

January 2023

Hawthornden Newsletter



Dear Parent/Carer

It has been lovely to welcome all our children back into school for 2023! We have been really impressed by how keen everyone was to be back into school and most children have settled quickly back into their class routine.

We had a great end to last term, with lots of fun Christmas activities, a very successful Christmas Fair and some outstanding performances from P1-2 during our Nativity and from P6, who led our Christmas Service. We received some really positive and lovely feedback from parents/carers, which was so nice as it has been the first year we have had these events back in school since lockdown and restrictions.

Staff Training



Our staff started back on Wednesday 4th which was an in-service day, with our class teachers taking part in Cooperative Learning Training with local colleagues and our support staff receiving training from Leigh Currie, our ASD Outreach Teacher, as well as, working on resources for this term's Social Skills and Read, Write, Inc groups. It was a busy first day of term!

Sportshall Athletics

Mr Jones took a team of 20 P7's to a Midlothian Sports Hall Athletics event on Thursday 12th January and Hawthornden came first, with our individuals winning 21 out of 24 events! An amazing achievement and well done everyone involved! What a lovely success to celebrate at the start of a new year and term. Well done Mr Jones and our P7 pupils!



Congratulations!



We would also like to congratulate Cooper Brown, P7 on his recent success. Cooper won a *GOLD* Scottish Championship medal for boxing. What an achievement for him. Huge congratulations and well done Cooper.

Scot's Month

Our whole school will be taking part in our focus on 'Scots' this month, with activities going on in class, as well as singing and dancing sessions provided by specialists.



Teacher Strikes

As you may be aware from the press, there has still been no agreement in the on-going teacher pay dispute and therefore it is likely that the next Midlothian strike day of Thursday 26th January will go ahead as a school closure day.

Goodbye



I am sorry to say that we will soon be saying goodbye to our P3 teacher, Mrs Stephanie Martin. Mrs Martin has been successful in gaining a promoted post as Principal Teacher at Gilmerton Primary, in Edinburgh. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Martin for all her hard work over the last 4 years, she will be missed by pupils and colleagues alike. We would like to assure P3 parents that plans are already being made to ensure that another teacher is in place to take-over from Mrs Martin when she leaves later this term and we will be in touch with P3 parents shortly with more details.

Diary Dates



- Parent Council Meeting re SCN Provision - 25th January at 6pm
- P6-P7 Basketball sessions - 26th January
- Parents Consultations - 7th and 9th February - both sessions in person, in school, more details to follow
- February Holiday - 13th-17th February
- Book Fair 20th-24th February - more details to follow
- Busy Finish session - Monday 27th February 2.45-3.15pm
- French Focus Week - 13th-17th March
- P1 Ipad Family Learning Session - Monday 20th March - more details will follow

Kind Regards,

Jackie Mellon
Head Teacher