



# The Lorne Phoenix

April 2016

Lorne Primary School 7 Lorne Street Edinburgh EH6 8QS  
Visit us at: [www.lorneprimary.co.uk](http://www.lorneprimary.co.uk)  
Head Teacher Bruce Murray

Call us: 0131 554 2308  
Email us: [admin@lorne.edin.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lorne.edin.sch.uk)  
Depute Eleanor English

## Summer term

Already we are in the final term for this session and as usual Lorne Primary is gearing up for a busy time ahead. We are beginning to plan for our transitions – our P7s moving on to their High schools and welcoming in our new Nursery and Primary One pupils. Next month we will put out a timetable of events to keep you up to date if you are a parent/guardian of one of these pupils.

### It's Red!

Thank you to our Parent Council, those of you who responded to our uniform consultation and to the pupils who voted on our new school colours. We had agreed that Lorne would have just one colour for its uniform (the exception being the P7s who will keep their special black uniform) and that this uniform could be purchased from any of the big supermarket chains (Tesco, Sainsbury's, Asda, Morrison's) It was a tense vote on the last day of the Easter term – all the pupils and staff were gathered in the gym hall. One end was decorated with blue balloons, the other with red balloons. The children and staff voted with their feet and a count was made to choose our new colour. The reds won! So from next session – August 2016 and onwards – we will encourage all of our pupils to wear our red school uniform. Samples will be in the front reception area within the next two weeks. Should you wish embroidered uniform, we are in contact with Tesco and an independent local supplier to arrange this.

To mark this big change the Pupil Council held some secret meetings to look at refreshing our school badge. From a selection of 12 very different images – we whittled it down to three favourites. The Pupil Council then voted on their favourite – unbelievably the vote was unanimous. Pictured below is what the school badge will look like. (Many thanks to one of our Star Parents for taking the image and branding it for us) We think it looks amazing!



## Didn't you do well?

As you are aware all pupils took part in the Sport relief Challenge this year to raise money for worthy child charities here and abroad. The upper school joined forces with Sainsbury's and several other local schools to participate in a sponsored walk. Meanwhile the P1 to P3s had a sponsored cycle, scoot and skate. It was a tremendous effort by everyone involved and much fun was had on the day. The pupils' sense of purpose and their understanding of the issues involved was especially pleasing. All told the school (that's you!) raised over £1100 for Sport Relief. What a great achievement for a school our size!



## Facelift for the library

Another big thank you to all of our supportive parents and helpers. From the money raised at our Halloween Disco and other events, the Parent Council donated funds to pay for a refurbishment of the school library. With some paint, new lighting, groovy bean bags, sofa covers and a giant projection screen – we now have a multi-purpose room that the children are really enjoying. Have a look at some of our before and after pics. Having the library at the heart of our school will help us to encourage reading and promote literacy. Look out for us becoming a Reading School next session.

## Before...



After...



### Places going FAST

Starting on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> and running for 8 weeks is the school's FAST programme. Sponsored by Save the Children these weekly sessions are designed to encourage closer relationships between school and families (**Families And Schools Together**) Each week our 15 families will meet together, participate in family games and art activities, enjoy a meal together and have some parent time to chat and have a coffee whilst the team supervise games with the children. Every family wins a hamper and every family has the opportunity to cook the meal for the rest of the group (all with our help of course!) We have a couple of spaces left –if you think that this might be ideal just for you and your children (all family members can attend) then please get in touch with the school. Ms English will be happy to talk to you about the sessions.



### Early / First Level News

Our Coffee and Cake afternoons are proving to be a roaring success. This week, both P1 classes and P2 enjoyed making fruit salad with their mums and dads whilst the teachers had the opportunity to talk about the pupils' current class activities and provide tips for home learning. See some of our pictures below...



### Second Level News (P5 to P7)

The children in Primary 7 spent their Easter Sunday bag packing at Tesco to raise funds for their upcoming trip to York. There was a fabulous turn out and under the close supervision of Mrs Porteous our pupils were a credit to the school. They chatted with the customers and staff, helped shoppers and all with a smile on their face. Mrs Porteous thinks it was a really good experience for the pupils – helping to develop their confidence and giving them another insight into the work environment. All that and they raised a whopping £742 for their efforts. This money will go towards reducing the cost of their school trip. Thank you to Tesco for helping us with this opportunity.

### Calendar كينلثر

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May School closed – Scottish Parliament Election

Tue 7 Jun to Fri 10 Jun P7 York residential week  
 Mon 13 Jun pupil reports sent home for parents  
 Fri 17 Jun sports day Leith Academy 9.30 to 12.00. If weather is too wet we will hold sports on the first dry day available.  
 Tue 21 Jun to Thu 23 Jun P7 transition days in secondary schools.  
 Jun 23<sup>rd</sup> – school closed European Referendum  
 Wed 29 Jun P7 Leavers Assembly 1.30 to 3.00  
 School closes at 12pm on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June



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## HOLIDAY DATES

Please always check for the most up-to-date version of Edinburgh City Council school holiday dates at...  
[www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20074/schools/20/term\\_dates](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20074/schools/20/term_dates)

The following holiday dates were taken from the above website on 3/5/2015 and may have changed since then. Please check at the above website.

