

Learning, growing, caring, sharing



Illustration : alex leonard

U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child: Article 1



Community Newsletter

December 2015

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Introduction



Dear Pupils, Parents/Carers and Community Friends,

Season's greetings to you all! Our Christmas Fayre organised by the Parent Council looms this week, which I'm sure will be a great success judging by all the preparations of the Parent Council so far. There's still plenty more exciting events between now and the end of term. Read on to find out more.....

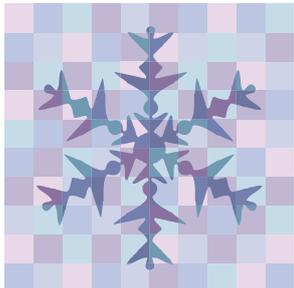
Health and safety



UNCRC Article 19: Children should be safe from harm.

UNCRC Article 24: Every child has the right to the best possible health.

Snow procedures - planning ahead!



In the event of snow and icy weather now that winter is here, please note that it is impossible to clear the whole playground. Pupils should enter the school using the main entrance only in deep snow. A path from the roadside to the main entrance will be maintained by the Janitor. Other paths will be gritted as much as possible.

In the event of severe weather, please check the school and Midlothian websites and local radio stations for information on potential school closures. However, we will endeavour to keep school open as much as possible.

School gates

1. Please be aware of times of opening and closing of the gates at the main entrance to the campus. This is for the safety of all site uses, but most importantly, for the safety of pupils. Gates will not be opened in any circumstances unless an emergency. Site users not noticing the signage is not considered an emergency.
2. Some parents/carers and members of the public have expressed concern regarding the closure of some of the gates around the campus. A conversation to hear community concerns will be set up in the new year. Date, time and venue to be confirmed.

School news



UNCRC Article 28: Children should be able to go to school.

P1 Book bugs

Recently, all pupils in P1 have visited Mayfield Library to receive books distributed by the Scottish Book group. At the event, children voted for their favourite book and then read the books in class. We hope you all continue to enjoy your books for a long time to come.

P5, P6 and P7: the two Steves

On Monday 23rd November P5, P6 and P7 were visited by the authors The 2Steves (Steve Barlow and Steve Skidmore). Some pupils from St Luke's Primary and Lawfield Primary joined us for a very entertaining morning based on some of the books written by The 2Steves.

"Funny, awesome and I will definitely start reading their books soon." - Adam P7

PS Adam became the start of the show as he was invited to help with the performance. You did us proud, Adam!

Christmas Post

We will as usual have our Christmas Post in school for children wishing to give cards to people within school. Our Primary 1 pupils will take turns to be Postie along with a Primary 7 child and deliver cards to classrooms. Please make sure names and classes are clearly marked on envelopes. Unfortunately because of Data Protection we are unable to supply class lists of names.



Wednesday 2nd December - Parent Council Christmas Fayre

It was super to see so many of you at our Christmas Fayre on Wednesday 2nd December. Thank you to everyone for their contribution to this event, specially the Parent Council, choir from P4, Santa's Grotto and lots of stalls for those last minute bargains.

Tuesday 9th December 9.30am and 1.30pm Infant (P1 - 2) Nativity



We are holding two performances of our Infant Nativity 'The Little Red Robin' at 9:30am and again at 1:30pm on the above dates for this important Christmas Story. Hope to see you there. A huge thank you to all staff from the P1 - 2 classes, including the Speech, Language and Communication provision for working so hard to help children learn their parts and sing and sign their songs. We know you'll all present super performances everyone!

Tuesday 9th December: Packed lunch day

Please remember to send a packed lunch to school on this day - children entitled to free meals will be provided with a packed lunch from the school kitchen.

Thursday 11^h December Christmas Lunch

If you have not already done so, please return menu choice forms (red) to your child's class teacher as soon as possible to ensure that everyone gets their first choice. Thank you! Thanks in advance too to Audrey and her team of kitchen staff, who will be working so hard on the day to ensure everyone enjoys their meal.



