

# Meadowburn Primary School/ Bun Sgoil Innis an Uillt



January 2019

Welcome back and the very best wishes to you all for a happy and prosperous 2019.

## LEARNING THIS TERM

The children will all be busy learning about an aspect of Scotland at the start of this term and will be studying topics including Scottish Wildlife, Myths and Legends, Food and Farming, Landscape, Great Scots, Scotland's Impact on the World and Scots Language. The learning in these topics will be further enhanced through our Burns Assembly on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January. The Burns Assembly will be led by our P7 pupils with our P6 pupils also performing. All parents/carers are welcome to join us in the school hall for this event at 9.30am on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January. After their Scottish Studies, all classes will move on to a 'Global World' topic. The key Social Studies skills that will be developed through this topic are:



**People, Place and the Environment**  
Physical Landscapes  
Climate and Weather  
Using, Making and Interpreting Maps  
**People in Society, Economy and Business**  
Culture and Diversity



## STAFFING UPDATE

We are pleased to welcome Mrs MacDonald in her new role as permanent Gaelic Support for Learning Assistant this term. Mrs MacDonald had been volunteering in the school since October so is a known face for the pupils. We are also very pleased to welcome back Mrs Doherty, who has returned from maternity leave to her role as DHT and Mrs McMaster, Support for Learning Assistant, who has also returned following her absence. As part of East Dunbartonshire's phased expansion to provide 1140 hours of funded early learning and childcare by 2020, there have been a number of recent staff changes in our mainstream nursery. We are therefore delighted to welcome Louise Martin as Depute Head of Centre and Mark Hutton, Karen Harvey and Linda McColl as Early Years Workers.

## NUT FREE SCHOOL

May I take this opportunity to remind you that we are a nut free school as some children in school suffer allergic reactions when they come into contact with nuts. Unfortunately we have had a small number of incidents recently where children have come to school with snacks such as cereal bars or chocolate wraps that contain nuts.



## HEAD LICE

Please remember to check your child's head regularly for any sign of infestation. The following website [www.onceaweektakeapeek.com](http://www.onceaweektakeapeek.com) has lots of information on how to follow a routine to keep head lice outbreaks to a minimum. For information on which treatment to use please see your pharmacist.

## **ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS**

So far we have enjoyed a cold winter without any snow but who knows what the Scottish weather is going to throw at us? In the event of adverse winter weather that could result in the closure of the school please note the following:

- Should it be necessary to close the school we will post information on our website and use phone/ Groupcall service to contact parents/carers. Please ensure we have your up to date mobile phone numbers and email addresses by notifying the school office of any changes as soon as possible.
- Subsequent school closure days will be notified on the EDC and the Meadowburn websites and Twitter page, and via local media. Updates will be given daily to keep you informed.



## **ATTENDANCE, ABSENCE AND ILLNESS**

Attendance of the majority of pupils at Meadowburn Primary School is very good and good attendance is vital for children's progress. A child's non-attendance can be due to a number of reasons e.g. illness or family circumstances and attendance is monitored on a monthly basis. Communication between home and school is always key and I think that it is important that parents are informed when their child's absence levels reach a stage where it could be impacting on their child's learning and his/her ability to reach his/her full potential. In these circumstances I will be issuing a letter and contacting parents by phone to have a conversation or arrange a meeting if necessary. The same procedures will be followed if late-coming is having a similar disadvantageous impact on a child's learning. Being late regularly for school means valuable teaching time is missed and it can be unsettling for the child. If your child is late he/she should enter through the main door and report to the school office, not just go directly to class.

If your child is unwell and going to be absent from school please notify the school by phone before 9am. If your child is home at lunchtime and is unable to return for afternoon lessons please call us before 1.00pm. Further information about East Dunbartonshire Council's Absence Policy can be found in the School Handbook which is available on the school website.

## **PLAYGROUND REMINDERS**

To keep our playground a safe place for everyone, including our many nursery pupils, I would like to again remind all parents/carers that there should be no dogs in the playground and to remember that anyone cycling or scooting to school/nursery should come off their bikes and scooters at the school gates and push them through the playground.



I would be grateful if this information could be shared with any other family members/friends who are involved in bringing/collecting children to and from school or nursery.

## **LEARNING IN PE THIS TERM**

This session in PE pupils will be developing their skills in Gymnastics. To ensure the health and safety of all pupils, please make sure that your child has suitable footwear, long hair is tied up and that gym shorts are worn (unless there is a specific reason for covering legs) and that, as always, no jewellery is worn.



## DATES FOR DIARIES:

As always, we have a busy term ahead. Here are some dates for your diary so far:

- 21<sup>st</sup> January                      Nursery Enrolment Week
- 25<sup>th</sup> January                      Burns Assembly (involving P7 and P6 pupils)
- 28<sup>th</sup> January                      Judging for P1-3 Bulb Competition
- 1<sup>st</sup> February                        Chinese New Year Assembly (involving Mainstream Nursery pupils)
- 5<sup>th</sup> February                        P1 and P7 Dental Checks
- 8<sup>th</sup> February                        Road Safety Assembly (involving Sgoil Araich pupils)
- 11<sup>th</sup> February                      Holiday
- 12<sup>th</sup> February                      Holiday
- 13<sup>th</sup> February                      In-service Day
- 19<sup>th</sup> February                      Tempest Photos for Group/Class photos - P1, P7 and Nurseries
- 22<sup>nd</sup> February                      Fairtrade Assembly (led by Eco Committee)
- 1<sup>st</sup> March                            Clas 3/4 Assembly
- 8<sup>th</sup> March                            Primary 4 Assembly
- 15<sup>th</sup> March                          Wider Achievement Assembly
- 28<sup>th</sup> March                          Open Evening
- 29<sup>th</sup> March                          Easter Assembly (led by P6 pupils) School closes at 2.30pm.
- 1<sup>st</sup> April                              School closed for holidays
- 15<sup>th</sup> April                            Pupils Back to School  
Health Week
- 19<sup>th</sup> April                            Holiday
- 22<sup>nd</sup> April                            Holiday

To all parents/carers, I would like to say that if there are any aspects of school life that cause concern or that you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to get in touch right away, phone, email or pop in to the school office and we will do our best to help.

Miss J. Campbell  
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