



Newsletter Friday 18 August 2017 @TowerbankPS www.towerbankprimary.wordpress.com

Welcome Back to all children and families.
This year we welcome the following new staff



left to right
Ms Younie P2A
Mrs Mooney P4D
Ms Fletcher P5B
Ms Nelson P6C

Leadership team

If you need to contact a member of the Leadership team they have responsibility for the following stages.
Mrs McCart - Nursery, P1 and P2
Mrs Morrison – P3 and P4 Monday, Tuesday and alternate Wednesdays
Mrs Chad – P5, 6 and 7

Football and Basketball goals

These were planned to be installed during the summer holiday however there were various unavoidable hold ups. They will be installed in the first week in September.

Vision

Last session school staff, parents and groups of children worked on writing our vision for Towerbank School. This vision is an aspiration and will underpin all that we do together to develop this wonderful school.

Our Vision

Towerbank Primary School aspires to...

Be an inclusive and positive school at the heart of our community.

Enable learners to achieve their full potential following an ambitious, innovative, creative and inspirational curriculum.

Develop independent learners to be confident, resilient, active, creative and well prepared for their future lives.

Encourage all children to be responsible local and global citizens.

Value and involve all members of the school family, guided by an ethos of collaboration, communication, kindness and respect.

This is our improvement plan for this year.

There are 4 main areas for work next session.

These are the same as the National Improvement Framework and the priorities set by Edinburgh Council.

These priorities and activities have been agreed after self evaluation work by school staff, discussions with children and importantly the views and ideas of parents who attended the Parent Council meeting in March. This is a summary document. The full improvement plan will be available on the school web site soon.

1. Attainment in Literacy and Numeracy
2. Closing the attainment gap
3. Health and Well being
4. Employability skills

Attainment in Literacy and Numeracy

Attainment in Literacy at Towerbank is excellent. Attainment in Maths while also very good is the area we have decided to focus our work on.

We want to improve the maths attainment of all children at Towerbank. Staff will work over the year to evaluate and then improve the curriculum. We will work with parents and carers to share how we teach maths and give practical advice on how families can help.

We want to work as a whole school family to establish a proper library for the school. We think a school library is an essential and that it will further improve the teaching of reading and writing.

Closing the attainment gap

We have received a pupil equity fund (PEF) grant of £75K this year to assist us to improve the attainment for all children. After consultation with staff, families and children we have decided to focus this work mainly on the teaching of Maths.

A full time teacher will be appointed to work with individual and small groups of children to boost their maths skills.

The intervention teacher will also work with all staff and families to help further develop the maths curriculum at Towerbank.

We have established an equity fund for families to access so that all children may take part in residential and outdoor learning.

We want to increase the amount of time we can offer to a small number of children in our nurture class.

Health and Well being

We want to review all our good work with outdoor learning, Eco, Fair Trade, Tanzania, Rights Respecting Schools under a new Curriculum for Sustainability.

We want to further develop our work on resilience and growth mind set with children – focusing our assemblies on these areas

We want to ensure we are preparing children to be safe in a digital world.

We want to develop the use of loose play equipment in the playground and make more use of the beach.

We want to be a Rights Respecting School and for the children to write a whole school charter.

Employability

We want to review how we teach financial education within the Maths Curriculum

Other Improvements

All staff will receive training in further meeting the needs of children with Autism

We want to develop a long term strategy for how Towerbank will make use of technology in the future.

Other changes and plans for next year

All children from P2 to P7 will visit an event at the book festival in August.

All children P1 to P7 will visit the Lyceum Christmas performance in December.

P1 will move to the ground floor of the annex and follow a more play based learning curriculum.

The school will further increase the use of the beach for learning and play.

All P5 children will work with Scottish Opera in 2018 and put on a performance of an opera to families.

P6 will visit Lagganlia outdoor centre in March. P7 will visit Benmore in April.

56 children will have the opportunity to go on a Ski residential in February 18.

90 children will have the opportunity to attend after school ski lessons at Hillend August to December 17.

We have plans to change the way classes share their learning with families. All classes will have an assembly during the year when children will share their learning with families.

Parent Pay will go live and all families will then be able to make online payments for all additional school costs eg meals.

The school will be entering a team in the First Lego League competition in December.

Children will have the option from August to eat their packed lunches outside in the playground.

New Football and basketball goals will be installed by September 17 in the playground.



we are
10



POD PRESENTS

Portobello VILLAGE SHOW

Sunday 3rd September 2017
2-5pm, Rosefield Park

Join us for our tip top tenth, Village Show – an Anniversary to celebrate in style for our annual, family day out! Dance your socks off at the 'Silent Disco' – new this year.

All the favourites will be there: baking, handicraft, music and races, plus many competitions, stalls, tea tents, great local food, live music, dog show, tug of war, duck racing... and the train tent. Always wanted to take home a medal? We're making this happen... Buy your own, limited edition, 10th Anniversary momento and contribute to making our Village Show the best day out in Portobello!

email: info@the-pod.org | www.the-pod.org

facebook

follow Portobello Open Door



VILLAGE SHOW

Competitions 2017

Outrageous Jewellery

Edible earrings, recycled rings, trashy tiaras.
Bling it on – the more outrageous, the better!

Origami Challenge

A new competition category for your amazing paper creations.
Let the folding fun begin!

Home Made Bread

Knead some inspiration? Don't be a sourdough,
get your luscious, levelled loaves rising!

Harmonious Home Brew/ Flavoured Spirits

We're looking for the most delicious boozy home
infusions – go on, give it a shot! (over 18's only)

Shoebx Fairy House

Miniaturise your home to make it fit for a gnome!

Twig Boats

Build a Figgy Frigate using only twigs, paper and string
and let's Race our Boats!

Best Dressed Fruit or Vegetable Pop Star

Bring along your poptastic fruit and star studded
vegetables to this Village Show classic!

Remember the competitions are open to all ages & abilities so no excuses!

To enter bring your entry to Rosefield Park between 12.30 - 2.15pm on
Sunday September 3rd. Winners will be announced around 4pm.

DOG SHOW

including best dressed, best trick and best dog

For further details on deadlines
and rules go to www.the-pod.org
or visit us on Facebook

Portobello
pod
Open Door

Fancy helping at this years show?
email us at info@the-pod.org
Go on, we need you!