



Newsletter Friday 15th September 2017 @TowerbankPS www.towerbankprimary.wordpress.com

If you have some news for this newsletter please send it to admin@towerbank.edin.sch.uk

Goals

The new Football and Basketball goals were installed this week in the playground. There was considerable debate on which lines they should be aligned to, football or basketball. In the end we took a decision to go with the outer basketball pitch.

Time for a playground update... we're all delighted to see the Loose Parts Play (LPP) beginning to take shape and the children beginning to enjoy the benefits LPP can bring to the school experience.*

Loose Parts are materials that can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up and taken apart and put back together in multiple ways. They are non-prescriptive and foster imaginative and co-operative play. Children constantly create and construct when given access to Loose Parts: tyres, crates, wooden boards, logs, ropes, sheets... anything they can get their hands on becomes part of their play

Development of the LLP project is ongoing and we'll be putting out calls for additional equipment donations in the coming weeks.

There are various other playground projects in progress. We're working on the sensory garden which will be situated in the space between the sports pitch and the container. We'll need some volunteers (with cordless drills!) to help with installation when the planters arrive in flat-pack form. Timings TBC.

There are exciting development plans afoot for the wildlife garden, including the installation of a fabulous sail-like shelter (subject to all appropriate approvals). This would enable lessons can go ahead in the garden even when the weather isn't ideal.

We are lucky enough to have a qualified and experienced outdoor learning trainer within the school community who has offered to deliver training for the teachers to support them in delivering the Curriculum for Excellence in an outdoor setting at a nominal fee. This aspect of the wildlife garden project is under consideration by the school. If there are other similarly qualified individuals within the school community who are interested in this project concept and would appreciate the opportunity to submit proposals, please do message us before 20th Sept.

Work is ongoing on the shelter mural from two of the school community's architects. Details to be revealed soon.

And then there are various other exciting playground projects that have allocated funding and interested volunteers but really require a lead to take responsibility and move the projects forward. This would involve sourcing suppliers, liaising with the other Playspacers, the school, organising pupil participation where needed, communicating with volunteers etc. If you are interested in leading any of the following projects, please message us:

*A Friday afternoon gardening club
Wildlife garden wall mural
Additional playground markings*

We will have a representative of the Playspace group at the AGM to provide an update
Ruth Stewart-Simpson





On Sunday, Hannah took part in the Pedal for Scotland 'Wee Jaunt' challenge. She cycled 10 miles in only 1 hour and 45 minutes.

"I feel proud of myself. I was impressed with myself for doing a skid at the end!"

"Afterwards I got a medal and I went to have lunch and I made a smoothie using the power of a bike!"



Chloe got 4 medals for Karate which she does at Meadowbank. One was for winning the whole fighting competition! One was for coming third place in kick master.

"I feel proud because I took part. It was exciting but I also felt worried."

We have enjoyed taking part in Joe Wick's, The Body Coach, Schools Fitness Week. We completed a 20 minute workout every day! We loved getting fit alongside lots of other schools in Scotland, England, Ireland and Wales as well as schools further afield in places such as Spain! P6C, P7A and P3A





I won a medal for being 'The Most Improved' gymnast at Meadowbank Gymnastic Club. I love gymnastics and train 5 hours every week! By Alice P3.

Well done to all the pupils who have logged into their Sumdog account and have been busy answering maths questions! It is great to see so many pupils earning coins and having lots of fun playing maths games. Congratulations to P7C, P5C and P3A who qualified in the Scottish maths contest! Keep your eyes peeled for the next contest! In the meantime, Happy Sumdog-ing Everyone! Miss L Macdonald and Mr Rand J

Artwalk Party

We enjoyed our trip to the Artwalk as we were able to see how Art is used outdoors. We learnt that you could use art in a variety of ways such as making games. We were able to use our imagination to create games using the lines that had been painted on the ground. It inspired us to think that it's good to be creative and people will always have different ideas about how things should be used.

Deirdre gave us each a postcard with a picture of the art on it. We were able to take this away and come up with our own rules for using the lines.



The Body Coach

Each day this week we have been taking part in the body coach live workouts! It has been a good way to keep us fit and it's been fun! We are impressed by it because there are a million kids involved. It has inspired us to do exercise and will think about it more especially when we are older. One of the benefits is you can do it anywhere and it only takes 20 minutes.



Over the holidays Megan P4 completed the reading challenge at Portobello library. She was awarded a medal and a certificate.



Ami P7 has recently received 2 medals. One for completing the reading challenge at Portobello library. And the other for winning the origami competition at the Village Show. These are the cherries from her origami fruit bowl.



Last year P1/2 learned a song and were filmed as part of a major launch of a road safety competition. The film and lots of photos are now online here -

<http://www.gosafewithziggy.com/ziggys-big-day-out>