



Gorebridge Primary School

Caring, Preparing for Life....

Dear parents, carers and friends of Gorebridge Primary,

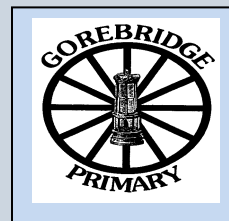
Welcome to our first School Newsletter of 2017!

It's so good to be back after my lengthy absence and I'd like to thank you for your kind wishes both during my absence and on my return to school.

The children have been very busy since our return at the beginning of the month. There have been library visits on cold, crisp mornings; P3 and 4 and P5-7 outdoor activities on equally cold afternoons! The P1 and 2 atrium has been transformed into a Chinese and Scottish area to celebrate Chinese New Year and all things Scottish.

P1 are learning all about Scotland, P2 about food, P3 and P4 are learning about the past through Egyptians and the Vikings. P5 are comparing Scotland and Kenya whilst the contexts for learning across all areas of the curriculum in P6 and P7 are Mary Queen of Scots and 'Developed world countries'.

All this exciting learning and of course last week's visit to our nursery from the First Minister and the Minister for Children and Young People has made the start to the new term very exciting indeed!



FAMILY BURNS SUPPER
Tuesday 24th January

Tickets
Adults £3.00
Children £2.00
Come and enjoy a delicious meal and be entertained by our very talented P7s



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tues 24th Jan - School family Burns Supper
6.30pm start

Thurs 26th Jan - Scottish themed BOATS in all classes

P6 classes visit to Mining Museum

Fri 27th Jan - Scots Assemblies

Fri 3rd Feb P6G/P leading assembly

Tues 7th Feb - Great Gorebridge(Family) Gameathon- details to follow

Wed 10th Feb - PTA Valentine Disco

PUPIL SAFETY

Please can I remind to consider our pupil safety when you drop off or pick up your children from the car park near the rear of the school (Leisure Centre) by making sure you park in allocated parking bays and **NOT** stop on the double yellow lines at the pavement edge to drop off or pick up.

PLEASE DO NOT RISK OUR CHILDRENS' SAFETY!



CYCLING TO SCHOOL



Whilst I am delighted to see so many of our children cycling to school, I can't stress the importance of wearing protective cycle helmets! "A major study of bike helmet use around the world has found helmets reduce the risks of a serious head injury by nearly 70%" At our recent Parent Council meeting, several parents have volunteered to look into companies and charities who may be able to subsidize the cost of buying helmets.

CHAT FROM THE PUPIL COUNCILS

Eco council

Lucy, Crystal, Ewan and Ayse report that they are continuing to collect recycling from classes and are working hard to hopefully achieving that sought after Green Flag by June! There are sub groups within the council working on areas like bio diversity, energy and litter.

Communication Council

Kye, Dylan and Sophie report that posters have gone up around the school to advertise the school website. Suggestion boxes are also in place around the school for other pupils to share their news or ideas and class information from each class is regularly updated. They encourage you to visit our school website at gorebridgemgfl.net.

Jennifer, Lewis, Niamh and Kiera from the **Community Council** are concerned that that 'we are finding it very difficult to get rid of the weeds in the planters at the bottom of the field, we have covered them with old carpet to kill them off, but they still keep coming!' The council members would welcome any advice or help from any keen gardeners out there!

Global Council members **Makenzie, Sam, Leigha and Rachel** reported that the council are using the £50 from the PTA Dragon's Den towards a laptop so that ' we can Skype our partner school in Tanzania.@ The PTA has also offered to give us a bit more money so that we can produce a good quality 2018 calendar which we will sell at the PTA Summer Fair.'

Learning Council

Alexander, Callum, Abbie and Aidan report that the council have ordered Inspiration Posters using the Dragon's Den £50 . 'We already have our Gorebridge Hero to remind us of our Learning Powers - **concentrate, don't give up, be cooperative, be curious, have a go, use your imagination, keep improving and enjoy learning** and the posters will help us too! We have prioritised actions that need to be done around the school and playground this term.

Parent Council & PTA News

Plans are underway for the Valentines Disco on Wednesday 8th February. If you can help please let the school know or contact me, Carey, at careyfairgrieve@gmail.com

We are also starting to plan for our Summer Fair on Friday 9th June. If you can help, wish a stall or have items to donate for the raffle or tombola, please let us know. Our cupboards are bare at the moment!

Next PTA meeting is 1.2.16 at 9.00 - Community Rooms
All welcome

Twitter  @gorebridgeps

We are using this social network as a means to keep our parents/carers up to date with all of the exciting learning experiences that are taking place in and out of school. Our tweets link directly to our school website.

Gorebridge.mgfl.net

P7 ENTERPRISE PROJECT

So far, our Primary 7 pupils have raised nearly £1500 towards their visit to York in April. This sum is a culmination of the Parents' Evening cake stall, the Christmas Fair and, the very successful 'Grow a pound' initiative! Look out for a March Cinema afternoon too!

P7 BURNS PROJECT

Each year, our P7 pupils submit a personal project based on the life of Robert Burns. Year on year, the task of selecting the winner of the Burns' Bust, Sandy Law shield and the Jim Dunsmuir Memorial Trophy becomes more and more challenging for the judges! I am sure that this year will be no different! The pupils' work is celebrated at an awards ceremony on 2nd February to which all P7 parents will be invited.

'How Good is our School'

In our school we strive for excellence and each school year we ask ourselves what improvements we need to make to continue to work towards reaching this goal. We publish these improvements in our School Improvement Plan which you can find on our school website. It is important that everyone in the school family is involved in making decisions about future improvement priorities. We send home questionnaires to get your opinions on 'HOW Good is Our School' but one of the most powerful ways of involving everyone in the school (at the same time) is through MAD assemblies - Mixed Age Debates!

There will be a MAD assembly on **Friday 17th March at 11am** to which all are invited. More information to follow!