

**Dear Families,**

What a lovely, warm, sunny week it’s been! I’d like to think it’s going to continue over the weekend…!



**Open Afternoon**

The highlight of last week was our Open Afternoon - we absolutely loved it and hope that you did too! It was wonderful to have families being shown around our school by their young people. If you have any feedback about how we might improve the event for next session, then please do not hesitate to contact the school office.



**Sharing the Learning**

As part of our Home Learning Policy, we aim to share the learning that has taken place each week through Twitter. This is automatically shared in the ‘News’ section in the school app. Teachers review the week with their children, discussing the skills and knowledge that they have been focussing on. This allows you to talk about their learning at home. We also have information about how to support reading for enjoyment at home which can be found [here.](https://paradykes.mgfl.net/files/2022/02/Reading-for-Enjoyment.pdf)



**Assembly**

Mrs Sommerville led our assembly this week, looking at another one of our school values - ‘Nurture’. Mrs Sommerville shared the six nurture principles with the children and we talked about what the principles mean to us.

The six principles are:

* Nurture helps us to feel good on the inside
* We all learn in our own way
* The Classroom/Hive/Nest offers a safe base
* Everyone has changes in their life and Nurture helps us to cope.
* Our behaviours are telling you something
* The types of words we use when we talk to each other are important.

**Wider Achievement**

As part of our assembly every few weeks, we would like to share the wider achievements of our children. We plan to do this by showing photos of them with their medals, certificates etc. or doing something new that they have learnt. This could be anything from tying their shoelaces to riding their bike! We would love it if you would share any photos with us by emailing them to Miss Stewart at ‘l.stewart5@midlothian.education’. Thank you!

**Parent Council**

Our first Parent Council meeting of this session will take place on Tuesday 12th September at 7:00pm in the library’s ‘Maker Space’ (the room on the left as you enter the public library). We would love to see old and new faces so please come along to see how your Parent Council can support you, your child and your school. Further dates can be found in the ‘School Diary Dates’ section below.



**Volunteering with Paradykes - We need you!**

If you have a few hours or more to spare during the week, please do consider coming into school to support our children’s learning. You can support in a range of ways - the possibilities are endless! We are looking for support in the school garden, with play throughout the school, laminating and tidying resources (e.g. the forever untidy bookshelves) supporting in class with art lessons, reading in small groups, giving numeracy and maths support or maybe you have your own ideas of how you can support - we would love to hear them! If you haven’t already completed our Skills Register, please do so [here](https://forms.gle/68v6ktniB6daFvZYA). Thank you so much!

**Nursery**

The new nursery children are continuing to settle well and are learning the routines! The children are engaged in very purposeful play and even had a visit this week to the ‘Secret Garden!’ (The big playground!) which they all love!

The nursery is always on the lookout for resources - old tech items for the tinker table, buttons, wool, wallpaper, items for junk modelling, old pipes or guttering etc. If you have any items that you would like to give a new home - please hand them into the nursery! We would be very grateful!



**Benmore Bonanza**

The P7 residential trip is in January and the children have been planning how they can raise money for their trip. Next Thursday, they are holding a ‘Benmore Bonanza’ for the classes in the school. There will be lots of activities and stalls, from hair braiding to face painting to candy floss to games!! Each activity will be between 50p and £2. P7 would be really grateful if you could send your child in with plenty of LOOSE CHANGE that day! Thank you so much!



After a wonderful week, we all hope that you have a wonderful weekend!

Kind regards,

Helen Reed

**School dates for your diary**

12.09.23 Parent Council Meeting 7pm - 8:30pm

15.09.23 School Closed -September weekend

18.09.23 School Closed - September weekend

19.09.23 All resume

13.10.23 End of Term

23.10.23 Inservice Day 3 for staff

24.10.23 All resume

25.10.23 Parent Council Meeting 7pm - 8:30pm

07.11.23 Parent Consultations 4:30 - 8pm

09.11.23 Parent Consultations 3:30 - 5pm

30.11.23 Parent Council Meeting 7pm - 8:30pm (Zoom)

08.12.23 Christmas Fair

22.12.23 End of Term

08.01.24 Inservice Day 4 for staff

09.01.24 All resume

22-26.01.24 P7 Residential Trip

09.02.24 Mid term Break

19.02.24 All resume

15.03.23 Profiles out

28.03.24 End of Term

16.04.24 All resume

06.05.24 May Day holiday

20.05.24 Inservice Day 5 for staff

28.05.24 Sports Day

04.06.24 Parent Consultations 4:30 - 8pm

06.06.24 Parent Consultations 3:30 - 5pm

07.06.24 Summer Fair

12.06.24 - 14.06.24 P7 transition visits to HIgh School

20.06.24 P7 Leavers’ Show (afternoon)

28.06.24 End of Term