

Diary

May

Thurs 24th P7 East Fortune

Fri 25th Cycle to school day starting 8.20am at King's Buildings
NSPCC to Assembly

Sat 26th Girls' Football Tournament
12.30 – 3.00 Parent Council Summer Fair

Mon 28th Interscholastics

Tues 29th NSPCC Keeping Myself Safe – P6/7

Wed 30th P6b Museum

June

4th P3 cycle skills in playground and Meadows

6th P3 cycle skills in playground and Meadows

Thurs 7th 6.30PM – 7.30PM A showcase and celebration of music at Sciennes
P3 cycle skills in playground and Meadows

Fri 8th Sports Day 9.30 – 11.00 approx. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE**

Mon 11th Bike Week

P5 Scottish Opera Mandarin Workshop

P5b cycle skills playground and Innocent Pathway

Wed 13th P5a cycle skills playground and Innocent Pathway

Thurs 14th P5c cycle skills playground and Innocent Pathway

P2 Beach Trip

7pm Parent Council AGM

Fri 15th Reports to Parent/Carer

Mon 18th P7 Transition Festival

P6c Museum

P7 Information Evening at JGHS

Tues 19th – Thurs 21st P7 3 Day visit to High School

Fri 22nd Cycle to school day starting 8.20am at King's Buildings

Fri 29th Term Ends Noon

Vision, Values and Aims

The children and staff have worked with Parent Council, Communication Convener, Emma Kirk, to up-date our Vision, Values and Aims. The children have made many suggestions about how we can share, demonstrate and ensure our vision, values and aims become a reality. We look forward to hearing your views at the Summer Fair and events.

VISION

We **BELIEVE** together we will **ACHIEVE**

At Sciennes Primary, we aspire to be a school:

- Committed to outstanding care, wellbeing and support.
- Ambitious in driving continuous improvement.
- Renowned for excellent learning and teaching.
- Eager to maximise pupil achievement and self-confidence.

VALUES

We **BELIEVE** in:

- **RESPECT**: appreciating one another through honesty, fairness and acceptance.

- **INCLUSION:** valuing diversity and making sure everyone feels welcome.
- **TEAMWORK:** in our school community and beyond.
- **EFFORT:** working together to be the best we can be.

AIMS

To help our children become:

- Successful Learners
- Confident Individuals
- Responsible Citizens
- Effective Contributors

Staffing

Very special thanks to all who helped to mark Angela Christie's retirement and ensure she received a very fond farewell.

We have welcomed Ms Reid, Business Manager, Ms Adamson, Pupil Support Assistant, Mrs Barton, permanent, full time class teacher, Mrs Lake and Mrs Lillitos, temporary, part time class teachers.

Ms McVicker, class teacher, choir leader, wonderful pianist and composer of our school song, is retiring at the end of term, after many years of tremendous service at Sciennes.

Mrs Crolla and Ms Owen are continuing their secondments and Ms Stewardson, currently teaching in Spain, plans to return to Sciennes in August 2019.

The recruitment and selection process to appoint a Headteacher is progressing and it is hoped to inform children, families and staff during the week beginning 4th June.

Congratulations to Mrs Kidd on the birth of baby Alfie, a brother for Freddie.

Standards Quality and Improvement Plan

We are continuing to progress our priorities and will audit and identify the next steps for the new improvement plan. The school priorities will reflect the ambitions and aspirations of the National Improvement Framework. We have greatly valued the wonderful work and support from the Parent Council, members of the sub groups and so many other parents, carers and community.

The school will welcome support to maintain and increase the opportunities for parental engagement, family learning and working in partnership, in the new session.

Property

We have met with the project team to discuss the programme for improvement and we will update with details in terms of timescales and works, as soon as possible.

Parent Council

We are very excited to share more news about our **Year of Young People Summer Fair (YOYP)**: where young people take the lead!

Date and time: **May 26th 2018 between 12:30 to 3:00 pm** - please mark in your diaries.

Come celebrate the "Year of the Young People" with:

- live music by Sciennes Friendship band
- dance performances by Glee club and Dance Ihayami
- Hot food, smoothies and ice-cream
- Henna tattoos and makeovers
- STEM activities

- Football and netball
- Paint with art club
- Fun games, activities and many more

There is something for everyone!

