



RESPECT INCLUSION TEAMWORK EFFORT

11 March 2022

**DIARY DATES**

- Tuesday 15 March P7 Lagganlia Information Session 6pm-6.45pm
- Friday 18 March Comic Relief – dress in red and bring a donation if you wish
- Wednesday 23 March Parent Council Meeting
- Friday 8 April Term ends
- Monday 25 April All resume
- Tuesday 26 April and Thursday 28 April Parent Consultations via Teams

Apologies for the lack of a Round Up newsletter last week. This week’s is a combined, bumper edition!

P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7
3	2	18	3	6	3	6

51 positive cases were reported in pupils last week.

P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7
3	0	5	8	13	9	7

45 positive cases were reported in pupils last week.

In common with other city schools, we have been experiencing a spike in cases in the last two weeks. Although we have dispensed with class bubbles, we continue with ventilation, handwashing, daily cleaning of banisters/door knobs/ light switches and monthly electrostatic fogging of the entire building. Staff still wear masks in corridors and when we cannot distance. We received guidance last week that despite easing of restrictions due to begin on 21 March, all Parent Consultations will remain online this session, so we will issue details of Teams appointments in due course.

**STAFFING**

Andrew has been signed off until 16 April and he is grateful for the well wishes we have been able to pass on from families and for some really lovely letters from the children. We know how much he appreciates being kept in people’s thoughts.

As is normal practice following a given period of time, the Acting Headteacher position was formally advertised a few weeks ago and I attended for interview on Friday 11 March. I am pleased to be able to let you know that I will be continuing in post until Andrew’s welcome return.

Mx Jaana Cranston completed her placement in P4A and will rejoin us in April in P6C with Mrs Clark. Interviews for a replacement Playground Supervisor took place on Friday and we hope to appoint our preferred candidate soon. A very warm welcome to Becca Brown, our new Early Years Practitioner. Becca will be working across both nursery classes at St Leonard's as well as in Primary One at Sciennes. Her new post will focus on transition from nursery to P1 and will provide us with lots of valuable liaison opportunities.

#### **QIEO VISIT**

Thank you to Marie Lyon, Quality improvement Education Officer, who visited school on Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 March. It was lovely to welcome Marie back to school once again to visit classes and share practice with her.

#### **PARENT COUNCIL**

The next meeting of the Parent Council has been rescheduled for Wednesday 23 March and all are welcome.

#### **CLUBS**

Parent Council Clubs Convener, Janine Ridley, continues to press ahead with re-introducing clubs, including a new Art Buds club which will take place on Tuesdays for P1-P4 in the Nature Strip. Thank you to families who noted interest in a new Water Polo club, also planned for Tuesdays, and thank you to Janine for all her support.

#### **LOTHIAN LEAGUE RUNNING**

*We are excited to let you know that the Lothian League running competitions are starting again after two years of absence. The races are 2 kilometres in length. These competitions are predominantly run by private schools but are open to all CEC schools. The league will run for four races, starting next Wednesday, the 9th of March.*

*Race dates and venues:*

**March 9th** Inverleith Playing Fields

**March 16th** Meadows

**March 23rd** Lower Bruntsfield Links

**March 30th** Mary Erskine School

*The start times for each of these events is 4:30pm every week and will run for 45 minutes approximately.*

*As these events take place out with school hours it would be the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure runners were there on time and ready to run. Unfortunately, the school cannot provide transport to any of these. I hope to be at every event and will endeavour to provide a 'warm up' for the children and some moral support. These are a great opportunity to compete against other runners from across the city and potentially make new friends. If you think you would like your child to take part, please get in touch with any questions about the Lothian League or Tuesday lunchtime Running Club [john.armstrong@sciennes.edin.sch.uk](mailto:john.armstrong@sciennes.edin.sch.uk)*

#### **LOTHIAN LEAGUE RUNNING UPDATE - WEDNESDAY 9 MARCH RESULTS**

*The Lothian league kicked off again on Wednesday 9 March after school. Only seven runners took part from Sciennes but they represented the school incredibly at Inverleith Playing Fields. All runners recorded Top Ten finishes in races that included up to 50 children from across the city. We clearly have a talented and equally hard-working bunch! Well done.*

**Emma Maxwell 8th**

**Duncan Collin 6th**

**Eilidh Mowbray 5th**

**Elliot Lyons 8th**

**Stella Crawford 2nd**

**Finlay Glass 1st**

**Laura Kitchin 4th**

*This week races will be held at the Meadows, commencing at 4:30pm. It would be fantastic to see as many people as possible come along to support our young athletes.*

**John Armstrong, Depute Headteacher**

## **P7 JUNIOR NBA**

Thank you to Mr Hutchison for accompanying the team to Tynecastle High School for the first Junior NBA game. Great to hear they gave a very strong account of themselves! Games are on Fridays 1.00-4.00pm 11 March, 25 March, 1 April, 20 April and 27 May. A Final for the top four schools will be held on 17 June.