Friday 18th December Dress down day: Wear something Christmassy

Let's make the last day of term a jolly one with everyone wearing their Christmas jumpers. Please note, school will finish for everyone at 12 noon.



Recycling - Tassimo coffee pods, Pens and biscuits wrappers

Let's have a big push on finished pens this month before Santa brings all the new ones. We are also still collecting the pods and biscuit wrappers. I would like to thank a friend of Mayfield Primary who send in pens to help our school funds, we will receive £64.

Parliament news



Events

UNCRC Article 28 The Right to an education.

This week we have voted on a Scottish Song to sing in assembly after the holidays when we will be celebrating Robbie Burn's birthday. The song is '500 miles'. Amiee, P7.

Eco Committee

UNCRC Article 6: Every child has the right to life.

We have been thinking about rubbish how we can reuse it e.g. using empty plastic bottles to use pencil holders. We have also been discussing applying for a Green Flag award, which shows people that we are good at keeping our school tidy, and not leaving rubbish about on the floor or ground. Louis, P7.

Health and wellbeing

UNCRC Article 6: Every child has the right to life.

We have been thinking about the importance of wearing bright colours during the darker nights. If people don't wear bright colors when riding bikes, other people might crash into them. Darren, P7

The Great Outdoors

UNCRC Article 6: Every child has the right to life.

We have been taking out some old plants from the orchard area and from outside the school office, that have died out. Also we have been making bird houses. These aren't up yet, but need to dry out. We will then use them after Christmas. Logan, P7

Media Moguls

Article 29 Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.

In the Media Moguls we have been thinking about sharing our class news. We have lots of exciting learning going on, in and around our school and we want to use technology to share this with our school and community. We have also used Ipads to make Imovies about firework safety and made up our radio station and thought about what we would say if we were invited to speak on the radio. Abigail, P7

Fundraising and charities

Article 29 Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.

We have been thinking about we can raise money for school events and charities. We would also appreciate people sending in any good quality used toys and games. We would then use them for other children in the school to help them play. Kian, P7

Rights Respecting Schools

UNCRC Article 1 and 2: All children have rights.

We have been practicing a lesson for us to deliver to P1 and P2 pupils later in the year. The lesson will help children learn about wants and needs. We have also been thinking about how all children have rights to good clothing and healthy food. Adam and Rian, P7

Parent/Carer



UNCR Article 18: Both parents share responsibility for bringing up their child and should always consider what is best for the child.

Helping your child at home - please see newsletter on line for access to websites mentioned

Ready for Winter

Education Scotland's Ready for Emergencies website has Ready for Winter resources that parents can look at with their children. There is a PowerPoint, short video and quiz that you can use to talk about how ready you are for winter. This could be an ideal opportunity to prepare an emergency kit for when bad weather strikes as well as put together a family action plan. Keep safe this winter!

Are You Ready?



A 1+2 Approach to Language Learning

The Scottish Government's 'Language Learning in Scotland: A 1+2 Approach' is to help children and young people in all Scottish primary and secondary schools study an additional two languages.

Further information for parents including the benefits of learning a language and how to support your child, can be found here and here.



There are Frequently Asked Questions for parents and carers about 1+2 language learning on Scotland's National Centre for Languages website. More information on developing learning through languages can be found here.



Read Write, count

Read, Write, Count offers parents tips, ideas and activities that will help get children off to a great start in life. Counting doesn't just mean maths. It's loads of things... counting out coins, reading the time and playing Snakes and Ladders. Why not try these activities with your child and you'll soon realise there's an endless amount of ways that you and your child can count together. Copies of the games can be found of the display in the main school corridor as you walk to the GP room/assembly hall.



Count on

Numbers are all around us in our everyday life and using numbers can be a fun and exciting way to engage with your children. In this leaflet you will find lots of examples of games you can play with your children to help them develop an interest and love of numbers.