You can help to make this a success by

- **donating items:** for Tombola, Toys, Books, CDs, DVDs, Uniforms, Home baking and Plants Please bring Home baking and plants on 25th May. rest can be brought into the school office anytime.
- **Volunteering on the day:** please complete the poll here (takes less than 3 mins): <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JYDDZWH>

We are counting on you, Thank you!

See you at the fair!

EFG team

Safer Streets and Living Streets

There is tremendous interest in this initiative and many schools and organisations are following our progress. Thank you to everyone who currently volunteers at the beginning and end of the day. The volunteers are making an impact so do please consider supporting and ensuring the progress made, is sustainable. The next step to closing the road is developing and we plan to hold a public meeting before the end of term.

Capacity and Rising Rolls Event

Wednesday 6th June 7-9pm

James Gillespie's High School, Malala Building Forum

James Gillespie's High School Parent Council is hosting an event at the JGHS Forum on Wednesday 6th June 7-9pm to engage with parents and our school community on the issue of capacity and rising rolls. Growth in pupil numbers is already putting pressure on the use of our school space and the predicted increase in pupil numbers from across our feeder primary schools requires strategic planning for future provision at JGHS.

Our panel will be:

- Donald Macdonald, Head Teacher of James Gillespie's High School
- Crawford McGhie, Acting Head of Operational Support, Communities & Families, Edinburgh Council
- Councillor Ian Perry, Southside/Newington Ward and Convener of Edinburgh Council's Education, Children and Families Committee
- Councillor Alison Dickie, Southside/Newington Ward and Vice-Convener of Edinburgh Council's Education, Children and Families Committee

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our feeder primary school community to attend this event.

Please note that seating at the JGHS Forum is limited but we will do our best to accommodate as many people as possible on a first-come, first-served basis and there will be some standing-room only space, if needed.

With thanks,
JGHS Parent Council
jghscouncilcomms@gmail.com

A Curriculum for Excellence

What a start to the term! There were so many superb experiences and some have been shared on the website. Thank you to all families for your tremendous support, for the Swimathon and Meadows Mayhem. We greatly appreciate your generosity and kindness. Please see the dates above and in the calendar on the website.

Class teacher, Jenni McGrouter has taken up the baton to continue the very popular Cycle to school days and we plan a couple more before the end of term on Fri 25th May and Fri 22nd June. Several superheroes have provided great encouragement and valuable help in so many ways!

Parental Engagement and Family Learning

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

Following the success of our Mental Health Awareness Week last year, the members of the Health and Wellbeing group planned another full programme of events for parents/carers, staff and pupils. Sleep Scotland presented an informative session to parents /carers and will pilot a new programme for primary schools, in Sciennes.

Sincere thanks to Alison Outred for another informative presentation on 'the introverted child' and to Paula Gilhooly, Support for Learning teacher, for an excellent introductory session on Non-Violent Resistance (NVR). NVR is a parenting framework, which can help parents / carers to create connected relationships with their children. A more in depth 6 week course will be offered in the future.

There were many learning opportunities throughout the week, including great Relax Kids sessions with Helen Anderson, Pupil Support Assistant. Thank you also to the members of the Parent Council, Sustainability group and staff for many outdoor learning experiences in the playground, nature strip and community garden on the Meadows. Many photographs have been posted on the website.

Friends of Sciennes School – Recruitment of Trustee

FSST was established as a Scottish Registered Charity in October 1999.

One of its key purposes is:

“to advance the education of the pupils at Sciennes Primary School by providing extra resources, facilities and equipment that will give additional benefits and improvements to the educational, extracurricular and social life of the school and to protect the environment for the public benefit.”

We are seeking additional Trustees with drive and enthusiasm to provide good governance, strategic direction and expertise. We are also seeking to recruit an honorary Secretary who may or may not also be a Trustee.

If you wish to apply to be a Trustee, or the office bearer identified above please email me by Fri 8th June - a paragraph outlining relevant experience would be helpful:

alison.noble@sciennes.edin.sch.uk

Do please feel free to speak with current trustees: Bruce Crawford, Diane Glass, Jo Kite and Stuart Sheehan

Meetings are held about once a term on a Wednesday at 8am in the school library. The next meeting of FSST is at 8am on Wednesday 12th September. New Trustees will be appointed at that meeting.

Alison Noble, Sciennes Head Teacher and Chair, Friends of Sciennes School Trust.

Community -Grange Fair

What a beautiful day and so lovely to see many children and families supporting the event and having great fun. We hope we enjoy the same weather for our school Fair.