

Roslin Primary School Newsletter



Term 2

School Website: roslin.mgfl.net

March 2017



Follow us on Twitter@RoslinPS

“Exciting Learning within our Friendly and Active Community of Roslin”

Dear Parents/Carers

This term has been full with exciting learning taking place across the curriculum. We have also been witnessing the development of our new school build. I had a site visit with Mr Stark and also with members of the Parent Council. The children have been involved in the whole design process. It is so exciting for the children to see their ideas actually happening in the new build. I have had weekly meetings with the Project Manager Maurice McCann and site manager John Campbell, to decide on layout, classes, storage, colour schemes, nurture spaces, kitchen facilities etc. A competition was organised by McLaughlan and Harvey to design a safety poster for a building site. The entries were of a high quality and detail. The winners were: Amelia P1, Nuria P2, Olivia P3, Arran F P4, Eva Longwe P5, Alasdair P6 and Evie P7.

Children have been designing drawings for the new school. 3 drawings have been chosen. Daniel McCraw - Roslin badge design to be etched onto glass in the new school. Rhiannon

Steele - drew a science design which will be displayed on one of the walls and Olivia Bain who drew a design inspired by Roslin Glen. Congratulations to all 3 children. We look forward to seeing the drawings when the school is finished!



P5 worked on a project for the new school thinking up places of interest in Roslin and Midlothian. This design feature will be in the dining hall which is at the entrance to the new school. Again it will be exciting for the children to see their ideas brought to real life!

A local resident Fiona McIntosh approached me asking if the children would like to see The Rosslyn Panel of the Great Tapestry of Scotland. It was a work of art and an important historical piece. It was lovely for our school to see the beautiful tapestry and hear about the dedication of the women who have restored it.

Finally I would like to thank all parents/carers for their continued support in the school and wish you all a lovely Easter with your families.

Mrs Jo Wilson, Head Teacher



THE ROSSLYN PANEL OF THE GREAT TAPESTRY OF SCOTLAND

The children were extremely privileged to see the Rosslyn Panel of the Great Tapestry of Scotland in January of this year.

Fiona McIntosh together with six other ladies have just finished re-stitching the panel as the original one was stolen over a year ago. Mrs McIntosh gave Roslin Primary School a special visit before it was handed over to the GTS Trust in February.

The Tapestry is a stunning piece of historical interest and an example of beautiful, intricate needlework.



Health & Wellbeing Open Morning



We held a Health and Wellbeing morning on Friday 3rd March. It was very well attended by parents, grandparents and carers. Everyone visited their own child's class first and then walked round the whole school from Nursery to P7. Everyone was encouraged to walk round so that they could see the progression in learning from Nursery through to P7. A whole variety of learning experiences were taking place: apparatus in the gym hall, emotion games, emotion poems, singing, learning about the human body, peer mediation posters, keeping myself safe programme and nurturing approaches in the school.



Gruffalo in Auld Scots

Primary 6b took the Gruffalo in Auld Scots and presented this to the whole school as part of the Scots assembly. The class then presented to the Nursery children. This project included the creation of large art pieces to represent each of the characters in the story. Those with speaking parts did additional practise on their scripts at home. We are now using these colourful characters to brighten up our GP Room.

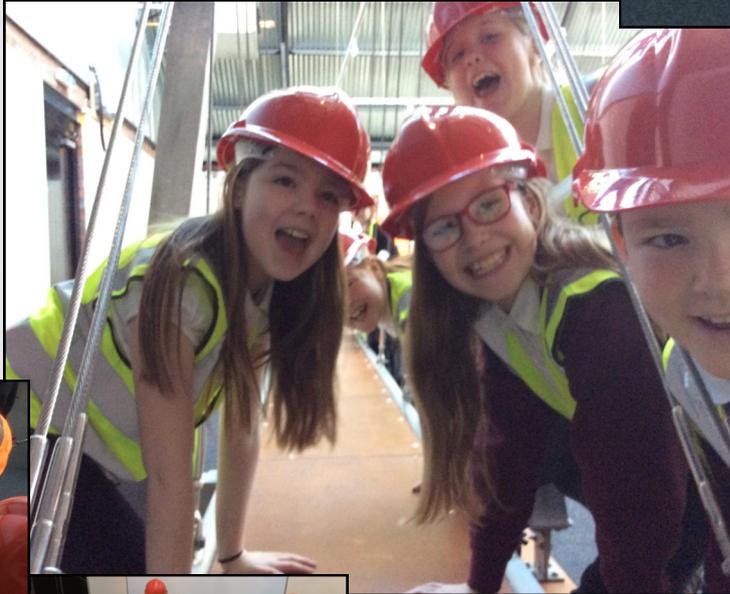


Bridges to Schools

P5 had a great time learning about Engineering by taking part in the 'Bridges to Schools' project, run by Crummock.

