



*Nurture · Inspire · Flourish · Pray*



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## Newsletter 28 January 2019

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

The past two weeks has seen us focus on Scots culture and in particular language and dialect. Thanks for the great response to the whole school homework task. I have attached the list of words at the end of the newsletter – now the challenge is to find out how many of them are known to our pupils – one for Mr Burgess and I to follow up at assemblies in the coming weeks. We would also like to build on the One Scotland, many cultures idea too, more news about that coming after the February holiday.

Last Tuesday, one of our eagle eyed pupils saw me arrive back at school at the end of their day and asked me where I had been and it struck me that they very much think of my role as in school, whereas on that particular Tuesday I spent the day at the Edinburgh Primary Head Teacher Association (EPHTA) meeting. We heard presentations from Andy Gray, Head of Schools as well as from other Senior Education Managers covering areas including Inclusion, Early Years and Digital Technology. There was also an opportunity for Head Teachers to discuss and comment

on new council policies and procedures, a very different day of listening to my usual one in St John's!



## **Spotlight on Improvement** **Building Resilience Workshop for Parents and Carers**

If you would like to find out more about our Building Resilience work please come along on: **Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> February, from 6pm in school**  
**(Date change)**

The information sharing evening should last no more than an hour and the format will be an introduction and overview of the resilience programme and an opportunity to try out some of the activities the pupils undertake in class



P6 pupils Miloz, and Carys took part in another two of the fantastic and innovative Children's Parliament sessions as part of their *What Kind of Edinburgh?* project. During the latest session they were working with pupils from eight other schools on the theme of 'Achievement and Attendance' in which led to a Big Workshop on Wednesday 23rd January, where top level council leaders listened to their views and ideas for improving Edinburgh for young people.



Our P7 footballers (with some P6 help) took part in the Unity Cup at Oriam, a charity tournament supporting the crisis in Yemen. They progressed through to the final which was cut short due to a Frisbee game and shared the cup with opponents Cramond. They also raised £170 for the charity, thanks to coaches and parents for supporting.

# Parent Council Update

The school library project team have been busy, dealing with the first wave of books, both donated and purchased. There have been industrious teams of volunteers over several sessions, during the day and in the evening. We have covered books, stamped in the school name and started to arrange the books on the shelves. It is very satisfying to see things take a bit of shape and start to look like a library.

I have to say also that has been great to meet some parents that I don't normally have occasion to chat to. I know the face but their children are in a different year group. I've met someone from Hungary and someone from down the road – neither of whom I knew! There has been some sneaky chocolate cake and even some adult flavoured (prosecco) sweets!

There is still a lot of work to go on the library. Our next steps are:

1. Purchase more books and cover them.
2. Obtain library PC and printer from school.
3. Purchase software system.
4. Catalogue the books onto the software system (print barcode, stick in book and scan in each book to software)
5. Create library tickets for the children.
6. Carry out library familiarisation and orientation sessions for all the teachers and children.
7. Have a ribbon cutting and celebration when the library opens.

We will need more volunteers again soon. If you like folding, wrapping, chatting, arranging books on shelves, biscuits (chocolate), alphabetising, creating order, socialising and giving the children of St John's (your children) unfettered access to the wonderful world of books without being told what to read, extending their world view and vocabulary and introducing them to the pure and unadulterated joy of reading for pleasure.....then this is for you!

We'll post it up on Facebook and send on a school email.

If you can help us out in any way, please do get in touch. You may have library experience, get discounts at book sellers, be fab at covering books or enjoy stamping! Please do get in touch. We welcome and value everyone's input.

Bláthnaid & Sharon

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**We feel very fortunate to be supported by such an active parent council and the creative ways they try to engage with the wider school community. Some of the initiatives supported this term include the**

- **library project**
- **funding for a lunchtime drama club**
- **funding for gardening club/curricular lessons**
- **payment of and building of mud kitchen in nursery**
- **organisation of a movie night**
- **links with Holy Rood to find S6 volunteers**

**They are also looking for volunteers to help get a Lego 'brick buddies' lunchtime club established. If you fancy getting your 'lego on' and can spare an hr between 12.15pm and 1.15pm please do get in touch.**



**Garden News** Isabella and Helena (P2) trying to get our frame for crop protection into frozen ground!  
Great work from Josie (P2) and Isla (P7) to saw up the pipe for the frame.



**Staffing Update:**

**Welcome to Ms McLaren and Mrs Pacitti who will teach P7A until June. No word as yet on baby Williamson's arrival.**



## Weans' Wurds:

The list below contains all the words we received, a great number of these were repeated, so only included once, a braw list!!

aye	aboot	auld	ain	abune	bealin
barry	ben	awright	a'thegether	bawbee	claes
baw	bowfin	baffies	baltic	belter	knaps
birlin	breeks	bairn	bannock	besom	mince
blether	canny	bampot	bawface	bolt	pincil
boak	cheers	beastie	bolt	brae	taes
bonnie	coo	burn	breid	breengin	teuchter
bowfin	da	chore	brig	cairn	whisky
braw	daddy	claes	bunnet	clachan	peevers
bubblyjock	doon	clatty	clout	coorie doocot	geez
clarty	efter	clype	collybuckie	drouth	
cludgie	fash	daein	coorie	feart	
crabbit	fitba	dinna	crivvens	feartie	
craw	gallus	dour	cuddie	frae	
daftie	gerron	eejit	deid	gang	
dinnaeken	glaiokit	een	dingle	geggie	
dreich	hame	flare	dunderheid	haun	
dreip	haud	gie	gadgie	hibees	
drookit	hen	ginger	gallous	hoggie	
dug	hogmanay	gon'	girn	honking	
fouter	irn bru	greet	glen	jambos	
heid	lassie	grund	goonie	keek	
hunkers	loon	guid	gub	kist	

laddie	moose	gutties	guid	merrit
laldy	muckle	haver	heehaw	midden
manky	nae	ken	hoolet	nicht
maukit	naw	kirk	jings	nips
neb	numptie	lavvy	midden	numpty
oot	nut	lugs	minging	plook
pal	och	ma	mither	poultis
piece	oxter	mammy	neeps	rammy
quine	peely-wally	messages	pairt	reekin
radge	polis	naebody	puggled	sair
reek	rubbish	ne'er day	scullery	simmet
sassenach	scran	noo	scunnerd	skint
shan	skiver	och-aye	skint	skoosh
skelp	sleekit	rammy	stottie	skunner
stoashir	smirr	rank	swither	slaister
stookie	stoater	ridder	tablet	sleuch
stoor	stramash	scran	teechur	slither
tumshie	tattie	shan	telly	sook
tumshie	telt	shoogle	thegether	speir
wabbit	toon	sibies	thrapple	steamin
wee	wean	spraff	tod	stooshie
wheesht	windae	tattie bogle	totie	stour
yelly	windae	troosers	wellies	swither
yin	wummin	whit	yonks	tyke