

**Eddleston Primary School**

**Newsletter 7: April 2021**





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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 can’t believe that I’m writing this and it’s almost the end of April! It’s scary how quickly time flies in!

I really hope that everyone managed to have a well-deserved break over the Easter holiday. I think we were all in need for some rest!

I hope you enjoy looking through our newsletter, where we are trying to have the children more involved in writing key updates within it.

Please don’t hesitate to get in contact with the school should you have any questions/concerns.

Kind regards

***Miss Lorna Murdoch***

Head Teacher

lorna.murdoch@scotborders.gov.uk

**Business Support**

Recruitment is now underway for Mrs Mackenzie’s post, with interviews planned to take place next week. Until then Cluster Business Support are in place on a Peripatetic basis. To give you an update of a few changes Business Support have put in place; Registers have now moved to a digital format making it easier for Class Teachers to log attendance, a shared-school email inbox has been re-instated (*EddlestonPS@scotborders.gov.uk*) and Business Support are also looking to set up a school app, which parents would be able to download to their phone to access key school information, including letters and be able to contact the school to make us aware of any absences. Key inormation will be distribted when available.

**Staffing**

Lindsay Speir has now joined us as a Classroom Assistant. Ms Speir will be with us every Thursday.

Recruitment for a Business Support Assistant to fill Mrs Mackenzie’s post has now been actioned. When I have further information, I will communicate this promptly.

Until recruitment is complete, the Cluster Business Support Assistant, Scott Crittell/a Peripatetic Business Support Assistant will join us.

**Absences**

We would ask that all absences are reported to the School Office before 9:30am in the morning or a voicemail on the answering machine is left. This is to allow us to ensure that all children are safe and well as soon as possible. We would also ask that you ensure that we hold the correct contact information for you. This is to enable us to contact parents/carers promptly in an emergency situation.

**Toys**

We’d like to give a gentle reminder to all pupils that no toys, games etc should be brought to school. This is due to COVID-19 restrictions, items getting lost/broken and pupils being distracted by them.

**Mrs Lorraine Mulholland tribute**

Our tribute to Mrs Mulholland has now been completed in the form of artwork. Stained-glass musical notes were chosen by the staff/children as a way of highlighting Mrs Mulholland’s passion for music and for her endless contributions to Eddleston Parish Church. They’ve been displayed on our dining hall windows as a way of highlighting the display to uphold Mrs Mulholland’s loving memory.

**Parent Council**  ****

**Current Chair:** Dr Alan Wise (2020-2021)

**Next meeting;**

**Date:** Thursday 6th May

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

**Location:** Virtual (Microsoft Teams)

**Our recent ‘Head Teacher Award’ winners**

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**Primary 1-4**

Samuel

Stan

Alyssa

Harry

**Primary 5-7**

Evan

Izzy

Felix

Olly

***Congratulations to our fantastic March/April winners!***

***Keep up the super work!***

**Primary 1-4 April update**

Violet has written the update for P1-4 for April! We’ve been learning about how to make an outdoor learning classroom! We designed our space and chose to flatten out the floor with bark and brought tree stumps over to the area to make a circle shape. We’ve been doing Maths’ work and have been learning to add horizontally up to 100! The P1s have been learning to count to 30 and to order numbers too!

**Primary 5-7 April update**

Jamie & Lily have written this month’s update. In outdoor learning we’ve been learning about Maths and Literacy. We’ve been learning about area and perimeter as well as doing treasure hunts! In Literacy, we’ve been doing lots of writing about descriptions of things. We also did some work about personification, which was really fun!

**Twitter**

Our Twitter account showcases a variety of examples of the learning that our children engage in on a daily basis. We upload photos/videos of learning experiences, resources and awards. We’re very enthusiastic to have as many of our parents/carers follow us so you can enjoy seeing the learning as it happens. Please follow us on Twitter **@EddlestonPS**

**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.

**Parent Council update**

It’s so good to see the children back to full time face-to-face learning at the school. Let’s all hope that this continues, and we soon return to normality. A very big **THANK YOU** to the teaching staff for providing such a structured package of education during home learning.

We aim to hold some form of outdoor leaving event for the P7s and to welcome the new P1 intake prior to the end of term. Obviously, this will need to align with COVID-19 regulations, so it may be an informal gathering in Elibank Park in June, similar to that held last August. We will discuss at our next PC meeting (details below) so any suggestions please let myself or the school know.

**Gardening Club**

The school has fantastic outdoor space together with raised beds and planters. All involved with the school would like to encourage outdoor learning as well as community engagement, so it would be great to set up some form of gardening club whereby parents and community members help our children with planting and growing vegetables and flowers. We’ve spoken to the Eddleston Horticultural Society and they are keen to get involved (as and when regulations permit). Anyone interested in helping, whatever your time commitment, please let me know.

**Parent Council Meeting 6th May**

Our next Parent Council Meeting is Thursday 6th May at 1830. All parents are very welcome to attend. As per usual during these times, this will run as a videoconference via Microsoft Teams. Joining details will be sent prior to the meeting.

Thank you,

Alan Wise

Chair, Eddleston Primary School Parent Council

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(Charity reg. SC040349)

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April 2021

* It has been great to finally get back to some sense of normality after such a long time and fabulous to see all the children again!
* Though appointed to the post of Play Assistant in December and having initially expected to begin work in January, we were delighted to finally have Lisa Swan on board on our return in March. Since then, she has settled in exceptionally well and already seems like a long-time member of our little family!
* We are getting scarily close to the end of the current academic year when we will be saying goodbye to our primary 7s as they make the transition to Peebles High School. Unfortunately, this means that two of our longstanding committee members, Tom Jones (chairperson) and James McNab (Treasurer), Dads to Lily and Jackson respectively, will also be stepping down from their committee positions. As of yet, we have been unable to fill these positions. The Out of School Club is a vital support for many parents and losing this service could make the difference between families choosing to send their children to Eddleston Primary or another school that provides out of school care, which could ultimately impact on the vulnerability of the school itself. Without volunteer committee members, the club cannot operate and would be forced to close. Please, if you are able to consider taking up one of these positions and would like some more information on the job role, get in touch with me by e-mail at; eddlestonoosc@yahoo.co.uk or call/text 07833 158064. We really do need you!
* We continue to adhere to COVID-19 control recommendations, spending as much time as possible outdoors and implementing increased hygiene procedures, Fortunately, we have been very lucky with the weather so far.

Alison Brown (Manager)

Eddleston OOSC