



June Newsletter



I find it hard to believe that this is the final newsletter of this session! It has been one of the quickest years of my teaching career!

We had a very productive in-service day on 22nd May with Hawthornden and Lasswade Primary School staff attending Lasswade High School to participate in a number of different workshops from learning and teaching to Lego therapy to trauma informed practice. Feedback from staff was incredibly positive and we look forward to attending and contributing to this event again next year.

We are at the point in the session where we are liaising closely with local and partnership nurseries as well as Lasswade High School in order to ensure that transition arrangements are in place for our young people. For the children remaining at Hawthornden, we are beginning to look at class structure for next session. I can confirm that we will go ahead with 12 classes next session, but due to the low number of P1 pupils coming into Hawthornden, and the low number of P7s leaving, it is likely that there will be a change of structure to some classes and some new composites. As soon as we have finalised our decision on this we will be in touch.

Transition activities are beginning to take place for our pupils, staff and parents who will be moving from the provision at Burnbrae to our school. Staff have met on several occasions and we have had regular visits from some of the pupils transferring to us. I have not been able to access the block where the provision will be housed, but I have been advised that the work is progressing at an appropriate rate and is on track to be completed within the original timescale of 6 months.

We have had some great successes over the course of this session...

- Glee Club and their entry in the Glee School Challenge
- Participating in a range of sporting events across the authority
- African drumming workshops and performances
- Sampling of a range of sports including American football and cheerleading
- Fabulous P1 & P2 Nativity
- Successful P2-3 Spring Fling
- Class assemblies
- Stay and Play sessions
- P1 family learning events
- School football team established
- Hugely successful Christmas Fair and Duck Race
- Fantastic memories made at P7 camp
- Visits to Sky, Edinburgh Castle, Museum
- P5 participation in the History Society Competition

...and many more to come!

I would like to thank all of our parents, carers and staff who have given up their own time to organise and support with these activities.

The elected members of our Parent Council have made the decision to stand down from their formal positions of chair and secretary. On behalf of our school community I would like to express a huge thanks to Aileen King and Louise Duncan for your endless and continued efforts in supporting our school and pupils.

Thank you to parents Liam Gormley, Liam McIlwaine and Gordon Fletcher for investing so much of their spare time in creating, coaching and developing our school football team. All children who attend really enjoy this activity and we are very grateful to you for all of your commitment to this.

Thanks also to Alexis Shand for giving up her time to support some of our pupils with their reading and phonics work. Again, we are very grateful for you giving up your time to spend in our school.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers of Hawthornden. We are a unique school with wonderful pupils, and as a staff we are privileged to support them all in their learning journeys. On behalf of all the staff team, we wish you a relaxing summer break!

(Final) dates for the diary (A P7 reminder of dates will be issued separately):

01.06.23 - Beetle Drive – 6pm for a 6.30pm start – soup and home baking available

02.06.23 - P4/5 class assembly

04.06.23 – Poltonhall Gala Day - P5-7 pupils invited to walk in the parade (letter sent home)

08.06.23 – P6 & P7 Talent Show – 6pm

13.06.23 (20.06.23 back up) - Sports Day with picnic lunch on the playing field

14.06.23 - 16.06.23 – P7 transition to Lasswade High School

14.06.23 - Nursery - P1 transition morning

15.6.23 P1-6 Moving on morning

16.06.23 – Football 4 All @ 2pm

26.06.23 - Activities week/Dress down week – school uniform swap shop – bring any old uniform and replace for a bigger size if available

28.06.23 @ 3.15pm - End of term

Term begins for pupils – 16.08.23 @ 8.45am**

** Please note we will no longer be able to offer a soft start window from 8.45-9.00am. From 16.8.23, the school day will start at 8.45am for all pupils.