this term we will be developing our mental and written strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. I would ask you to encourage your child to continue revising their multiplication tables at home to help with their numeracy work. We will also be learning about measure. This will involve completing lots of practical measuring activities indoors and outdoors. We have just finished learning some Spring vocabulary in French and we will shortly be moving onto parts of the body and families. In PE, this term, with Mrs Arnold, our focus will be orientation and problem-solving skills.

I hope you have enjoyed reading about what we are up to in P5C! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



P6A were finding out about Food Technology before the Easter holidays and learned about different cutting techniques, such as the 'bridge' and the 'claw'. We were able to practise these techniques when we made our delicious group smoothies! We were also learning about the 'Great Outdoors', in particular, the Scottish Outdoor Access Code and working in groups to plan the route and the kit list for our trip to Lammerlaw.

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This term we will be moving on to learn about the importance of Fairtrade and looking at some Fairtrade products. We will also be learning about the properties of materials in our science topic- so far we have used feely bags to try and guess a material and discuss what each material could be used for and why. In maths, we are learning about the value of money and how notes and coins are connected. In our numeracy groups, we are learning about Time. Some of us have looked at how to read and interpret calendars, while others have started learning about 12 hour and 24 hour time. Within literacy, we have been learning about account writing. Miss White has thoroughly enjoyed reading about all the fun things everyone in the class got up to over the Easter holidays!

Written by Ella and Abby



P6B are continuing to work hard this term and have been busy planning our new topics. We are going to be learning about Fairtrade and have decided to learn about the journey of bananas and chocolate. We are also going to link this topic in with our numeracy and learn about money. We have decided to compare and contrast the costs of Fairtrade items. After investigating the Fairtrade logo, we are going to set up our own enterprise event with our own logos and will need to calculate whether we have made a profit or loss. Over the term, we will also be focussing on improving our punctuation and grammar and learning about the properties of materials in science. We are very excited about having lots of sporting events coming up over the term, so please remember to check your homework diary to ensure you have noted the activity and the appropriate kit required.



P6C already feel that the Easter holidays are a distant memory as we have a busy month ahead!

The whole of Primary 6 is entering the East Lothian Primary Schools

Orienteering Competition, led by East Lothian Outdoor Service, on Wednesday 23rd May. In order to brush up on our orienteering skills, each class will be doing a practice session in Neilson Park before we go. We also have the P6 hockey tournament coming up on Tuesday 15th May.

All pupils will also be having rugby taster sessions. These will run for 3 weeks on a Thursday morning and will start on 10th May. This will finish with a P6 Rugby festival on the morning of 31st May. Please ensure that suitable outdoor PE kit is in school on these days.

In PE, this term we are concentrating on athletics until Sports Day on Wednesday 16th May. We will be covering sprinting, distance running, high jump, long jump, triple jump, overarm throw, hammer and short put. Phew!!

Our two main topics this term are Fairtrade and Keeping Myself Safe. We are also covering some of the science outcomes; Properties and Changes of Materials. This will involve lots of hand on experiments, which we are looking forward to!

In group maths, we are looking at time; in particular time intervals and reading timetables. Our class numeracy topic of money ties in with our Fairtrade topic. We will also be looking at number patterns and relationships in class maths.

All children are now setting themselves weekly AR targets with the aim of trying to ensure that we are reading daily both in school and at home. These will be set on a Wednesday and reviewed the following week. Please ask your child about their target and encourage them to read a little each night.



P7A have had a busy start to the term and it looks to continue that way with a diary that is quickly filling up. The children have already planted their raised bed

in the school garden with carrot, parsnip, turnip, cabbage, peas, radish and lettuce to complement the garlic and strawberries that were already there. A watering rota has been drawn up so, hopefully, we will have a bountiful harvest.

Haddington Rotary Club held a general knowledge quiz on Tuesday 24th April. There were teams from Yester, St Mary's as well as 7A and 7B from King's Meadow. I am very pleased to report that 7A won and will go onto the area final against Dunbar, Longniddry and Roslin next week.

Our first transition day to Knox takes place on the 1st of May with the focus on Health and Wellbeing in the morning and Literacy in the afternoon. It is the first chance for the class to make an impression on

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

their new teachers and I have no doubt 7A will do an outstanding job.

In Health and Wellbeing, we are working on Keeping Myself Safe. This is a group of lessons that build upon the work the class undertook on this topic in P6 and culminates with a visit to the Risk Factory in Edinburgh where the children get a chance to use their learning in simulated situations.

