



# Innerwick Primary School

## Newsletter

### Message from Mrs Whitford

Welcome back to all children and families. We have had a fabulous start to our school year with the new primary one and nursery children settling in nicely.

This week we have waved Mr Cain and our primary 7 pupils off to camp at Barcaple where they will have the opportunity to enjoy a fantastic outdoor experience with pupils from West Barns, Stenton and East Linton.

P4/5 and P6/7 have already enjoyed a trip to Glasgow Science Centre with planning underway for a P1/2/3 trip in the near future, thanks to the Parent Council for funding these trips.

Now the decision has been made to link Innerwick and Stenton primary schools together as a joint headship East Lothian Council are now going ahead to recruit a new permanent Head Teacher—parents and pupils will be fully involved in this process. In the meantime I am enjoying the opportunity of working with pupils, families and staff and developing closer links between Innerwick, Stenton and West Barns Primary Schools. To support the school during this time Mr Cain has been released from class 2 days per week Libby Jones will be teaching the class on these days in the interim and is enjoying getting to know the class.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school to arrange a time to discuss them with myself.

### Keen to Start—Keen to Learn.

During the next 2 weeks we will be trialling a new system for the children entering school first thing in the morning and after breaks. Instead of lining up on the playground pupils will be able to immediately enter the building through the shelter when they hear the bell.

The children are very keen to try this new system and have shared that it gives them an extra sense of responsibility, an increase in learning time and allows them to register and start the day quicker.

On day one staff have found that nearly all the children walked calmly and responsibly into school and were in class within approximately two minutes of the bell ringing. The children have told Mrs Whitford that they really like the new system and were keen to see how quickly they could get to class and not waste any valuable learning time. We will monitor this system for 2 weeks and share the results with parents.



### Reminders

- Please ensure your child is in the school playground before 8.50am, to enable them to be ready to come into school with their classmates when the school bell goes. This encourages the children to become independent and allows them to settle quickly in the classroom.
- Please ensure your child comes to school with a water bottle each day. These can be refilled from the water fountain throughout the day. This is especially important on hot days or when the children have PE.
- Children should always have their PE kit in school to enable teachers to include expressive arts in their daily lessons.
- Please ensure all uniform and shoes are clearly labelled and the children are encouraged to take responsibility for their own belongings.
- Please could you use the plastic wallets to send in notes or money from home.
- Please keep an eye on our school blog to find out more about what is happening in school. The children look forward to reading your comments on their posts.

## Nursery News

We are delighted that Flora, Addison, Logan, Lewis and Murray have joined our Ante Pre-School class this session. We now have ten children in the nursery, and already they are having fun together playing and learning in their new environment. They are learning new routines and how to be good friends.

Last week we enjoyed our first Learning Walk of the term around the school grounds. We found tasty brambles, explored the little woodland and practised balancing and climbing along the Trim Trail.

Over the coming weeks, the children will be taking photographs of their environment and making a new map, which they will use to plan and review their play ideas. The children will also have the opportunity to choose our next topic.

## General News

Thank you to the kind parents who provided and/or helped with the new bark over the summer holidays in the nursery garden as well as trimming back our willow tree. The bark has greatly improved the outside area and will help to deter the weeds from regrowing and the children will be able to enjoy their willow—den once again.

We wish to continue to improve our outdoor area, and are looking for some help to install a larger mud kitchen. We have a recycled kitchen worktop, complete with a sink, and are looking for some help to build a stand on which to place it. Also, we will shortly be needing help to build a small, storage shed and attach a bird feeder. Please speak to Laura or the nursery staff if you are able to help with any of these jobs. Thank you.



## Flu Immunisation

The children have been issued with their annual flu vaccination consent packs, this year the immunisation session will take place in the school on . If you wish your child to be immunised please ensure that you return the completed forms to the school by Friday 1st September.



## Diary Dates

### September:

- 1st—P7s return from Camp
- 5th—Parent Council Meeting
- 6th—P1 courier photos
- 15th & 18th—School closed
- 22nd—P4/5 table tennis
- 29th - P4/5 Table Tennis
- 29th—Flu immunisation

### October:

- 3rd—P4/5 Badminton
- 4th—P4/5 Club Golf
- 16th—20th Autumn holiday



## Parent Council News

The parent council AGM will be held on Tuesday 5th September at 7pm in the school. All parents are welcome to attend this—we are always looking for new members and would love to see as many parents there as possible.

