



## Loanhead Primary School October 2022

Dear Loanhead Primary Community

We have all been busy settling back into a new school session and life as usual in Loanhead Primary has been busy and productive.

### Staffing

- Mrs Morag Cairney, having announced her Early Retirement from 14th October, would like to share a few words with you.

*"Well everyone, it's time to say goodbye. I started in Loanhead as a Nursery Nurse in 2008, then into school as a Learning Assistant and then into the school office as Administrator for Loanhead and St Margaret's Primaries in 2014. I have loved every part of being in this school, working with fabulous staff, children and parents. I feel very privileged to have done so. Best wishes to all for the future. Kind regards. From Mrs Cairney."*

- Mrs Jacquie Craig, Learning Assistant, will be leaving us on 7th October.

*"Dear Staff, Parents and Pupils, It is with great sadness, I have decided to leave and move onto a different challenge for the future. A challenge I am looking forward to, although it wasn't an easy decision. I would like to take this opportunity to say my 10 years with Loanhead Primary School have been fab and I go with great memories. I have also had the pleasure and privilege of watching a few hundred children over the years, grow, develop and reach milestones. Very lucky to still see them around today, within the community and will always look out for them. I have no doubt I will miss the school, the school camps, the school trips, sports trips and particularly the participation in the P7 Leavers' Assemblies (my favourite.) Thank you to all who have made my time here memorable.....it's going to be a tough last week, with lots of cuddles. Thank you, Mrs Craig."*

We will miss both ladies so much. Goodbye and Good luck from everyone at Loanhead Primary.

- Mrs Denise McHale has joined the Nursery as an Early Years Practitioner.
- Mr Darren Aitken has joined the Nursery as a teaching student and will start in P2 after the October break.

### Safety on Engine Road

Our Community Policeman, Mr Euan Lennox has written to me with concerns regarding the number of pupils (many with parents) who are walking on the road at the business area of Engine Road. The road doesn't have a footpath and is used by heavy plant machinery. He has asked that pupils use the Safe Route only.

## House Captains

With pleasure, I can announce this year's House Captains from P7

**Dryden-** Kyrah and Marcus **Edgelaw-** Charlotte and Heather **Gladhouse** Callum and Taylor

A huge thank you to all the Primary 7s who took the time to prepare a speech. There could only be 2 winners from each House and you all came across extremely well. You should be very proud of yourselves....well done.

## Pupil Council

This year's Representatives are:

**P1 Vinny P2 Mason P3 Elliot F P4Angus P5 Cara P6 Romy P7 Eva and Charlay**

For many years, Loanhead Primary has sponsored a child in Rwanda, to be able to attend school. This year the cost of this sponsorship, which includes tuition fees, uniform and a simple lunch each day is £49 per year. Pupil Council has requested that we have a "Pyjama Day" on Thursday 27 October. Please bring a donation on the day, if your child would like to take part.

## Headteacher Awards

September HT awards to: **P1 Alice** for Care, **P2 Mason** for Inclusion **P3 Evie** for Care **P4 Lily** for Care **P5 Lacey** for Learning **P6 Sylvia** for Learning **P7 Amber** for Development. Keep up the fantastic work everyone.

## Medicine

From time to time your child may require to have medicine administered at school. This shouldn't be a problem, however you must complete a particular form at the school office in order for this to happen.

## Chromebook Care.

In order for pupils to benefit most from lessons where Chromebooks are used, these should be returned to school, fully charged. Every child was given a charger, which should be kept at home. Replacements are available, but at a £50 cost to parents.

## Music

Dunedin Consort will be offering 5 participatory workshops for P4 and P6, from 13th October. Professional musicians discuss classical music pieces and pupils are introduced to composing. These lessons culminate in the pupils attending "The Children's Messiah" in the Queen's Hall, Edinburgh, in December.