In writing, we are currently working on our Pupil Profiles. These will be sent home for parents to view as well as being taken up to secondary school for their new teachers to refer to. It is a reflective piece of writing that looks back over the children's time at primary school, especially P7, to highlight the achievements that they have made in their learning.

Our topic this term will be delivered through a Virgin Money initiative called Make £5 Grow. In this children each get £5 and join together to form businesses, pooling their £5 together to create the seed money for their business. I am very much looking forward to hearing the enterprising ideas the children have for their businesses and seeing how much profit they can make.



P7B have got a very busy and exciting time ahead of them this term! Coming up over the next month or so we have our P7 transition dates where the pupils will be attending

Knox Academy. Lined up so far are transition dates for Health and Wellbeing, Literacy and Numeracy. On these days the children will get to familiarise themselves with the building and its layout, meet children from other schools and meet some of the teachers that will be working alongside them over the next four/six years. Along with these dates there are some extra ones booked in for our Pathfinder group who are on a mission to feedback any extra information from the high school to their classmates in P7B. On the 17th and the 24th May, the children across P7 will be completing their Health and Wellbeing unit on 'Keeping Myself Safe' with a trip to the Risk factory in Edinburgh. This exciting opportunity will present the children with a range of possible scenarios in which they could find themselves in danger and suggest strategies that could help save themselves and others. The date that your child is attending this trip will be sent out shortly. Quite shockingly, the P7 residential trip to Benmore is now

only a matter of weeks away and the children's excitement is now really starting to build! On a different note, the children have now started their Virgin Money 'Grow your £5' project. As part of this, the children will work in cooperative groups to suggest and develop a business plan where they can take the start-up money from Virgin Bank and come up with a plan to make a profit. The children have made a great start with some smashing ideas on how to make money! Other key events this term are the end of year reward trip (to still be confirmed) and the end of Primary 7 Leavers' show! Did I mention it was going to be a busy term?



P7C are going to be focusing on enterprise skills based on the Virgin Money initiative 'make £5 grow', as part of our Interdisciplinary Learning.

This allows the children to work in groups to start a small business with a £5 loan from Virgin Money.

In writing, our focus this term will be on personal and reflective writing. We are going to be looking back on our time at King's Meadow Primary school and identifying key points. We will be using this information to create our P7 profile, which will be shared with Knox Academy.

In RME, we will be looking at the 6 major world religions. We will be researching a world religion in detail in order to share this learning with others in the class.

EAST LoTHIAN COUNCIL
RESOURCES AND PEOPLE SERVICES
SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2018/19

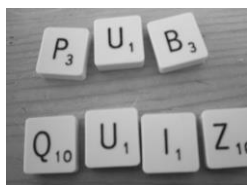
TERM 1	Staff In-service Day 1	Monday	13	August	2018
	Staff In-service Day 2	Tuesday	14	August	2018
	Pupils Resume	Wednesday	15	August	2018
	Autumn Holiday (schools closed)	Friday	14	September	2018
	Autumn Holiday (schools closed)	Monday	17	September	2018
	All Return	Tuesday	18	September	2018
	All Break	Friday	12	October	2018
	Staff In-service Day 3	Monday	22	October	2018
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	23	October	2018
	Term Ends	Thursday	20	December	2018
	<i>Term 1 = 84 pupil days</i> <i>Term 1 = 87 staff days</i>				
TERM 2	All Resume	Monday	7	January	2019
	All Break	Friday	8	February	2019
	Staff In-service Day 4	Monday	18	February	2019
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	19	February	2019
	All Break	Friday	5	April	2019
	Good Friday – 19 April 2019 Easter Monday – 22 April 2019 <i>Term 2 = 59 pupil days</i> <i>Term s 2 = 60 staff days</i>				
TERM 3	All Resume (Staff and Pupils)	Tuesday	23	April	2019
	May Day (Schools closed)	Monday	6	May	2019
	All Resume	Tuesday	7	May	2019
	Staff In-service Day 5 (pupils off)	Monday	20	May	2019
	Pupils Resume	Tuesday	21	May	2019
	Term Ends <i>Terms 3 = 47 pupil days</i> <i>Terms 3 = 48 staff days</i>	Friday	28	June	2019

Approved by Education Committee – 21 November 2017.

King's Meadow P.T.A. May Update

Hope you had a lovely Easter break! First of all, an update on what we've been up to...

