



Dream it, Live it, Achieve it



School Newsletter

March 2018

Dear Parents

**Remember the clocks go forward this weekend!
We now look forward to Spring and all it brings...**

Parental Volunteers

There are a number of things we plan to do in the summer term which would benefit from additional parental help. If you are able to assist with any of the following we would be most grateful...

...Developing the Young Workforce

During the summer term we will be asking our community to talk about their working lives, the skills needed and the routes taken to fulfil personal career aspirations. We look forward to welcoming you on board with this project as we encourage our children to fulfil our school vision of 'Dream it, Live it, Achieve it.'

School library

Can you volunteer some time to help with our library?

Health Week (June 4th – June 9th)

Can you volunteer some time and expertise to help with our health week ?

Thursday Citizenship Groups

Help with these regular Thursday groups always welcomed - 1.30-2.30pm.

There will be signup sheets in school during parent's evenings for all of these, please add your name to the list of volunteers if you can help us with any of the above.

DSP Meeting

A reminder that the next DSP meeting will be on Tuesday 24th April from 7pm in school. All welcome.

Beetle Drive

The DSP have organised a fun Beetle drive to be held in school this Wed 21st March from 6.30-8pm, all

welcome. All funds raised goes back into school to support your children.

Recent School Closures - Snow Days

The recent severe weather which affected school offered us an opportunity to consider ways in which we can support learning in such circumstances using digital media.

A number of activities were posted on the school blog for children and families to engage with. If you have any photos of your snow adventures we would love to see them. Please email in the first instance to the school office.

Football

Due to the adverse weather the recent P3/4 Football festival in North Berwick on Wednesday 7th March was cancelled –we are waiting to hear if this festival will be rescheduled.

Orienteering

Due to the adverse weather the recent P5,6,7 orienteering at Yellowcraigs on Monday 5th March was cancelled – we will look to reschedule this activity during the summer term.

World Book Day

Our rescheduled World Book Day celebrations took place on Friday 9th March. We were so impressed by the effort put in by so many with their story boxes and dressing up. A fun filled morning was had by all and lots of stories were shared across school. Well done to everyone.

Cross Country

Well done to our team of cross country runners who competed in the recent small school cross country race at Meadowmill. They all done really well and tried their very best; keep on running!

Sport Relief

We support many charities in many ways over the course of the school year. This year we are inviting the children to **come to school sporty on Friday 23rd March to support Sport relief**. All affordable donations will be accepted with a suggested £1 donation.

School Meals

Is your child eligible for free school meals, and if so, have you registered?

Schools receive additional funding of £1,200 from the Scottish Government for every pupil in P1 to S3 who is registered for free school meals. This is called Pupil Equity Funding, and schools use this additional money to help fund a wide range of initiatives to support achievement and provide the best possible opportunities for children's learning.

How do I know if my child is eligible for free school meals?

Please visit our website www.eastlothian.gov.uk to check your eligibility and download an application form. If you are not sure or need some help with this please come and speak to us in school.

Even if your child does not wish to take up the option of having a free school meal every day, we would encourage you to register so that our school receives the Pupil Equity Funding allowance to support their learning.

Outdoor classroom

Our outdoor classroom is scheduled to be installed the week beginning Monday 16th April. We look forward to continuing the development of our outdoor learning with this bespoke facility. Our outdoor classroom will support outdoor learning, citizenship groups, technologies and will also be a sheltered area for parents to congregate when dropping off or picking up children from school.

School Vision, Value & Aims

When we established our school vision, values and aims we created a set of values that we encourage all of our school community to adhere to and to live by.

We have registered our school as a 'Rights Respecting School' and we will be working with our children to highlight key areas of personal responsibility over the coming weeks.

On Monday 26th March our school will be welcoming Buddy Bear to school to help our learners reflect upon our value of kindness. Buddy Bear's mission on this day will be to share the greatest superpower of all

kindness and to help children understand how their actions affect others.

Punctuality Matters

As part of the registration process each morning, all children who arrive at school after the school door closes in the morning are marked on the attendance register as late; please be aware of this when planning your morning routines. When a child is late for school it impacts on the start to their day. Being on time ensures each child begins their day in a structured manner with no additional disruptions to the class.

Attendance Matters

We have generally good school attendance but it is the duty of the school to be aware of any unauthorised absences and the reasons for these. Attendance at school has a direct influence on the attainment and achievement of children. Please ensure that your children attend school when they are able thus giving them the best opportunity to succeed. As we approach the summer term I ask that you remember that every school day matters and to consider this before holidays are booked within term time.

Road Safety

Your child will receive a home learning challenge asking them to design an informative road safety poster. The poster that best reflects the key messages of considerate road use, car parking or road safety around school will be made into a school banner to help deliver this important message. I would be most impressed if all children participated with this important task. Good luck everyone.

Staffing

Mrs Broadfoot who has been a key part of the school over the last few years has decided that it is time to enjoy East Lothian to the full and relinquish her one day post here at Dirleton. I am sure you will join me in wishing Mrs Broadfoot the very best of health & happiness in her retirement. She has been a great support to children, families and staff in my time here as Head Teacher and she will be missed. Mrs Broadfoot's last day at Dirleton will be Monday 26th March.

Dates for you Diary

- **Wednesday 21st March – P6 Tag Rugby Festival**
- **Tuesday 20th March – Parent Consultation 5.00-8.00pm**
- **Thursday 22nd March – Parent Consultation 4.00-7.00pm**
- **Thursday 29th March – Break for Easter holidays.**
- **Monday 16th April – All resume for summer term**

B. Moody
Head Teacher