## P.E.

We are looking for parents who may be willing to accompany P5, 6 and 7 to sporting events. If you are interested, please can you email the school office on [loanheadPS\\_@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:loanheadPS_@midlothian.gov.uk) as information is sent home relating to each event, there will be an option for you to volunteer then also.

## Celebration Card Fundraiser

This month pupils across the school will complete designs for celebration cards. As in previous years, card designs will be sent home and parents have the option to buy the design. Payment for these will be due by end of October. P5 designs may be done slightly earlier due to timescales with camp. Preferred payment through Parentpay please.

## **Bike to School week**

Our P6 JRSOs (Junior Road Safety Officers) have enjoyed organising our Bike to school week, culminating with a Bling your Bike competition on Friday 7th. Can I please take this opportunity to remind both Children and adults to wear a helmet, whilst on the roads.

Can I also remind everyone, as a courtesy to others, to dismount from your bike or scooter as soon as you enter the playground. There have been a few near misses already. Our Community policeman has advised that e-scooters cannot be used legally on pavements and roads unless you hold a particular licence and should be taxed and have an MOT.

## **Basketball Club**

Mr Forbes will be offering a lunch time basketball club for pupils in the P5-7. Look out for letters home.

## **Charity**

A P7 pupil has asked if our school can once again be a collection point for the Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal. She has been speaking to Mr Duffin. **Shoe boxes will be collected on 27th October.** Details of what to include in your gift can be found in this link.

[\(https://blythswood.org/shoeboxappeal/\)](https://blythswood.org/shoeboxappeal/)

You may have noticed on Parent Pay, there is a "Donation Button". In no way do we expect all or any of our parents to contribute to school funds. However, if you are able and wish to do so, your donation will be gratefully received.

## **Nursery**

Outdoor learning will once again take place, after the October holiday and will be led by Clare.

From 7th October, Coffee Mornings will be held in the Community Rooms on a Friday morning from 10-12. This will give Nursery parents the chance to mingle and get to know each other.

## **Parent Council**

***'The Parent Council are delighted to be organising a Halloween disco for the children again!***

***This will be held on Tuesday 1st November, 6.00pm-730pm.***

***All children, from Nursery-P7, are invited with prizes for costumes and pumpkins! We will also have a space for parents, who would like to stay, where refreshments will be on sale. We are also arranging a Halloween Costume swap so we can reuse outfits and support the children to help the environment. (details to follow)***

***As always, we ask for any support you can give with all fundraising being utilised by the Parent Council to benefit all the children in the school.'*** Please see below for information on costume swaps.



*Halloween*  
**COSTUME  
 EXCHANGE**

👻 FROM FRIDAY 7th October a DROP off box  
 WILL be PLACED outside the entrance to the  
 Lower atrium.  
 We'D be REALLY grateful for any AND ALL  
 HALLOWEEN clothing and accessories!

👻 on Wednesday 26th October a costume rail  
 AND box WILL be PLACED outside the Lower  
 atrium entrance. Please come and have a LOOK  
 AND take whatever you need!

### **Dates for your diary**

3 -7 October	Bike to school week
5 October	Fire Brigade Talk on Firework Safety
7 October	Bling your bike
11 October	Parent Council Meeting
11 October	Rag Bag collection Please place clean fabrics in the collection bin. Money to school fund,
12 October	P5 School Camp
13 October	Dunedin Consort
16 October	Holidays begin at 12.25pm
25 October	In-Service
26 October	Pupils return to school                      Learning Trios 3.30-6pm
27 October	Pyjama day for Rwanda
28 October	Learning Trios 12.45-4.30pm
4 November	P4 Viking Assembly. P4 parents welcome for 9.30 am
7 November	Flu nasal spray
11 November	P7 Remembrance Assembly. P7 Parents welcome.
23 November	St Margaret's closing mass (more info to follow)
14 December	P4-7 Brunton Panto
20 December	Whole school church visit
24 March	P4 begin swimming x 12 weeks

