



*Learning, growing, caring, sharing*



Illustration : alex leonard

The government should make sure your rights are respected

*U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child: Article 4*



# Community Newsletter

## May 2016

Tel: (0131) 663 0546

E - mail: [mayfield-ps@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:mayfield-ps@midlothian.gov.uk)

<http://mayfield.mgfl.net>

# Introduction



Dear Pupils, Parents/Carers and Community Friends,  
Hello and welcome to our May newsletter. Here's our first newsletter of the Summer Term. We hope everyone enjoyed a safe and happy Easter break. As always we do hope you and your child will sit together to read our news and achievements - we have lots of events to look forward to this term! Enjoy!

# Health and safety



*UNCRC Article 19: Children should be safe from harm.*

*UNCRC Article 24: Every child has the right to the best possible health.*

## JRSO

Week commencing the 16<sup>th</sup> May is our next Walk to School Week. There will be charts in all the classes to log the amount of children who are walking to and from school. On the Tuesday (17<sup>th</sup>) of that week it will be Happy Shoes Day when the children can come to school in their 'happiest' shoes. A prize will be given for the fanciest footwear! We will also be doing our Inter School Walk, a walk between local schools.



### Sending children to school when ill

A kind reminder - if your child is ill, please don't send them to school till they are better to avoid infections being spread (48 hours after the last symptoms of sickness & diarrhoea).

It would also be appreciated if you could help your child use a hanky correctly, including discarding them appropriately.

## Behaviour

This year, school staff have worked on a flow chart to clarify what happen when children ready, or not ready to learn. A copy is being sent home with this newsletter. This chart should be familiar to your child as it has been shared in all classes. Please can you read through the chart with your child too and perhaps display in a prominent position in your home so all pupils and parents/carer are aware of our school procedures.



### Integrity

Please ask your child for the definition of the word Integrity as we have been thinking about this in assemblies. If you're not too sure, we are defining it as 'Doing the right thing, even when no one is looking'. It's not always easy to make the right choices, but we do hope everyone will try.....even if no one is about!

## Playground equipment

At our parent/carer consultations before the Easter break, each pupil had a review sheet in their trays to gather feedback on our playground equipment.



Results are as follows:

	Parent/carer views	Pupil views
<b>Things that are liked so far</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Giant outdoor games e.g. Connect 4</li> <li>• Both of the climbing frames. Children seem to have fun on it.</li> <li>• Astroturf beneath the climbing frames</li> <li>• It is safe</li> <li>• The fact that the frames are slightly different in each playground.</li> <li>• Spread around the school</li> <li>• Designed for all age groups</li> <li>• Benches good for resting</li> <li>• Art work on the walls - great that children are encouraged to draw outside with chalks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stuff in the black box outside to play with</li> <li>• Playing on the equipment in Big Playground</li> <li>• Climbing frames</li> <li>• Boat in the small playground</li> <li>• Playing games</li> <li>• Chasing children around the climbing frame</li> <li>• You get to climb</li> <li>• Skipping</li> </ul>
<b>Improvements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More of what is already there. Two frames is not a lot for 9 classes to share</li> <li>• Something not as high for smaller children</li> <li>• Chairs/seating</li> <li>• More games on the ground in the playground e.g. hopscotch</li> <li>• Frames that are not as high</li> <li>• Not as many pupils allowed on at one time</li> <li>• More Wall Art</li> <li>• After school clubs</li> <li>• All weather equipment</li> <li>• Make playground more colourful</li> <li>• Unsure of what is available for the children to play with.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have swings</li> <li>• Have a slide</li> <li>• Have a see saw</li> <li>• More play equipment</li> <li>• A toy horse to play on</li> <li>• A pretend Castle</li> <li>• Hopscotch</li> <li>• More football equipment/goals</li> <li>• More flowers</li> </ul>

Next steps as part of our planned project, is for mounds (see photo to the right) to be added in the larger playground, the sandpit to be built between both large and small playgrounds and a story-telling chair to be built in the corner of the grass at the entrance to the school, along with seating around the main entrance for all to use. This will hopefully address some of the next steps you would like to see in our outside area. We won't be able to purchase another climbing frame at the moment, or a slide or a see - saw because of the required funding, but we can always endeavour to seek further funding in the future.



In the meantime, it's wonderful to see children both in and out of school from Mayfield PS, other schools and the After School Club enjoying using our outdoor space.

We will also endeavour to keep replacing lost and damaged playtime equipment. At the start of term, our first assembly was dedicated to reminding all children of our playground charter which includes everyone being nice and respectful in the playground, both to others and playground equipment.

### **Pupils on the roof**

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A kind reminder, though we have our playground equipment for community play, this doesn't extend to our school roof. Please ensure your child doesn't access the roof for any reason as the roof isn't safe. Should anyone be found on the roof, the police are always called by school staff during school hours. Should you notice anyone on the roof out of hours, it would be appreciated if you could contact the police also.