Feedback from our P1 (for August 2016) open morning

At a recent open morning to support P1 enrolment for next session, which included some P6 pupils sharing their thoughts on Mayfield PS and escorting families round the school, we had the following feedback from those prospective parents/carers who attended:

- Very informative
- Pupils were polite :)
- Thoroughly enjoyed the tour
- Children were very informative and polite

Well done to Katelyn, Ian, Daniel and Kerry for doing such a great job!

My Childs Art Orders



Children have individually designed their own Christmas Picture. Have a look at your child's art online at www.mychildsart.co.uk to purchase personalised gifts and Christmas items:

User Name: MayfieldPS Password: MAYFIELDPS2015

Teas and coffees at school

Please note, there is a charge of 50p per cup of tea/coffee at school events. This will also include a biscuit. Children attending with parents will be able to have juice, but please can you discourage your child from taking several biscuits at a time.



Community events



UNCR Article 15: Every child has the right to meet with other children and young people and to join groups and organisations, as long as this does not stop other people from enjoying their rights.

Well done, Ben!

Ben won the rocket launch competition during Midlothian science festival week. His rocket travelled 44 meters.

Well done for representing our school at this event, Ben!



Mayfield & Easthouses Community Christmas Poster Competition 2015

Congratulations to Nyah in P4 for winning 1st Prize in her age category along with Michael P2b and Brooklyn P6b who were runners up in their category. A grand total of 555 entries were received in this competition so this is a great achievement. Prizes were given out at the Christmas Lights Celebrations on Sunday 6th December at Mayfield Leisure Centre.

Black Diamond - Request Show

Mayfield Primary School has teamed up with Black Diamond Radio this year to have special messages read out live on air by some of our P7 pupils. The show will go out on **Monday 14th December from 6pm-8pm** so please listen on 107.8FM. If you would like a mention, can you fill in and return the enclosed request slips to school by **Thursday 10th December at the latest**.

Sport



UNCRC Article 24: Every child has the right to the best possible health.

UNCRC Article 31: Every child has the right to relax, play and join in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

Basketball festival

Message sent on behalf of Carolyn Cameron - Active Schools Coordinator:

A big thank you to the 12 schools who attended the Midlothian Primary School Basketball Festival this morning. It was a fantastic morning with lots of games for the pupils and some great sportsmanship on display! We would like to thank all the staff and pupils for coming along.

P7 cross country

Well done to all the P6 and P7s who took part in the mini cross country event held by Active Schools on message from Ewan Kennedy. "We hope the children enjoyed the event, it hopefully gives the P6/P7 a taste of how the event will run in March if you are looking to take part."

Diary



Date	Time	Activity	Place
December			
Tuesday 8th		Packed Lunches Whole School	Classrooms
Wednesday 9th	9:30 & 13:15	Infant Nativity P1 & P2	Assembly Hall
	9:00 - 15:00	P4 Challenge Walk	Vogrie Park
Thursday 10th		Xmas Lunch	Dining Hall
Monday 14 th	9:00 - 15:00	P4 Challenge Walk	Vogrie Park
	18:00-20:00	Black Diamond 107.8FM Request Show	Black Diamond
Tuesday 15 th	1:15 - 14:40	Infant Xmas Party P1 -P2	Assembly Hall
	9:00 - 15:00	P4 Challenge Walk	Vogrie Park
Wednesday 16 th	9:30 - 10:30	Pantomime P1-P7 - Robin Hood	Assembly Hall
	11:00 - 11:45	NCHS Orchestra -Xmas Sing Along	Assembly Hall
	1:15 - 15:20	Upper Xmas Party P3 - P7	Assembly Hall
Friday 18 th	12.00 noon	School Closes for Christmas Holiday	
Wednesday 6 th	8.50am	School Re-opens	

Weekly Clubs/Events

Friday 4/12/15- 25/03/16	9:20 & 10:20	Swimming starts P3/4 4s only and P4	Loanhead LC
Wednesday 21/10/15 -16/03/15	15:20-17:00	P7 - Fast track No Fast track on Wed 16 th Dec 2015	NCHS

From all the pupils and staff at Mayfield Primary School!

Feliz Navidad!

Buon Natale

Froliche Weihnachten!