## Summer Term

**Please take special note of the two election days when the school is closed.**

Mon 2 May holiday Monday  
Tue 3 May all resume  
Thu 5 May inservice day (Scottish Parliament election) staff only  
Mon 23 May holiday Monday  
Tue 24 May all resume  
Thu 23 Jun school closed (European Referendum) staff only  
Thu 30 Jun School closes 12.00 for all children and nursery

## PARENT COUNCIL NEWS

Parent Focus Group Meetings  
The Parent Council (PC) facilitated well-attended meetings of a Parent/Carer Focus Group run by Head Teacher Mr Murray on February 24th, March 9th and 23rd. These meetings followed similar sessions with school staff and pupils.  
Based on parent feedback, key focuses that make up a renewed school vision have emerged as:  
1. Raising attainment, in particular in Mathematics, with more effective transition between SEAL and Heinemann programmes.  
2. Effective learning, effective teaching to include a growth mindset with exciting topics and focus on digital training.  
3. Improved parental engagement.

Parents gave their views on elements that would comprise an 'ideal' school and explored ways to make the parent forum feel more inclusive and involved. These included enhancing school website as a go-to resource, introducing regular open and drop-in sessions for families and pupil field trips.  
A key fundraising initiative agreed was to make multi-purpose spaces within the school more user-friendly: refurbishing the former nursery outbuilding as a parent forum space and area to add value with extra curricular and community activity and evolving the library room as a more attractive, relaxing learning area, the latter now in progress!

Parent council minutes and news is available at [www.lorneprimary.co.uk](http://www.lorneprimary.co.uk), and [www.facebook.com/lorneprimaryschool](https://www.facebook.com/lorneprimaryschool).

The PC encourages the input of parents and carers. They can find out more about school activities, priorities and projects to help develop, bring new ideas and they can better support their children's learning experience. The PC welcomes your attendance at quarterly evening meetings and events held by its fundraising group Friends of Lorne Primary (FOLP). Meetings are opportunities to learn more about what your children are doing, curriculum areas in focus, fundraising priorities, and FOLP event planning. Refreshments are provided and there is an activity corner for pupils who come along, too.

*Remember that there is a PC sign up and feedback book in the office to register your interest.*

Next PC meeting: Summer session, Tuesday May 17th, 6.30pm-7.45pm, School Library.

The agenda will be drawn from the minutes to the previous PC meeting held on February 9th.

Please advise agenda items and confirmation of attendance in PC sign up book in office or directly by e-mail to me.

## Parent Forum News

**North East Edinburgh Locality Schools meeting Monday May 16th, 6.30-8.30pm, Portobello High School**

Lorne Parent Council is invited each term to attend a cluster group meeting of parent councils from 26 other primary and secondary schools in the area. These meetings report on common issues, share good practice and offer networking opportunities.

If you would like to attend with Lorne Parent Council, please sign up in the office.

## Big Pedal

Well done to all involved in helping the pupils in our school to participate in this nationwide challenge. Across Scotland, England, Ireland and Wales children have been encouraged to cycle or scoot to school. This is part of a Government initiative to promote healthy lifestyle choices whilst having some fun at the same time. Each day we log the number of journeys made by cycle or scooter and input this into the national database. As a percentage – in Lorne the class with the most journeys will get an extra 10 minutes break this Friday as a reward. Interestingly, with two more days to go Lorne Primary is currently 87<sup>th</sup> for most journeys in Scottish schools with around 1 in 5 pupils taking part. Well done!



Parent and Carer Support and Information Sessions on Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Issues



Please find attached a flyer and poster about the next Information and Support Sessions for Parents and Carers who wish more information or are concerned about their pre teen or teenager's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health. These sessions have been planned with the support of CAHMS and other relevant organisations.

Each monthly session has a different topic focus. There is also an opportunity for parents and carers to meet other parents and supportive professionals in a safe relaxed environment. Parents and carers of 11-18 year olds from in and around Edinburgh are welcome to attend any of the sessions.

Please share this information with any parents and carers who may be interested in attending.

*The next Parent and Carer Support and Information sessions will take place on-*

**Thursday 19th May 2016, Drumbrae Library Hub, 81 Drum Brae Drive, EH4 7FE, 6.30-8.30pm (There is parking available at the venue)**

**Teenagers and Sleep-***This session will explore strategies to help establish positive sleep routines with teenagers in order to promote emotional wellbeing.*

**Tuesday 31st May 2016, Southside Community Centre, 117 Nicholson Street, EH8 9ER, 6.30-8.30pm (On street parking)**  
**Suicide Awareness-***Understanding and managing risk with young people who have had suicidal thoughts or attempts.*

**Thursday 16th June 2016, Drumbrae Library Hub, 81 Drum Brae Drive, EH4 7FE, 6.30-8.30pm (There is parking available at the venue)**  
**Introduction to Mindfulness-***Considering the use of Mindfulness to help manage stress and anxiety in young people*

Please ask parents and carers to let me know if they would like to come along of any of the sessions.

Kind regard  
Jillian

**Jillian Hart** | Development Officer | Parent & Carer Support | Children and Families | East Neighbourhood Office, Level 1.02, 101 Niddrie Mains Road, EH16 4DS | Mob: 07860736129 | [jillian.hart@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:jillian.hart@edinburgh.gov.uk)  
See listings for [Triple P](#) [The Incredible Years](#) [Raising Children / Raising Teens with Confidence](#) [Teen Triple P](#) parenting programmes on [JoinInEdinburgh](#)



Enjoy your May day holiday and please remember the Election day on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May when the school will be closed.

Lorne Primary School Team

April 2016