The children had to work together as a team to assemble a cable bridge. Our work was put to the test as we had to prove it was safe by walking over it afterwards!

It was a wonderful afternoon that let us see the real life uses of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths



Pupil Conference

Each year we hold a Pupil Conference where every child in the school has the opportunity to share their ideas and suggestions. There were four key questions this year, all connected to our School Improvement Plan. We had questions about science, maths and numeracy, French and wider achievement. Staff can now take this information from the children and use it to help create our next Improvement Plan. Thank you to Mrs Witney, Mrs Needham and Mr Phillips, our Parent Council members who helped us and also to all the staff and pupils who helped make our conference a success!



P4 Library Visits

Twice this term P4 have visited Roslin Library. We are very lucky because Carol the librarian opened the library just for us. We like reading in P4 and everyone chose a book to read for ERIC time or for at home.

SCIENCE

P2 have been investigating the properties of

water. We have been experimenting with ice linked with our Cold Lands topic. We started with trying to free a penguin from an ice block using a variety of resources such as salt, sugar, sand and water. We have been learning about fair testing and created an experiment to see if ice would melt at different times in various liquids. Our next fair test had us using different temperatures of water and we had to record our results. During our science work we have learned the terms materials, procedure, hypothesis and conclusion.



This session Miss Mathers has been working with five teachers from across Penicuik and Beeslack clusters as part of a science programme run by the Scottish Schools Education Research Centre. As a group they were tasked with planning and implementing a professional learning programme for our teaching staff, to raise staff's skills, knowledge and confidence in teaching science. This is a target in our School Improvement Plan for this year.

The cluster team attended two residential courses, each delivering high quality professional learning, which they have then used to teach all the teachers in our area about what they have learnt. The programme has also provided them with a significant budget to bring in science experts to run ten workshops with our

Primary One — Lava Lamps and Orange Experiment



Lava Lamps - We mixed things up and when we added the tablet it exploded!

Orange Experiment - We had to predict if the orange would float or sink when we put it in water. Lots of us thought it would sink because it felt heavy when we passed it around. It actually floated.

We then changed one thing about the orange and kept everything else the same. We peeled the orange. Lots of us now thought it would float because we had made it lighter, it actually sank.



It sank because the peel has lots of air in it and it helps keep the orange afloat, a bit like a life vest.



staff, which have been evaluated positively. Access to small grants has also allowed us to improve our teaching resources.

We recently asked our pupils for feedback on the science they have been learning this year. The children felt that the amount of science they are doing in school has increased. They were also able to talk about the specific science skills they have been developing and used lots of scientific language during discussion. With Mrs Primrose's help, we are also developing our links with the local science industries. All the staff have worked very hard to develop our science teaching as a team and we are looking forward to continuing work in this area next session.

P4 Have been enjoying their learning in science this term.

Mrs Blaney has been teaching us about forces where we learned all about friction and air resistance. Using different types of fair tests, we have been learning about the importance of variables and making sure we only change ONE of them during a fair test. We've also linked some science learning to our work in Health and Wellbeing because we have been trying to identify the major bones of the human skeleton.

Friction Investigation "Zip show"

1. To know that there is a force of friction between two surfaces
2. To know that friction is stronger between rougher surfaces than smoother surfaces
What is friction?

Slows something down
We are going to investigate friction by testing how far a 2p piece will travel on the ramp.

We will test different surfaces:

Blue Ramp	Carpet	Bubble wrap
Wall Paper	Carpet	Shiny Paper

To make our test fair, we will keep these things the same:

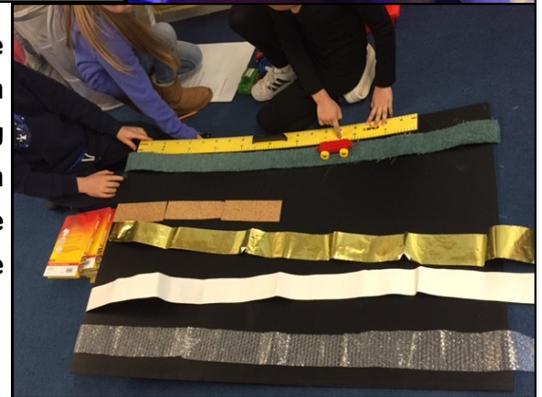
The ramp Start line The slope

Our Results:

Surface	Distance (cm)
Ramp	10 cm
Wall Paper	10 cm
Bubble wrap	10 cm
Carpet	10 cm
Shiny Paper	10 cm
Blue Ramp	10 cm

The 2p travelled the furthest on the Blue Ramp so it has the smoothest surface and has the least amount of friction.

