



RESPECT INCLUSION TEAMWORK EFFORT

6<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### **DIARY DATES**

Tues 10th November Parent Consultations

Thurs 12th November Parent Consultations

Dear Families

It has been a very quick week which is a sign that it has been a busy week!

### **HALLOWEEN**

I want to start off by saying I had a fantastic time last Saturday afternoon walking around the neighbourhood and seeing everyone on the Halloween trail. It was great chatting to you all and seeing the fantastic costumes. I know that Ms Anstruther also had a great time helping out at one of the starting points.

The Sciennes Events and Fundraising Group organised this brand new event for Sciennes families this year to provide a fun and safe event for our families after the government advice on the avoidance of guising as well as to raise much needed funds for the school. Two hundred families joined in on the day and from the overwhelmingly positive feedback, it was enjoyed by all. The spooky trail around the school area saw children searching for clues, taking part in games provided by P7A and bagging themselves a huge amount of sweets. Many families have fed back and said it was a safe and well organised trail and the children were glad that they got to do something fun for Halloween.

With your support we have managed to raise £1,540 for the school. We are incredibly grateful for this donation given the justifiable restrictions placed on schools at the moment and the extra expense the pandemic has brought.

We'd like to give a heartfelt thanks to Fran Armour, Susan Dunlop and Leda Sharkey for leading the trail as well as our wonderful host families, who really went the extra mile to

make the day as enjoyable and spooky as possible. Thank you from the children and staff at Sciennes. Below is a link to a slideshow giving a flavour of this fantastic event:

<https://www.slideshare.net/FrancesArmour/sciennes-spooky-halloween-trail-239106030>

### **SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM - CONTACT**

The Senior Leadership Team at Sciennes consists of Andrew Hunter (Head Teacher), Carolyn Anstruther (Depute Head Teacher P1-P3) and Lucy Gallagher (Depute Head Teacher P5- P7). We are supported in our duties by John Armstrong (Principal Teacher) and Jenni McGrouther (Principal Teacher) who are also members of the senior team. The main contact points for questions, concerns or good news stories are Ms Anstruther for P1-P3 and Ms Gallagher for P5 -P7. I take responsibility for P4 but am supported by all members of the team. We all work together and share information. I am of course happy to be a contact for all stages in the school.

### **NOTIFYING ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL**

Our office staff are currently spending valuable time phoning large numbers of families every day. A reminder that if your child is going to be absent from school that you must notify us **prior to school starting**. Please leave a message on the answer machine if the line is busy. This enables us to contact parents quickly if their child has not turned up for school. Thanks for your help with this.

### **FACE COVERING**

Thank you for wearing face coverings at drop off and pick up. We all appreciate it.

### **PUPIL SUCCESS**

Kaspar in P1D won second prize in the National Galleries of Scotland Art Competition for Schools and Families 2020 for his age group. Huge congratulations to Kaspar! Your picture of your dog was brilliant!

### **FRIENDS OF SCIENNES SCHOOL (FSS)**

We are looking for new trustees to join FSS. If you have expressed interest in the past and you are still interested, please note interest again by emailing [scienneseventsfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:scienneseventsfundraising@gmail.com)

*Friends of Sciennes School (FSS) is a registered charity (Scottish Registered Charity Number SC029465) which was set up as a charitable trust to support the school and its pupils. FSS Trustees comprises of parents, staff and friends of the School who want to further enhance the education and wellbeing of our children, their families and the wider community. FSS meets each term to assist the school to improve the educational life of our children.*

*FSS facilitates fundraising and donations received from the parent body and reports on balances of accounts and agreed purchases made on behalf of the School. A copy of the*

*audited accounts is sent to OSCR annually and a copy of our constitution is available upon request.*

*The purpose of the Trust is to: Provide extra resources, facilities and equipment to give additional benefits and improvements to the educational, extra-curricular and social life of Sciennes School. FSS fundraises to provide the school with resources that are supplementary to Local Authority funding and to provide equity across the school community.*

*Trustee members of the Charitable Trust*

- *Andrew Hunter, Headteacher and Chair of FSS*
- *Bruce Crawford, Parent*
- *Diane Glass, Parent*
- *Catherine McCormack, Treasurer*
- *Secretary (vacant)*

*Membership of the group also includes the following, who are voting members:*

- *Chair of the Parent Council*
- *Convenor of Sciennes Fundraising and Events Group*

*New members are welcome throughout the year and we are currently looking to recruit Trustees. Our Treasurer is stepping down at the end of the year. If this is something that interests, you please get in touch with Mr Hunter before December 1st 2020. New Trustees will be inducted during the January meeting.*

*If you are interested in finding out more about what the Trust does or are interested in joining as a Trustee, please email [scienneseventsfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:scienneseventsfundraising@gmail.com) and your message will be forwarded to the Trust's Chairperson.*

*Our current priority is to raise a significant amount of money for the replacement, repair and maintenance of IT equipment across the whole school. Please click on the link below for more information about FSS.*

[https://issuu.com/sciennesfundraising/docs/fss\\_20leaflet.pptx](https://issuu.com/sciennesfundraising/docs/fss_20leaflet.pptx)

## **UMBRELLAS**

We will update the School Handbook with our advice on pupils bringing umbrellas to school. Meanwhile, please note that we would prefer pupils to use hoods than umbrellas. If an umbrella is brought to school, it should be closed before entering the playground and cannot be used during the school day. Where possible, we would really appreciate if parents could take them home at drop off.

## **NATURE STRIP TREE CLIMBING**

For safety reasons (as well as tree loving reasons!) at breaktimes we no longer allow pupils to climb trees in the Nature Strip opposite the school or swing on branches. We have noticed children climbing and swinging before school and at the end of the day. Please could you remind your children that this is not allowed.

## ASSEMBLY

One of our school values is Teamwork and this was incorporated into our Assemblies today. At the P1-3 Assembly Clara, Emily, Isla, Tiana and Carla from P7C gave a presentation on water pollution affecting our oceans. I followed this up by reading "Tickly Octopus" by Ruth Galloway. At the P4-7 Assembly the focus was on our many Learner Participation Teams at Sciennes. The P7 Captains, as part of the Junior Leadership Team, were introduced at both Assemblies.

## BABY NEWS

Congratulations to Mrs Emma Kerr and her husband on the birth of baby Adam Kerr who made his late appearance on 1st November weighing 9 lb 5oz and 54cm long! They are all tired but happy to be home.

Enjoy the Saturday sunshine and maybe we will even know who has won the US election over the weekend.

Andrew

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**BELIEVE • ACHIEVE**



# Please remember to wash your hands

Follow the correct hand washing procedure

[www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus](http://www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus)

