



7 June 2019

Dear Families

I must start this week by saying what a BRILLIANT fair we had last Saturday. It was fantastic that most stalls were outside. Children and adults seemed to be having a great time. The children's stalls were wonderful and it was evident to see how happy they were seeing their enterprise ideas come to life! A HUGE thanks to all the helpers who turned out on the day and to Fran and the Events and Fundraising Group for all their hard work behind the scenes. £5,000 profit is just superb!

What a treat to welcome award-winning children's author Ruth Eastham to deliver creative writing workshops to P5 on Monday 3rd June. Ruth's book "The Jaguar Trials" has particularly captivated our pupils for a number of years and many were able to have personal and new copies signed by Ruth.

Also on Monday, selected P6 and P7 pupils represented the school at the EPSSA Interscholastics event at George Watson's College, Myreside. Pupils showed terrific sporting attitudes and gave it their all, coming First in one heat and Second in most other heats. We were optimistic we would bag some silverware but unfortunately lost out in the Finals of each event, though Izzy and Anna narrowly missed Bronze medals. Thanks very much to Mrs Beth Walker, one of our PE Specialists, for organising the whole event and to Running coach Willie Jarvis and Dylan and Natalia's mums and Rebecca's dad and grandad for coming along to support and cheer them on.

On Tuesday, we were delighted to welcome Leanne McQuade and former pupils now in S1 at JGHS to give a presentation to Primary Seven on transition to high school. Ms Anstruther started visiting our new P1 pupils in their respective nurseries.

Jennifer and Rory gave a presentation with Rona and Mattia from Children's Parliament to and Ms Gallagher and I on their year long "What Kind of Edinburgh?" project. We are very keen to take into account what young people in the project have said is most important to them when we plan our school priorities.

On Wednesday 5th June, Jennifer, Rory and Haris presented a synopsis of the project with fellow MCPs (Members of Children's Parliament) to the Children's Partnership Board. This group is responsible for top level planning in our city (with key figures from the council and public bodies, the police, the fire and rescue service and the NHS, as well as businesses, charities and voluntary groups) and it was a great privilege to be involved in presenting Children's Parliament work to them. Our P6 pupils spoke passionately and articulately about how all concerned can work together to put children's needs and views at the heart of their planning.

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20133/community_planning/391/edinburgh_partnership

<https://org.nhslothian.scot/Strategies/Documents/Edinburgh%20Childrens%20Services%20Plan%20-%202017-2020.pdf>

P4 and P5 continued with their weekly ukulele lessons and P7 have been busy rehearsing for their amazing end of year show on Thursday 13th June at 1.30pm. Many thanks to parent volunteers for their time and creativity with props, staging and costumes.

Primary 3 had an exciting opportunity on Thursday. They went to the Festival Theatre to see a 'Scottish Opera Unwrapped' show. The children were introduced to all the different people who are involved in the opera. They learned about some instruments of the orchestra and even got to join in the show by singing their own verse with the opera singers. It was a really enjoyable afternoon.

On Thursday the music showcase 'A Celebration of Music at Sciennes' took place in the school hall. We were joined by almost 200 parents! We were treated to wonderful performances from our Orchestra, Violins, Woodwind, Guitars and Acapella. The event was organised by Mrs Samantha Campbell who leads our Orchestra so well. I would also like to thank Linda Carson (A Capella), Sarah Davies (A Capella), Rob Ironside (Woodwind), Tess Moran (Violins), Ruth McVicker (Pianist), Karel Kalaf (Guitars), Katherine Peace (Orchestra) and all our dedicated children who put in so much work.

We have heard some great news from Simon Warr from the 85th Braids Cub Scout Pack. William Watson and Daniel Ruckley from P5c have each been awarded the Chief Scout's Silver Award. This is the very highest award available to Cub Scouts, requiring commitment, consistent achievement and performance over several years. Congratulations to William and Daniel for their tremendous achievements.

On Friday we were delighted to welcome Cailin Michie from Hibernian Ladies' Team who brought along both League and Scottish Cups following her team's success. Wonderful to be joined by Gordon Stove, Chair of Sciennes' Football Club and his wife Debbie. Thank you to everyone who wore their strips to Assembly and lovely to have Primary Three classes join us to hear Cailin's inspirational talk on health and wellbeing, women in sport and achievement, perfectly timed to coincide with the start of the Women's World Cup later today in France!

We were sorry that we had to postpone sports day. We hope to be able to have this on Tuesday 11th 9.15-10.30am but we will let you know as the weather is so unpredictable at the moment. The children sit on the grass, as well as run, jump, hop etc so it has to be safe for them to do this.

You will have seen in the communications from The Events and Fundraising Group that the sponsored events for the children that would normally have been held in May/June will now take place in September. More information to follow at the start of the new term.

I have been busy working on our class organisation for next year and I will let you know your child's teacher by the end of next week.

I hope you have an enjoyable weekend.

Andrew

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