



Harestanes Primary Newsletter

JANUARY 2022



Dear Parent / Carer,

We have had an exciting start to 2022 with a very busy January indeed – I can't believe how quickly this year is flying in! We have already had our **Enrolment Week** for our new Primary 1's in August 2022 and we look now to beginning the **Transition Programme** for our P7 children moving to High School.



I would like to **thank all parents/carers** for ensuring that your child is attending school in their **school uniform**. It is so important for the children to feel proud of being **part of our school community** and to reflect this in wearing it. If you are having difficulty in sourcing items of uniform, please contact school. We have also returned to bringing PE kit to school to change into thus ensuring there is **no requirement to wear leisure clothing to school**. Please note that we do not encourage the wearing of branded 'hoodies' as these are not part of our school uniform.

Due to ongoing restrictions we are also **unable to have face-to-face Parent's Nights** and so to this end we will be joining other local schools in **providing an online meeting** where you will be able to both see and chat to your child's teacher. **Details of this will be sent out to you shortly** and include details as to how to set it up. It has worked very successfully in other parts of EDC and so we will be learning from their experiences. These meetings **will take place in March** but meanwhile look out for your **child's jotters coming home** soon so that they can share their ongoing learning with you.



During the month of January children had experience of **Scottish Week** where the children enjoyed learning about Robert Burns and all things Scottish. There was dancing, art activities, cooking, literacy and even an after school '**Scottish Family Quiz**' organised by Miss Kerr and Mr MacDonald on Teams which was well attended and enjoyed by everyone. If you didn't manage to join us this time look out for another

Family Quiz coming soon!

We love Outdoor Learning! In January we had '**Wilderness Week**' as organised by Miss Reid - our Outdoor Learning Champion. Classes took their learning outside of the school building with some classes even visiting local wooded areas led by Donald MacDonald from Sustrans. The children loved the experience and especially taking their learning into a different environment.

As restrictions ease we are continually looking as to how we can take learning outside and are looking towards organising school trips linked to ongoing learning where we can.





Our FLA (Family Learning Assistant) Miss Booth has been working with families within the current Covid guidelines and hosted a very successful outdoor Arts and Craft session **making lanterns to mark Chinese New Year**. Watch out for new projects coming soon!

During Wilderness Week, the children in the ELR participated in 'scooter football', went on a bear hunt round the school and even managed to find the Gruffalo! This term we continue to work on our Emotion Works topic using books and videos to talk about emotions. Some of our favourite books include 'The Great Monster Hunt', 'The Colour Monster' and 'Mr Jelly'.



We also had great fun joining in with the Highland Games during Scottish Week. Wellie throwing was a favourite activity! Our Scottish art work included making Scottish thistles and designing our own tartan.

Finally, as we are beginning to see a change in the weather can I remind you that on **very frosty and icy mornings** our Janitorial Assistant will **grit the main entrance pathway to the office door** (at the Fitness Trail) before taking up her **Crossing Patrol duties**. If you come into school by any other pathway you should **take extra care** as it may not be gritted yet.



As always, please do not hesitate to speak with us about any aspect of your child's experience at school by making an appointment through the school office.

Kind Regards,
Ms. Jackie Gillespie
Head Teacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

18th February: Sharing the Learning: Jotters home for the weekend!

18th February: P1-3 Bulb Competition photos sent to school office

28th February: Parent Council Meeting 7pm (all welcome)

8th/10th March 3.30-6pm: Online Parents Night (provisional)

15th/17th March 3.30-6pm: Online Parents Night (provisional)

4th April – 18th April Easter Break