



The Cuiken Callout

Issue 1 October 2017

It has been a lovely start to the school year and the pupils have all returned ready to work hard. Our new Primary 1 pupils are now in school full days and have settled in beautifully, the school have voted in our new House Captains and the classrooms are very busy.

Staffing Updates

Claire Bond, our new Head Teacher is now in post and getting to know the pupils, staff and school. Claire is very keen to continue our current ethos of a school where families and the community feel welcome, and as such will continue to operate an 'open door' policy. If there is anything you are concerned about or wish to discuss further please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Kimberley Hughes, our Depute Head Teacher is delighted to be working alongside Mrs Bond and would like to express her gratitude to the parents and carers for their support prior to Mrs Bond starting in post. Mrs Hughes also has some exciting news in that she is expecting her first baby in February 2018. Mrs Hughes hopes to continue working until the beginning of February before taking some time off to spend with her new addition.

Jill Devine, our Principal Teacher and P1/2 Teacher has decided to retire from teaching following a 30 year career. This was not an easy decision for Mrs Devine to make but feels that the time is right for her personal life. Mrs Devine will be greatly missed by staff and children! Mrs Devine will be absent from the 13th October due to a scheduled operation. Mrs Carol Anne Brown will continue to work with the class and will extend her working week from Monday-Thursday. Mrs Bond and Mrs Hughes will cover the class on Fridays. We are hoping Mrs Devine will return at some point in December with her last working day being Friday 22nd December. We wish Mrs Devine a long, restful and happy retirement.

Jeanette Shillito, one of school admin assistants, has also decided to retire early. Jeanette's youngest daughter is due a baby any day in Australia and Jeanette is going over spend time with them both. Mrs Shillito's last day will be Friday 6th October. Jeanette will be greatly missed but think she will make a fantastic first time granny!

Miss Alex Hutchison will also be moving on to Woodburn Primary School where she take up a class teacher position. Miss Hutchison will be a great loss to Cuiken and we wish her all the best for the future.

Mrs Devine, Mrs Shillito and Miss Hutchison's positions are currently being advertised alongside the Support for Learning role left vacant by Mrs Downie in June. We will of course keep you up to date with the progress of them all.

Parent Council AGM

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Parent Council AGM, it was good to hear about the work of the Parent Council and Fundraising Committee throughout the 2016-2017 session and they also confirmed that our recent Autumn Fair raised over £800.

If you were not able to make the AGM and would like to know more about what was shared, please see our school website for the minutes.

The next meeting of the Parent Council is **Wednesday 1st November at 7pm**, if you are interested in joining please come along, all welcome.

Halloween Disco

Our Parent Council Fundraisers group are organising a Halloween Disco for children on **Thursday 26th October**, fancy dress of course! There will be an earlier disco for Nursery – Primary 2 and a later disco for Primary 3 - Primary 7. We hope to see you all there, tickets are now available from the school office.



Water Bottles



At playtime children have the option of water or milk to drink and juice should be kept until lunchtime. Please remember water is available in school for the children to drink at *all* times. If you would like to purchase a water bottle you can do this through the school office at the cost of £2.00.

Whole School Shared Start

Our first whole school Shared Start is 4th October. All parents and carers are welcome to come along to school that morning to share in the learning taking place in the classrooms. This event runs from 8.50am until 9.30am.

PE Kit

If your child has grown out of their shorts, T-Shirts and gym shoes and they are still in a reasonable condition please send them in to school, we like to keep some spares in school.

JRSO

We have chosen our new Junior Road Safety Officers, Cameron Don and Amy Stocks. They recently attended the launch event for all JRSOs in Midlothian and are keen to get started in their role. They will organise some events throughout the year, and have already started with our recent Hands Up survey about how pupils travel to school.



The job of a JRSO

JRSOs are a very important part of the primary school as they help raise road safety awareness and promote road safety issues to everyone in the school and the wider community.

