



Friday 3rd May 2019

KEY DATES

[See accompanying summer term overview]

Monday 6th May HOLIDAY

Tuesday 7th May Inservice Day

Wednesday 8th May Pupils Resume

2.15-3pm P5 Scottish Opera

P7 at East Fortune

Dear Families

It has been a few weeks since our last Roundup so I will give you an update of what has been happening in school this week along with some of the highlights of recent weeks. However, I would firstly like to say thank you for the good wishes I received when I was unwell at the end of last term. They were much appreciated.

Sporting success on Saturday! Congratulations to the P7 Boys' Football Team who came top of their group in the first round of the Inspectors' Cup. A fantastic achievement! The boys worked so hard and won the group on goal difference. Reaching the second round is no easy achievement and was keenly contested by all schools. Good luck in the second round! This also comes on the back of first time victories against James Gillespie's and Liberton Primary. The boys are now entering their final phase of playing for Sciennes and we are all very proud of their hard work and achievements. Very well done to all our P6 and P7 Cross Country runners who took part in the national competition at Kirkcaldy High School on Saturday. With over 1000 competitors from across the country, they can be immensely proud of their achievements. Particular congratulations to P7 Anna Cruden who came 3rd, to P7 Dylan Daunt who came 7th and to the P7 Boys' Team who secured 6th place overall. Many thanks to all families who supported participation.

On Monday, the Early Years assembly was the first in a series on having a positive mindset. We firmly believe in the concept of Growth Mindset at Sciennes. Teachers from James Gillespie's primary came to our school to observe the teaching of Maths and Numeracy in Primary 1. Later in

the week Primary 1 staff from Sciennes visited James Gillespie's to observe their approach to play based learning in Primary 1

On Tuesday, we welcomed Roger Glass from Scottish Opera to take the P5 pupils through their paces in a vocal workshop in preparation for their performance to Primary 5 families on Wednesday 8th May. Doors open at 2pm for 2.15pm. Roger was not alone in being completely bowled over with how well the children performed in rehearsal. Siblings will have a chance to view the 1719 Jacobites themed show on Wednesday at 1.20pm. I attended a meeting at Gracemount Primary with other Head Teachers to present and discuss the work we do in Health and Wellbeing. It was agreed that our provision was deemed to be very good.

'Walk This May' launched on Wednesday 1st May and we hope to encourage as many pupils as possible to walk to school this month. Miss McGrouther had a great turn out for her Cycle to School Day last Friday and we were delighted it was included as a Pedal on Parliament event. Thanks to all who braved the rain! The sight of families arriving together is always great to witness.

Wednesday also saw the welcome return of P.C. Amy Fowler who visited our P1 classrooms. Amy enjoyed telling the children all about her job as part of the children's study of People Who Help Us.

On Thursday, we welcomed colleagues from Granton Primary School to share practice on ECO Schools and we look forward to maintaining contact with them.

On Friday, Earth Calling came to Sciennes to talk about their fantastic after school club and we enjoyed a performance by P4 from their recent Scots' Night show. P7 pupils Caela and Phoebe gave a thought provoking presentation on Articles 2 and 14 of the UNCRC on the rights to religious and personal beliefs without discrimination.

Now for some other headline news from the past few weeks.

Sciennes pupils have been involved in the recent demonstrations about climate control. Stella Crawford from P4A has been heavily involved with this. She was invited to spend a day at the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee. She met MSPs on the committee and then the scientists from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. After a tour of the Parliament, Stella went out to the Rally outside Parliament and appeared on stage with two other small Climate strikers. They then did multiple interviews with the BBC, Capital Radio etc. Stella went back inside and sat through the entire Stage 1 debate on the Climate Change Bill. Almost all the MSPs that spoke referred to the Young Climate Strikers, with several saying they hoped the young ones would keep holding the politicians to account. All from the Sciennes community who have been involved in these demonstrations will be heartened to know that politicians have taken notice and encouraged to keep making their voices heard!

We had great success in the Primary 7 Maths challenge set by Edinburgh University. Christina Edgar was a Gold winner, Wenda Wu and Tomos Hunt were Silver winners and Katharine McMurdo was a Bronze winner. Huge congratulations to them all for their hard work with this. It is a great achievement.

At the end of term, Primary 7 pupils Rory, Evie, Isla and Ella collected over 350 chocolate Easter eggs for the Leith Foodbank. A big well done to them for doing this and to all the families who donated. I had to share my office with the eggs for a week and I managed to resist temptation!

Finally, we have six teams of staff and parents all signed up to run the Hairy Haggis Relay as part of the Edinburgh Marathon Festival on Sunday 26 May. We are doing this to promote health and wellbeing but to also raise funds so as we can continue to offer free dance and tennis lessons to pupils at Sciennes. Look out for a donations link in the very near future.

I will send you a list of key dates for the rest of term in an accompanying document.

I hope you all have a lovely long weekend. School is closed to pupils on Monday and Tuesday next week. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Wednesday.

Andrew