



Friday 8th March 2019

KEY DATES

Fri 8th 6.30-8pm Orchestra led by Mrs Campbell performing at 'Studio to Stage: Resonate' at the Queen's Hall

Thurs 14th Class photos

Fri 15th Comic Relief - Wear red; bring a donation if you wish

Welcome to this week's round up, this time from Lucy and Carolyn in Andrew's absence – get well soon!

On Monday, Andrew visited Carrick Knowe Primary along with the Head Teacher from Gracemount Primary. They were there to visit classes to look at Teaching and Learning in Writing across the school. Andrew visited a number of classes with a member of the school leadership team. Everyone met at the end of the day to discuss strengths and areas for development. It was a full, rewarding day and Andrew enjoyed seeing the children and staff again.

We welcomed students from Edinburgh University who visit Sciennes annually as part of their Health and Wellbeing course co-ordinated by Ms Anstruther. They found out about Rights Respecting School from Ms Gallagher and P6 pupils before spending time in P7 classes watching lessons on Emotion Talks and Keeping Myself Safe. They then observed Yoga and Emotion Talks in P2, and PE in P3 before discussing Mental Health and Wellbeing with Ms Anstruther. The students were very impressed by the learning and teaching, and by the engagement of the pupils across the school.

In the afternoon P1-3 welcomed Jennifer Lawson to their assembly to hear about the Oor Wullie campaign in conjunction with the Sick Kids Hospital. Jacqueline also gave a presentation at the P4-7 Assembly last week and all the children have now been given a template so that they can submit their own design our school Oor Wullie sculpture. They are very keen to get going with the project.

What a fantastic turn out of parental support at the EPSSA Cross Country Meadows Heat! Seven of our forty pupils competing achieved a Top Ten place, with five pupils winning Top Five medals. Well done to Dylan, Anna and Bethan who came Second and to Natalia and Andrew who came Fifth. Twenty of our pupils will go forward to the Final at Duddingston on Monday 25th March. Many

thanks to Mrs Beth Walker for organising the event and to Running Coach Willie Jarvis and Kate Kitchin.

The Primary 1 classes have been on a trip to Lauriston Castle this week solving the mystery of how to return a dragon to Fairyland. They thoroughly enjoyed the trip, despite the rain. The organisers of the event have commended all classes on excellent behaviour and great enthusiasm during the visit. Well done P1.

A massive well done to our intrepid team of P6 pupils who were Runners Up at the City Chambers Edinburgh Euroquiz Heat on Wednesday, only one point behind our winning pals from James Gillespie's Primary. Calum, Catie, Oshi and Isla shone very brightly and were an incredibly strong team. Congratulations and very best wishes to JGPS on making it to the Final at Parliament! Thank you very much to Mrs Peace for accompanying.

Also on Wednesday, we welcomed Sarah McRory from the British Red Cross who provided superb practical First Aid lessons to our Primary Seven classes. P6 Children's Rights Ambassadors Jennifer, Haris and Rory were at City Chambers for the final 'What Kind of Edinburgh?' workshop with department leaders from across the Council. This time, the Children's Parliament theme was 'Participation' and they spent the morning reviewing the project and the key issues that we want our adult project champions to take forward and act upon. Many thanks to Mrs Heather Campbell for accompanying. Jennifer, Haris and Rory will continue to take the lead in school and we are delighted that Haris has been selected as a future MCP (Member of Children's Parliament) to meet the First Minister and Cabinet next year.

After school, Ms Anstruther led a session for staff on Behaviour Management and introduced an update of our Positive Behaviour Policy. Ms Kirsty Gallagher provided staff with an update of the work that has been done with the pupil group who are looking at this area. The initial focus of the pupil group will be based on moving around the school safely. We would be keen to have parent input, and hope to meet with an interested group in the near future.

Many thanks to Mrs Lynsey McCracken who co-ordinated World Book Day for the school this year. On Thursday, special World Book Day books were sourced from Blackwells and made available for children to swap for their tokens. Staff and pupils dressed up as characters from books for the day and costumes were available for borrowing from our central store. Staff swapped classes to share stories across the school. It was a lively, zany day full of creativity and fun – just the way we like it at Sciennes!

P4 and P5 had a great evening at their Party Disco Night. Many thanks to Fran Armour, Convenor of the Parent Council Events and Fundraising Group, for organising and to all the parent helpers who made sure the children had fun.

Huge congratulations to Max Ball Torokoff and his dance partner Lucy Holt (pupil at ESMS) who gained 8 medals - 5 gold and 3 silver - at the recent Under 16 Ballroom and Latin competition held in Grangemouth. Max and Lucy are now best in Scotland in Juveniles (under 12) section!

Sciennes launched the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS or Global Goals) on the same day they were adopted by the United Nations in New York in September 2015. Eight of our pupils are taking part in a Model UN Conference (MUN) on Monday 25th March with Rob Crawford from UN House Scotland which will have a focus on single use plastic. At the P4-7 Assembly on Friday we looked at the UN and MUN and listened to a powerful speech on the environment, given by 12 year old Severn Suzuki in 1992.

P5B led the P4-7 Assembly last week and on Friday led a playground march and leaflet campaign to continue to raise awareness of Child Labour. Great to see our pupils taking initiative and taking the lead on issues that matter to them.

At lunchtime on Friday Mrs Samanda Campbell took the orchestra to their final rehearsal of their performance of 'Studio to Stage: Resonate' at the Queen's Hall. Good luck this evening.

Ms Gilhooly's next meeting for the Parent Carer Support Group will be on the 26th March instead of the usual 3rd Tuesday of the month. Come along from 5.15pm.

Andrew has been in contact throughout the week and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Carolyn and Lucy