## **P7 LAGGANLIA INFORMATION SESSION**

We are holding an Information Session on Tuesday 15 March 6.00-6.45pm via Teams. We will send a link to our bespoke website for the trip with the Teams link so that families and pupils can access further information online.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

A reminder please not to bring dogs into the playground. It may have been outwith school hours, but signs of a visit were spotted!

For safety reasons – and for healthy teeth – please note that we discourage lollipops at school.

## **NEAR MISS**

Unfortunately, we received another report of a very close call on Tantallon Road when a parent narrowly missed cyclists. Please park safely, at distance from the school.

## **ABSENCE**

Like all city schools, we have systems in place to make sure all children arrive safely. If pupils have not arrived in school by Registration, and our admin team [admin@sciennes.edin.sch.uk](mailto:admin@sciennes.edin.sch.uk) has not been notified by email or telephone 0131 667 1243 of an absence, they double check and then contact families. The school office staff kindly request that parents and carers please inform them directly of any absence. Class Teachers are occupied with classes and we have had several occasions where they have been notified of an absence but have not noticed the email. Thank you for your help in supporting our systems by contacting office staff as the port of call.

## **WORLD BOOK DAY**

Thursday 3 March was a wonderful celebration of reading and books in every class! Classroom doors were decorated as part of a whole school quiz and there was a tremendous buzz in the building as classes travelled around guessing the book titles throughout the day. Great fun and a real sense of community and vibrancy! Thank you to families for supporting children to dress up and to Ms Anstruther for manning the Costume Lending Wardrobe. We would welcome any donations of dressing up items for future events.

Assemblies on Friday continued the world Book Day theme with Ms McGrouther and P7A providing a book quiz. We would like to thank the Parent Council for supporting us to add new books to our Class Libraries and novel sets.

Also at the World Book Day Assembly, P4 pupils Eve Coleman and Seva Dhillon gave a presentation about their fundraising for a statue for Elsie Inglis, pioneering doctor and suffragist. Selling sweets raised almost £40 and we congratulate their initiative. A great reminder, too, for International Women's Day on Tuesday 8 March which many classes marked.

## **SCOTTISH OPERA**

What a truly joyful event! Our first performance in the Hall in two years and even more exciting to have an audience of siblings and P2 Buddies. Primary Five pupils were word perfect, singing with exuberance and performing the choreography confidently. Thank you to P5 teachers and families for helping pupils to prepare so well. We are also very grateful to Bella Maguire's parents who filmed 'The Last Alien' for us. "Bravo!" Scottish Opera and "Bravo!" Primary Five!

## **EMPOWERED LEARNING**

Mr Armstrong and I took part in a very useful workshop with the Digital Learning Team and Apple on Friday afternoon 4 March. The workshop helped us plan our teaching and learning strategy for 1:1 devices ahead of receipt of new iPads in two months' time. Further information for Parents / Carers can be found here:

<https://digitaleducationteam.com/parents-carers>

## **TENNIS SUCCESS**

Congratulations to P7 pupil Hamish Young who won both Singles and Doubles titles at a recent Tennis tournament in Hull!

## **ASSEMBLIES**

Thank you to P7 House Captains Hanna Johansson, Mya Yang and Lori McBain for launching this year's Comic Relief appeal at both Assemblies. They invited each class to hold a joke or funny story competition. The winning jokes and stories will feature at next week's Assemblies and everyone is invited to wear red on Friday 18 March.

## **UKRAINE**

At our Assemblies on Friday 11 March, we sang "Let it Go" with Amelia Anisovych, a seven-year-old girl who has captured hearts and minds through social media, singing from a basement in Kyiv before safely reaching Poland with her grandmother. Thank you very much to parent Jen McGill who passed us this link to singalong in Ukrainian: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RWRtIMS37Vc>

## **BAKE SALE FOR UKRAINE**

P4 raised an incredible £950 at the Friday Bake Sale for Ukraine which includes £100 collected at the gates in the morning by P7 and £35.51 by P4 children based at SASCS on Friday afternoon. A wonderful collective team effort with bakers, sellers and parent volunteers from P4.

£500 has gone to the DEC appeal which covers 15 charities and £450 directly to the Red Cross appeal

P4 would like to thank the school community for their support and for the tremendous generosity of all the children and their families.

And we do, too. Thank you.

*Lucy, Carolyn, John, Steve and Jenni*

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<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>Mon–Thurs Finish</b>	<b>Friday Finish</b>	<b>ENTRANCE / EXIT</b>
P1	8.50am	<b>2.50pm</b>	12.05pm	WEST DOOR
P2	8.50am	<b>2.50pm</b>	12.05pm	EAST DOOR
P3	8.50am	3.20pm	12.05pm	WEST DOOR
P4	8.50am	3.20pm	12.05pm	EAST DOOR
P5	8.50am	3.20pm	12.05pm	WEST DOOR
P6	8.50am	3.20pm	12.05pm	EAST DOOR
P7	8.50am	3.20pm	12.05pm	EAST DOOR