The 2p travelled the least on the Carpet so it has the roughest surface and has the most amount of friction.



The children have been enjoying taking part in a variety of science activities. We used "Beebots" to investigate direction and programming, we looked at magnetic materials and Mrs Lang introduced the children to some interesting "slime" and a "magical" experiment that involved drawings floating in water!

Nursery



Head lice is a common occurrence amongst primary school children and this time of the year is no exception. Please check our website under "Information" for our [Bugbusting](#) link to handy hints and tips for staying on top of it.



As usual the last few months have been a busy time in the nursery.



In January, our focus was on Scotland with a Burns Supper,

stories, music, songs and dancing. We also held a family ceilidh which was a lovely evening and was very well attended. Thank you to everyone for making it such a success.

At the beginning of February we celebrated Chinese New Year, learning some Mandarin words, trying our hand at Chinese writing, making a dragon and taking part in a dragon dance around the school and finally finished the week with a Chinese banquet.

We are now looking forward to some Spring time adventures.

Nursery



As part of Primary 2 non-fiction reading, Freddie made at home and brought in to school, a number of bird feeders. Mr Stark kindly offered to help find the best spots in the playground to hang them.



I Collaborate Conference

On Tuesday, 14th February the headteacher and all teaching staff attended a conference at Newbattle High School for primary teachers. It was entitled 'I Collaborate' and was centred around sharing good practice. We are so proud of Mr Burt who was asked to present at the conference, showcasing the fantastic work he has been doing with P6b in relation to the Midlothian Learner. He received some amazing feedback and many teachers left with new ideas to try in their own classrooms – well done Mr Burt!

Scottish Poems, Songs and Quizzes galore. The school was awash with tartan of all colours on our Tartan Day.





Bookshop

We had a very successful bookshop on Thursday 3rd March. Children were encouraged to bring money into school in a purse or wallet for them to purchase a book (at a greatly reduced price). This tied in very nicely with World Book Day. All the children were encouraged to bring their favourite book into school to share with their class and teacher.

Thank you to all the Bookshop volunteers.



Rotary Quiz

This year's Quiz was held on Thursday 9th February at Penicuik High School.

Our team this year included: Adam Souter (p6), Evie Black (P7), Sarah MacEwan (P7) and Courtney McLeod (P7).

They all looked very smart in their white shirts and new school ties and gave a very good representation of themselves and the school.

Looking at their faces during the first round you could tell they were extremely nervous and the worry was that the occasion had got to them. As the competition progressed their confidence grew and it was lovely to hear from the organisers how impressed they were with their co-operation and teamwork.



Primary 6b Poetry

As a class we made Haiku poems using pictures of winter as a stimulus.

We extended this by creating free format poems. These were to be about winter but some of the class started writing poems about their emotions and feelings.

Using these poems we thought about Happy Thoughts/Sad Thoughts (or positive and negative feelings) during Children's Mental Health Week. We made a 'word bank' of feelings and reasons for feeling these ways. Everyone in the class then wrote a happy poem and a sad poem.

During this term we had a Health & Wellbeing morning where parents were invited into the school. We used a slide show with different pictures to establish what type of people we are. The pictures were used to determine what kind of person we were by how we felt. We used this information to produce new free format poems entitled 'Who am I?'

I have enjoyed the poetry writing because it lets me express who I am and how I feel. I hope we do more in the future.

Mrs Wilson plans to display the poems in the new school.

By Emily Phillips, P6b

Primary 3 Report on their visit to the Royal Botanical Gardens

We walked to a building and we had our snack and took our coats off. We went to the glass house and had to find a banana, vanilla and a drip tip leaf.

We saw a tree that is 200 years old and a bamboo plant. We use bamboo to make useful items like cups and spoons.

We went to a pond and then tasted chocolate and papaya.

It was a great day.

By Rory Purdie



Human Library

Today, the top area took part in a human library.

A human library is when a range of people from many different cultures, races and communities, come into school to talk to the children about their lives and past/present struggles.

The "Human Books", include people like Muslims, people with learning disabilities and members of the LGBT community. A community police officer also came to join us. The children engaged in an interactive discussion with each of the visitors.

First, the woman running the event, Erin, came in to explain how the day would be run. She showed the children each of the visitor's biographies, to give them a sense of what questions to ask and what they liked and disliked. The visitors all said that they enjoyed talking with the children and the children loved speaking to the adults. It helped us interact and to not judge people on what they look like because it's what's on the inside that counts.