### **School uniform**

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**Since the start of term, a good majority of pupils have been showing respect for our school by wearing full school uniform! Well done to them and their families. However, a small number of pupils have been forgetting to wear the expected items of clothing. Please see our policy below and help your child come to school in their full uniform. Your support is appreciated.**

School clothing has the benefit of preventing domestic squabbles about suitable clothes for school and saves parents/carers from having to cope with the expense of having to change their children's clothes according to the most recent fashion whim.

School uniform consists of navy sweatshirt and polo shirt in either white or navy and grey or black trousers/skirts. Other items of clothing are also available and may be ordered from the school office. Footwear should be sensible and black in colour.

**Designer wear, denim, sportswear (including trainers), or football colours should not be worn.**

We request that jewellery is not worn in school. Midlothian Council does not compensate for jewellery or clothing lost or damaged in school.

For safety reasons, looped/dangle earrings must not be worn in school, and all jewellery must be removed during PE lessons. Teachers cannot take responsibility for looking after these items during lessons and no compensation will be made if they go missing. Please help us by insisting that your child adheres to our policy.

### **Assistance with provision of clothing and footwear**

The Authority operates a scheme of clothing grants to assist parents in ensuring that a pupil is sufficiently and suitably clad to take full advantage of the education provided. Families in receipt of Income-based Job Seekers allowance, on Income Support or Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit (subject to a maximum annual income), both maximum Child Tax Credit and maximum Working Tax Credit (subject to a maximum annual income) or support under Part VI or the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 will automatically qualify for such a scheme. Other cases will be determined according to the personal circumstances of the family. Parents who wish to apply for the scheme should complete an application form which is available from this school or the Education and Children's Services Division, Fairfield House, 8 Lothian Road, Dalkeith EH22 3ZG.

## Healthy Reading Midlothian

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Every library in Midlothian also holds a collection of books called 'Healthy Reading'. These cover a wide range of topics and are aimed at improving the wellbeing of adults with mild to moderate mental health problems. The booklist available online via the libraries homepage at [www.midlothian.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.midlothian.gov.uk/libraries) under the Health and wellbeing tab.

# School news



*UNCRC Article 28: Children should be able to go to school.*

## Junior Bake Off for CBBC

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The *Junior Bake Off* team for CBBC is looking for children to take part in the next series that we will be filming during the summer holidays. All applications should be submitted before midnight on Sunday 1st May 2016 - the team are looking for children that are between the ages of 9 and 12 years, for the period of 1st July 2016 - 1st September 2016.

The link to download the application form is: [www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/junior-bake-off-4-be-on-a-show](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/junior-bake-off-4-be-on-a-show). Once the form is completed it can either be emailed or sent to us in the post. All the details are in the link above.

Rosie Geiger, Casting Producer E: [rosie.geiger@loveproductions.co.uk](mailto:rosie.geiger@loveproductions.co.uk)

## Recycling rubbish for cash

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We are still recycling Pens, Tassimo coffee pods and silver outer wrapper, sweet biscuit wrappers (outer packaging and individual wrappers) and this month we have been asked to join the programme for recycling spray deodorant cans.

When we have collected enough we send them away, they get sorted out, melted down and then they get made into plant pots, park benches and items for soft play areas. Please send in any of the above items into school with your child. Any money raised goes toward items for school. Many thanks. Mrs Chisholm.

## Midlothian Schools Orienteering Festival

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Congratulations to Sarah in P7 who won the Primary Seven Category in the recent Orienteering Festival held at Vogrie Country Park.

## Happy Shoes Day

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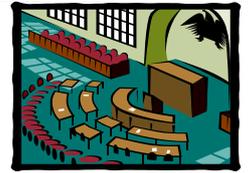
Tuesday of next week is Happy Shoes Day when all children are being encouraged to wear their 'happy shoes' to celebrate walk to school week.

## Inter School Walk

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Once again we're doing our annual Inter-School Walk -6 pupils walk to their neighbouring school promoting the walk to school message until all schools in the area covered.

# Parliament news



**Rights Respecting Schools: UNICEF Day for Change assembly Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May, 9.30am**

*UNCRC Article 1 and 2: All children have rights.*

On 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016 our school will be supporting UNICEF UK's Day for Change and we very much hope that you will join us in supporting this worthwhile, fun and educational event. It is a great opportunity for our pupils to learn about and raise money for children in other parts of the world.

The idea is very straightforward. Children are asked to decorate a jar and fill it with loose change. All money will go to UNICEF. There will be a prize for the best decorated jar in each class.

By taking part in this important event, we can help UNICEF protect children in danger around the world.

## School Growth Plan (SGP)



### Play

*UNCRC Article 31: Every child has the right to play.*

We were very excited to unpack (and even try out!) some new resources to help develop play-based learning throughout the school. These include lots of Lego, wooden train sets, puppet theatres and dressing up clothes. Our next steps are to look at making more use of these resources as part of our class topics and to inspire our writing. We are keen to share the great play experiences children have at Mayfield so we are currently planning a "Stay and Play" BOATS morning for the beginning of June. We will let you know details nearer the time.

