

Friday 10 May 2019



Good morning,

This is my first newsletter since starting here at Broughton Primary. I am aiming to do a fortnightly update of what's been going on in the school and, wherever possible, give information on upcoming events.

My first three weeks here have been really lovely. The children have been very welcoming and demonstrate really good manners on a daily basis. I'm trying to spend some time each day in one or two classes and will continue to do this for the remainder of the term to give me an opportunity to get to know the children further and to see their learning. I'm also trying to spend some time in the lunch hall where I can chat to children more informally.

It's lovely to see so many children wearing their school uniform. I believe this is an important aspect of school as it gives the children a sense of identity and helps promote the school in the community. I also feel it can help create the correct learning mindset. It's important that children see school as a place where they come to learn and develop new skills.

I thoroughly enjoyed my first assembly on Tuesday 30 April. This was a whole school assembly led by Mrs Rushforth. We were visited by Hairy Haggis who came to present an award for the third year running. The award was for being the organisation with the highest number of participants in the junior races for the Edinburgh Marathon Festival in 2018. This is an outstanding achievement and even more impressive that it's the third year in a row. This year there are 100 children signed up to take part on Saturday 25 May. The following week will be Health Week in school and a letter is being sent home with further information about the exciting opportunities planned for that week.

Today (Friday 10 May) children will be bringing home their 'Snapshot jotters'. These give you the chance to see some of the learning experiences your children have had in the past week and for those children in P2 and above, the chance to see the progression from the previous year(s). There is a feedback sheet which you are asked to complete. Stage newsletters are also being sent home soon which will give you more information on the learning and events taking place in each class.

Over the next two weeks we will be doing assessments across the school to give us an indication of progress. These are an integral part of school life and are delivered as part of everyday class learning. They are also only one aspect of how we look at pupil progress with teacher judgement still being the main one.

On Friday 24 May we will be having an outdoor gardening event to launch the 'Leith Chooses Project'. This is being organised by the PSA and all classes will be taking part in some planting/gardening activities that morning.

There is a 'Drop in' for parents and families on Friday 31 May. This is 11.30 – 11.55 for primary 1 and 2 pupils and 12.00 – 12.25 for primary 3-7 pupils. This is an opportunity for you to visit your child's/children's classroom and see some of their learning. I hope to meet many of you that morning if I haven't already done so!

Please can I remind you that all requests for time out of school for any reason ranging from appointments to term time absences should be requested in writing. These requests can either be sent in the form of a letter or emailed into admin@broughton-pri.edin.sch.uk

The refurbishment programme continues. I'm extremely impressed with how smoothly it is running and how well both staff and pupils manage this. The art and book stores are currently being done and then they will be making a start on the ground floor.

Should you wish to see me for any reason please ask at the office, phone or email the admin address above. I will try and see people as quickly as possible.

Maria Gowans

Head Teacher