"Don't Judge A Book By Its Cover" - Edwin Rolfe

By Sarah and Sophie, P7



Midlothian Sportshall Athletic Competition

On the day our Primary 7 pupils were up against 4 other schools from across Midlothian. The pupils competed against each other in a range of track and field events from Vertical Jump to Chest Push and a range of different running races. The pupils were a real credit to themselves and the school. In the end the pupils were beaten to first by Loanhead Primary School, with the winning margin only one point! All in all the pupils had a brilliant day and it has spurred them on to perform even better at the summer athletics event.





Mrs Wilson has had talks with Beccy Angus who leads the Junior Tour Guides and discussed putting the school forward for the Scottish Education Awards.

Mrs Wilson and Miss Brodie, along with Fiona Rogan and Beccy Angus (Learning and Outreach, Rosslyn Chapel Trust), prepared an application stating all the positive partnership links with the chapel.

We will find out soon if we have been successful.

Junior Tour Guide Programme 2016/17



A guided, performed tour of this medieval building, by the P7 class of Roslin Primary.



Thanks to parents signing up to "Easy Fundraising", we have received a number of cheques over the past two years, to buy resources for our school.

"You can make donations on everything from groceries to getaways"

"It doesn't cost a penny extra"

Take a look at their website for more information:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Or

Download the **new easyfundraising app** from the App Store

Primary 6a

by Arran Bone

We made reebops to learn about genes.

It was quite tricky because you had to order the alleles. The dominant ones are more likely to show up. They are shown with capital letters.



Orienteering

P7 took part in an Introduction to Orienteering afternoon at Penicuik Park. The event was organised by Midlothian's Outdoor Learning Service. The pupils spent a bit of time familiarising themselves with the orienteering map and how to identify their position and the position of other objects in the park.

Once Eoin, our Outdoor Learning Teacher, was confident they knew how to find their way round a course using a map they were sent off. Each pupil had their own dibber that was used to record the time they took between points. The pupils were then able to get a print out of their times and compare with one another to see who completed each course in the quickest time.

By Abbie and Lauren



MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL
EDUCATION, COMMUNITIES AND ECONOMY
SCHOOL SESSION DATES 2016/2017 and 2017/2018

2016 / 2017

TERM 2	All Break—Term Ends	Friday	31 March	2017
TERM 3	All Return	Tuesday	18 April	2017
May Day	School Closed	Monday	1 May	2017
	All Return	Tuesday	2 May	2017
Victoria Day	School Closed to Pupils	Monday	22 May	2017
	Pupils Return	Tuesday	23 May	2017
Extra Moving Out Days—Roslin PS	School Closed to Pupils	Thursday	29 June	2017
	School Closed to Pupils	Friday	30 June	2017
	Term Ends	Friday	30 June	2017

2017 / 2018

Term 1	Staff Return	Friday	18 August	2017
Extra Moving In Days—Roslin PS	School Closed to Pupils	Tuesday	22 August	2017
	School Closed to Pupils	Wednesday	23 August	2017
	Pupils Return	Thursday	24 August	2017
Autumn Holiday	School Closed	Friday	15 September	2017
	School Closed	Monday	18 September	2017
	All Return	Tuesday	19 September	2017
Mid Term	All Break	Friday	13 October	2017
	All Return	Monday	23 October	2017
	All Break—Term Ends	Friday	22 December	2017
TERM 2	Staff Return	Monday	8 January	2018
	Pupils Return	Tuesday	9 January	2018
Mid Term	Pupils Break	Wednesday	14 February	2018
	Staff Break	Thursday	15 February	2018
	All Return	Monday	19 February	2018
	All Break—Term Ends	Thursday	29 March	2018
TERM 3	All Return	Tuesday	17 April	2018
May Day	School Closed	Monday	7 May	2018
	All Return	Tuesday	8 May	2018
Victoria Day	School Closed to Pupils	Monday	21 May	2018
	Pupils Return	Tuesday	22 May	2018
	All Break—Term Ends	Friday	29 June	2018

Dates for the Diary:

- Friday 31st March—Easter Service at Roslin Kirk at 9.10am
- Friday 31st March—All break for Easter Holidays
- Tuesday 18th April—School re-opens
- Mon 24th to Fri 28th April—Health Week
- Fri 28th—Walk in the Glen
- Wed 20th April—P4 Swimming starts
- Wed 19th April—Bikeability starts (P6)
- Fri 21st April—Dr Bike (P6)
- Tue 16th May—P5 & P6 Showcase
- Fri 2nd June—Sports Day (1st date)
- 7th, 8th, 9th—P7 Transition at Beeslack
- Wed 14th June—Nursery Sports Day (1st date)
- Thu 15th June—P7 Leaver Show
- Fri 16th June—2nd Sports Date (2nd date)
- 19th to 23rd June—P7 Benmore Camp
- Wed 21st June—Nursery Sports Day (2nd date)
- Tue 27th June—P7 Trip
- Wed 28th June—Pupils break for summer