### Visible learning

*UNCRC Article 28: Children should be able to go to school.*

We are making good progress in our visible learning journey here at Mayfield primary school. Primary 1B and primary 6 are piloting research projects within our classes to improve teaching and learning. Primary 1B will be exploring what makes a good learner in school while primary 6 will be investigating how to improve their writing based on feedback from teachers and peers. We will keep you updated in our progress. Miss Smith and Miss Craig.

### French

*UNCRC Article 30: Every child has the right to learn and use the language of their family.*

All classes are continuing to practise their French, with some Upper School classes also speaking Spanish. Mrs Campbell and Mrs Muirhead are undertaking French Language training in the next few weeks. Sadly, our French Language Assistant, Anne, is leaving us this week. The children have loved working with her since September. We would like to thank her for all her hard work with classes and wish her safe trip back to France. *Bon voyage, merci et au revoir, Anne!*



# Parent/Carer

*UNCRC Article 18: Both parents share responsibility for bringing up their child and should always consider what is best for the child.*

## Parentzone Scotland

Parentzone Scotland is a unique website for Parents and Carers in Scotland, from early years to beyond school. The website provides up-to-date information about learning in Scotland and practical advice and ideas to support Children's' learning at home. Information is also available on Parentzone Scotland about additional support needs, how parents can become further involved in their child's school and education, as well as details about schools, including performance data for school leavers from S4-S6. The website can be accessed at [www.parentzonescotland.com](http://www.parentzonescotland.com).

## FASTWORKS

Please come along and join us for this parent group being held every Wednesday from 13:30-14:30. Have a chat meet new people. No obligations just fun and friendship! *Limited places are available.*

# Community events



*UNCRC Article 15: Every child has the right to meet with other children and young people and to join groups and organisations, as long as this does not stop other people from enjoying their rights.*

## Mayfield and Easthouses Community Chest

Our Parent Council will be submitting an application for funding from the Mayfield and Easthouses Community Chest. At the time of writing, the focus of the application needs to be confirmed. However, we do hope that everyone will use their votes at the community event on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May to support the Parent Council application - any additional funding will be extremely valuable in enhancing the learning experiences for our pupils.

## Bessie, the PlayTalkRead bus

### Bessie the PlayTalkRead bus is coming to Midlothian!

Join in the fun and bring your little ones along for free songs, stories and play sessions.

#### 9<sup>th</sup> May AM

The Lasswade Centre  
EH19 9LA  
10am - 12:30pm

#### 9<sup>th</sup> May PM

Loanhead Leisure Centre  
EH20 9LA  
2 - 4pm

#### 10<sup>th</sup> May AM

Danderhall Library  
EH22 1QD  
10am - 12:30pm

#### 10<sup>th</sup> May PM

Newtongrange Library  
EH22 4LG  
2 - 4pm

#### 11<sup>th</sup> May AM

Penicuik Leisure Centre  
EH26 9EP  
10am - 12:30pm

#### 11<sup>th</sup> May PM

Roslin Community Hall  
EH25 9NA  
2 - 4pm

#### 12<sup>th</sup> May

Gorebridge Leisure Centre  
EH23 4TX  
10am - 1pm & 2 - 4pm

#### 13<sup>th</sup> May

Mayfield Leisure Centre  
EH22 5JG  
10am - 1pm & 2 - 4pm

For enquiries about  
group visits please  
call 0131 664 2308.



[playtalkread.scot](http://playtalkread.scot)

smarter  
scotland  
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

# Diary



Date	Time	Activity	Place
<b>May</b>			
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>		P7 Cluster Camp	Kingswood Dukeshouse Hexham
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> w/c Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	13:30-14:30	FASTWORKS - Every Week Walk to School Week	Conference Room
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	14:00-15:20	Seasons for Growth - Celebration	Conference Room
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>		Happy Shoes Day	Supporting Walk to School Week
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 - 10:05	Morrison Construction - Safety Talk	P1 - P3 & P3/4 - P7
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	11am approx.	Inter School Walk	St Lukes
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>		<b><i>In-Service Day - school closed</i></b>	
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8:50</b>	<b>Pupils Resume</b>	
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	9:00-14:15	P1 Teddy Bear Picnic - tbc	Botanic Gardens
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 - 10:30	Parent Council Meeting	tbc
	9:15-12:15	P1 & P7 Dental Inspections	Conference Room
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	9:30-10:00	UNICEF Day for Change - Assembly	Assembly Hall
<b>June</b>			
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	9:15-10:30	Treasure Island - whole school	Assembly Hall
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	13:00-15:20	Music Concert - P3 - P7	Assembly Hall
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9:30-10:00	P3 Class Assembly	Assembly Hall
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	11:00 & 13:30	Hopscotch "be keen to eat green" P1a&b and P2a&b	Assembly Hall
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	9:00-15:20 tbc	Transition days for P7 pupils	NCHS/St David's
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	9:00-15:20 tbc	Transition days for P7 pupils	NCHS/St David's
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	9:30-10:00	P1 Class Assembly	Assembly Hall
<b>July</b>			
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup></b>		<b><i>Term Ends - 12:00 Noon</i></b>	