House Captains

After a great campaign trail and the following whole school election, we can now confirm the names of our House Captains for 2017-18:



Bavelaw: Finlay McLean & Sam Neil



Lothian: Sophie Lee & Charlotte Grahame



Pentland: Fergus Ferguson & Orlaith Petit

The House Captains will take on many responsibilities this year including House Captain whole school assemblies and running whole school events.

Sharing our Learning Journey

If you wish to keep up-to-date with school information and events please 'like' the Cuiken Parent Council & Fundraisers facebook page, going to our school website at <http://cuiken.mgfl.net/>, and following twitter feed; @Cuiken_Primary. Our twitter now has 927 followers! We hope to make it 1000 before Christmas.

Parking around school

We are lucky to have lovely and supportive neighbours around our school, but have had recent complaints about parents parking in and across private driveways, on corners and blocking cars in. We are aware that pick up and drop off times can be very busy outside, but we ask you to be respectful of our neighbours. We politely ask that you remain vigilant and follow our rules to safe parking:

1. If possible, walk to school or park in a safe parking space nearby and walk the rest of the way. (West Cairn Crescent, Brunstane Gardens and by Bellmans path are all good options)
2. Refrain from using resident driveways to stop, park or turn.
3. Be aware of road markings; zigzags on the road mean parking and stopping there is prohibited.
4. If stopped in a sensible place to collect, please turn your engine off while you wait.
5. Never reverse into a main road.
6. Be mindful of our crossing patrol and the space he needs to work.

Dates for your diary

Parent Consultations – Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th October
P2 assembly (P2 parents/carers welcome) – Friday 13th October
End of term – Friday 13th October
Pupils resume – Monday 23rd October



We are very aware that lots of learning happens outside of school the school day and as a school we want to encourage pupils to share their experiences and successes. Therefore we ask parents and carers to help us keep up to date with all the incredible activities and challenges that your children have been involved in.

Our Aim:

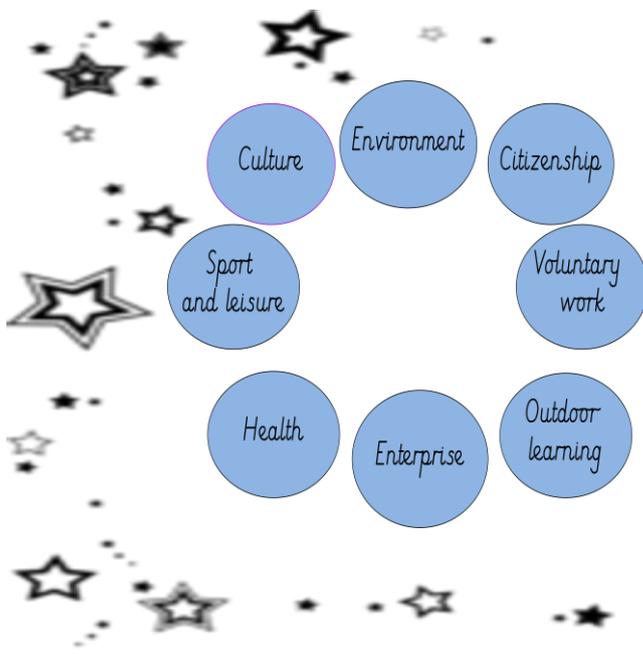
To enable children to be recognised for and to celebrate successes in their wider achievement. Where children:

- Readily share their successes from out with school.
- Have opportunities to share 'what' they learned/achieved and not just the activity they were involved in.
- Develop the vocabulary of achievement to enable them to be fully aware of what kind of success they have experienced.

Our next Achievement Assembly is on 24th October 2016

If your child has an achievement they would like to share please complete the slip below and send it in to school.

In school during circle times we will encourage children to share their wider achievement experiences; these will then be celebrated and displayed in class. The slips are then taken to our special Achievement Assembly where they may be pulled out and shared with our whole school. All achievements are then added to our Pathway of Success which you will find winding its way through our school.



Name:

Class:

Achievement:

Date: