

**Eddleston Primary School**

**Newsletter 1: August 2020**





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**Head Teacher:** Miss Lorna Murdoch

**Address:** Eddleston Primary School, Burnside, Eddleston, Peebles, EH45 8RH.

**Website:** www.eddlestonprimary.co.uk

**Twitter:** @EddlestonPS

**Learning Community:** Tweeddale

**Head Teacher’s Welcome**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I’d like to warmly welcome all of our families (new and current) back to Eddleston Primary.

My staff and I have been very excited to see all the pupils and hear all their news.

Although it’s been a very different start to the new session, we’ve still managed to make it a successful one. We welcomed our new Primary 1 pupils, who have settled very well into Eddleston Primary life and have very much enjoyed their first few days. Our Primary 7 buddies have been an absolute credit to the school and have worked very hard to ensure that their Primary 1 buddy has felt welcomed and safe at school on their first few days.

I would again like to very much thank all our families for your continued support and understanding throughout our home learning period and for your support on our return to school.

Although our return has not been a ‘normal’ return, we will continue to work under Scottish Borders Council and Scottish Government advice and guidelines.

If you have any questions and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Please enjoy looking through our newsletter with updates on what learning experiences our pupils have been/will be involved in.

Kind regards

***Miss Lorna Murdoch***

Head Teacher

**lorna.murdoch@scotborders.gov.uk**

**Primary 7 buddies**

Our Primary 7 buddies have been absolutely fantastic helping our new Primary 1 pupils settle into school. They’ve been helping them get ready for breaks and lunches and helping to settle them into school routines. We are very proud of our new Primary 7 pupils and the super start they’ve made to the new session.

**Staffing update**

Mrs Amie Ferguson joins us on a temporary basis as a Curriculum Support Teacher. She will be working with both classes, undertaking some P.E, art and French lessons. She will also be working with Miss McDougall and Mr Firth and their classes for outdoor learning lessons.

I’m sure you will join us in welcoming her to Eddleston Primary.

**Music lessons**

Schools have been advised by Scottish Borders Council, that music lessons won’t take the normal format they usually would until further notice. As Peripatetic Teachers are required to only work in one school per day, Mrs Inglis will join us every second Monday.

**SIP/SIR**

All school improvement plans for this session are currently being reviewed by Scottish Borders Council. When confirmed, I can release this document to you. Our planned priorities for this session are below. Our school improvement report will be released this week.

Priority 1: Learning, teaching and assessment

Priority 2: Outdoor learning

**P.E lessons**

Our pupils will still be engaging in P.E lessons each week. However, these lessons will take place outside until further notice, as opposed to our gym hall, as per Scottish Borders Council guidelines. Schools have been asked to minimise changing of clothing, thus, pupils will be asked to remove their jumper and change shoes, where appropriate.

**Parent Council**  ****

**Current Chair:** Mr Alan Wise (2019-2020)

**A.G.M**

**Date:** Thursday 27th August 2020

**Time:** 6:30-8pm

**Location:** TBC

**Future meeting dates for 2020-2021**

TBC

**Newsletter contributions**

We always welcome any newsletter contributions, therefore, if any of our parents/carers/members of the local community have any newsletter contributions that are school-related, please let us know.

**School lunches**

As part of Scottish Borders Council’s return to school process, our lunches are part of the ‘Grab and go’ scheme. From week beginning 31st August, the lunch system will return to normal.

**Wider achievements**  ****

We feel that it’s very important for us to recognise that our pupils achieve both inside and out-with school. Thus, we feel that it is important for our pupils to share these successes with their peers.

These achievements could include musical successes, sport or an achievement in a specific hobby.

Please let us know about any achievements outside school that your child would like us to know about.

**‘Piranhas’ – Introductory session**

The mini section of Peebles Rugby Club will be holding an introduction session for P1s on Sunday 23rd August, 10am at Haylodge Park. The session is free for all P1s to attend.

P1 Piranhas is all about having fun and developing basic skills and awareness. There's no contact until late in P3.

Trainers are fine. The more waterproof the better though as the grass can be damp and spoil their enjoyment. Shorts and t-shirt if the weather is OK or a lightweight waterproof jacket if it's damp.

No one who turns up on the day will be turned away, however, it would be most helpful in these Covid restricted times if you could drop me an email to [mtmsteel@googlemail.com](mailto:mtmsteel@googlemail.com) containing the child's full name and a contact email address, please. This will give us an indication of numbers and therefore how many pitches to set up /coaches required.

We'll also be on the lookout for up to five coach volunteers. You'll be supported in the role and we'll pay for you to do your coaching badge. We'll also cover the mandatory Disclosure PVG check costs. If this is of interest, please let me know. I hope to see you there.

Regards

Michael Steel  
PIRANHAS CONVENOR

**Clubs**

We’re obviously very keen to start up our lunch time and after-schools clubs. When guidance allows this, we will be looking at having more/different clubs, including a Gardening club. For this club, we’d be seeking parent volunteers to help run this after-school club along with a member of staff (Mrs Tocher is green-fingered and is very keen!) and when at liberty to, will be putting out a request for interest and would be most grateful if you could give this some consideration. Hopefully this will be in the not so distant future.

**Parent Council Update**

It is wonderful to see the school open again and all the pupils returning for the new academic year. We would like to warmly welcome everyone back, particularly the new P1 intake and their families – it is so good to see such a healthy number of new pupils this year.

**AGM**

This month we have our Parent Council AGM, at 1830 on the 27th August. Due to the current restrictions we will be running this via a ZOOM call and we will send dial-in details via email. We aim to represent the views of all parents and so we welcome all to attend – this year our Treasurer, Sue Whittle, and Deputy Chair, Tracey Thomson are looking to stand down after a number of years of fantastic service, so if anyone is interested in getting involved formally or informally please let me know.

**100 Club**

I would like to introduce all new parents to the schools oldest fundraising activity, the 100 Club. It works by charging each participant £12 per number per year, which enters them into a £1 draw each month. 1st prize is £30, 2nd is £15 and 3rd is £10 leaving a £55 profit for the school each month if we have sold all 100 numbers. The club runs from October to September. We will send out more details of how to join/renew over the next couple of weeks, but in the meantime please don’t hesitate to contact either myself ([wise45@btinternet.com](mailto:wise45@btinternet.com)) or Alison Glasgow ([windytail@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:windytail@hotmail.co.uk)) if you’d like to join.

**500 Mile Challenge**

Congratulations to all the children who took part in our Summer term fundraiser of running, walking and cycling a collective 500 miles (and thanks to Mr Firth for the online tracker!). Just a reminder that if you have any sponsorship monies outstanding, please transfer these to the OOSC account (Sort Code: 83-26-09 Account: 00225370; Please mark your donation ‘500miles[name of child sponsored]) as soon as possible as we would like to use the funds for new outdoor play equipment.

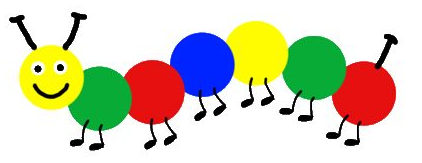
**WhatsApp**

Finally, we also run an Eddleston Parents WhatsApp group as a means of rapidly sharing information and ideas. Please don't hesitate to contact me on 07765513224 if you would like to join this group.

Thank you,

Alan Wise

Chair, Eddleston Primary School Parent Council

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Welcome back everyone!

It’s been a very strange few months for us all but it’s great to be back with everyone and such a relief to find that all the children seem to have come through this apparently remarkably unscathed.

Out of School Club returned to our usual hours on the first day back at school. We are still based in the village hall for the time being, as construction of our storage shed has been delayed due to Covid-19 but with any luck, we should be established in the school within the next couple of months. We very much look forward to welcoming some of our new primary ones to the club in the near future. It has been lovely to see them playing in the school grounds with everyone after school.

Thank you so much to everyone who participated (children *and* their accompanying adults!) in the 500 Mile Challenge during the lockdown period. To date you have raised an amazing £520 and we would ask that if anyone still has sponsorship funds, that you please pay them in to the out of school club account as soon as possible in order that we can begin working with the Parent Council to look at purchasing equipment for the school playground.

We obviously had to temporarily suspend the craft sessions with Red Button when schools closed in March, however, when we feel like things are on a more stable footing and it is safer to do so, we will recommence these from wherever we are based at the time.

Finally, we would love to see some of you at our next committee meeting/AGM on Wednesday 2nd September at 7.30pm, which will be by video call. Please let us know beforehand if you would like to be added to the call.

Alison, Gail and the Committee

Eddleston OOSC