RECENT EVENTS



Our **Pub Quiz** held on Friday 16th March at Haddington Rugby Club was a big success and raised an impressive **£368** for the School. The biggest contributors were ticket sales generating **£256** and the raffle raising **£169**.

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 fabulous Quiz Master!



Our **Bake Sale** on Wed. 28th March proved very popular with both pupils and staff - generating a fantastic **£129!** Thank you to everyone who donated delicious home-baking, the PTA helpers who supported on the day and all our customers!

UPCOMING EVENTS

**P6 Challenge Night:
Evening of Tuesday 22nd May**

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 will be issued shortly so make sure you return your ticket money and ticket request form quickly 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 28th May



We are delighted to be running a King's Meadow Festival Café during this year's Haddington Festival! **Donations of home-baking (no nuts) gratefully received – please hand into School Office or The Corn Exchange on the morning of 28th May.**

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 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 28th May, we'd welcome help with preparations before the event too. Thanks in advance for your support.



Find us on:
facebook®

Parents and carers can request to join our Facebook group by visiting **King's Meadow PTA.**



Haddington Infant School and King's Meadow Primary School Joint Behaviour Policy



In both Haddington Infant School and King's Meadow Primary School we promote high standards of behaviour and an ethos where children and staff demonstrate the core values of our school.

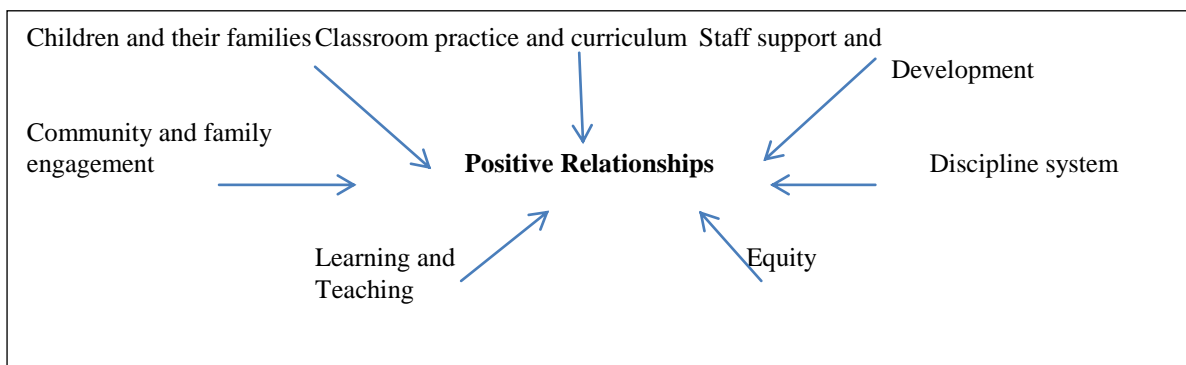


The guiding principles for this policy are enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1991);

'All children and young people have the right to a primary education, which should be free. Wealthy countries should help poorer countries achieve this. Discipline in schools should respect a child's dignity. Young people should be encouraged to reach the highest level of education they are capable of.' – article 28

Rationale

At HIS and KMPS we believe that positive behaviour and learning go hand in hand. One cannot take place without the other. Similarly positive behaviour goes hand in hand with positive relationships in school. At HIS and KMPS building positive relationships with our children is paramount to achieving positive behaviour and subsequently better learning.



How do we encourage positive behaviour?

The responsibility for this lies, first and foremost, with the class teacher; however, all school staff have a role to play in encouraging positive behaviour throughout the school.

At HIS and KMPS we believe that encouraging and rewarding positive behaviour is the most useful tool in ensuring effective learning in their classroom. This will be modelled and practised daily in a number of different ways, including:

Individually

- Verbally, using positive language and referring to the school values
- Sending postcards home informing parents of just how proud we are of their child
- Sticker charts
- Role model awards which are recognised at school assemblies. These are linked back to the values, displayed in the classroom and the child will be awarded a special certificate from the HT
- Recognition of achievement outside of school

As a group

- Table points are awarded for team work and displaying the school values
- House points awarded across the school for children displaying our values

As a class

- Lining up challenges to encourage children to enter the school building in a way that shows they are ready to start learning
- Challenges to work together to achieve a particular goal

We operate a policy of positive behaviour, where children are encouraged to behave in a way that reflects the school values. There will, however, be occasions where children will need to be actively discouraged from engaging in particular behaviours. In such instances, staff will use a hierarchical approach towards helping children change their behaviours and make different choices.

Behaviour that does not demonstrate our values

