



Head Teacher's Message

Welcome to the April 2021 edition of the High Mill newsletter. It has been wonderful to have all the children back in school. It has been great to see their smiles and hear their chatter and laughter fill the school again.

I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to parents and the school community for your support and hard work over the challenging weeks during Remote Learning. Your efforts have been very much appreciated.

Please continue to help keep our community as safe as possible by following FACTS when in and around the school grounds.

Items in the newsletter related or impacted by COVID-19 are in yellow.

Let's hope that the easing of restrictions we have experienced in recent days signal the start of brighter times ahead!

Kirstine McDonald

(Head Teacher)

Staffing Update

We are delighted that student placements can resume in schools again. P.6/5 have welcomed Miss Eusebi and she is delighted to be working with Mrs Wilson and the children until Friday 21st May. Miss Eusebi is a teaching student from the University of Strathclyde. Mrs Muir has also joined us as a student School Support Assistant undertaking a Professional Development Award (PDA) course. She will have the opportunity to work across all classes.

Mr John Sneddon janitor (Monday-Wednesday) has now retired following a period of ill health. Janice Scott continues to cover these days and work her usual Thursday and Friday. Once the Facilities Department have undertaken recruitment I'll share the details of the new janitor.

Welcome to High Mill

We are delighted to have recently welcomed 2 new families to High Mill.. Jayden has joined P.2/1 while Maya joined P.4/3.



Comic Relief

Thank you for your contributions to Comic Relief (Red Nose Day). A wonderful £59 was raised at High Mill.



COVID Mitigations - Lateral Flow Testing

Lateral Flow Testing has been in place at High Mill for several weeks now. It is available to all members of staff including cleaners, catering staff, janitorial staff and visiting specialists e.g. Specialist Support Teacher.

This test, which is taken twice per week, helps to find cases in people who may have no symptoms but are still infectious and can give the virus to others.

If a member of staff receives a positive lateral flow test result, they will isolate immediately and arrange for a PCR test. This reduces the likelihood of being in school whilst infectious.

In the instance of a positive lateral flow test, the same Track and Trace procedures will be started. NHS Lanarkshire will instruct the school on any action required and how and when to share information with any identified close contacts.

P.7 to S1 Transition

Transition Visits

There will be weekly Google Meets for children going to Carluke High School and these will take place in school each Friday. Children are encouraged to check the Carluke High Google Classroom regularly. Pupils moving on to different secondary schools will be informed separately of their visits. We are hoping that transition visits will be able to take place and wait for further announcements by the Scottish Government to confirm if this is possible.

The planned days for transition visits to Carluke High School are **Tuesday 15th June** and **Wednesday 16th June**. This year, P7s will be asked to make their own way there on both days. Mrs Naismith will be there to meet the children on the first day – we will let you know specific times as soon as these are confirmed by the High School. When they do attend, pupils will be expected to be in their uniforms.

High School Ties

A reminder that we will be gifting the pupils their high school ties, so there is no need to buy one - no matter which High School they are going to.

Parents' Evenings

Parents' evenings will take place on Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th June 2021. As we are unable to invite parents into school for 'in-person' Parents' Evening appointments at the moment, these meetings will take place over the phone. Further information and details about the date and time of your call will be issued in due course.

Green Gym

All classes are participating in a pilot programme called School Green Gym. This will take place at the new community garden on the site of the old High Mill. The programme involves a variety of nature-based play activities and outdoor learning experiences. This is a great opportunity for us to develop outdoor learning, which is coming across strong in the PEF consultations. The project will be delivered by The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) and is being funded by Carluke Development Trust.



Thank You

We would like to say a huge thanks families for supporting our Easter Craft sale. £515 was raised which is an incredible contribution towards purchasing another Clever Touch.



We already have 1 Clever Touch on order through Pupil Equity Funding and you can learn more about these on the following website:

<https://www.clevertouch.com/uk/home>



Purchasing these interactive boards will be the main focus of our fundraising efforts.

Staff Career-Long Professional Development

Google Certified Educators

Congratulations to Miss Scott and Mrs Cairns who have achieved Google Certified Educator Level 1. Both demonstrated their proficiency and expertise in using a range of Google tools in the classroom.



Health & Wellbeing

As Health and Wellbeing Lead, Mrs Naismith has completed Mental Health Champions training. This training is run by 'Place2Be' which is a children's mental health charity that provides counselling and mental health support and training in schools. The training enhances professionals' understanding of children's mental health and introduces approaches that foster positive wellbeing in schools and communities.



Smarter Parkers (Car Parking)

Concerns have been raised by local residents about the number of cars parking along Langshaw Crescent/Market Road and in particular that cars are blocking the road and parking close to corners.



Parents and other adults collecting children are asked to park smartly as inconsiderate parking increases the risk to children, other pedestrians and road users. We encourage as many families to walk to school or to 'park and stride' especially with the summer approaching and the (fingers crossed) nicer weather. Please support us in working with our neighbours who are part of our wider school community.

Feedback on Remote Learning



Thank you to those parents who completed our Remote Learning survey. Your views are important to us and will help us to review and adapt our approaches should schools be placed into remote learning at any future point. Children will have the opportunity to share their views too.

Dates for Your Diary (Events/Dates are subject to change)

May 2021

Wednesday 5 th	Carlisle High Parent Transition Event (Online)
Thursday 6 th	In-service Day – Closed to children
Tuesday 11 th	P6/5 Green Gym session
Week beginning Monday 17 th	'Eat Them to Defeat Them' healthy eating programme
Monday 17 th	Sharing and Showcasing Learning Event
Tuesday 18 th	P.4/3 Green Gym session
Friday 21 st	Mrs Eusebi's last day with P.6/5
Week beginning Monday 24 th	STEM Week
Tuesday 25 th	P.3/2 Green Gym session
Thursday 27 th	House Captain Event
Friday 28 th & Monday 31 st	Holiday – School Closed

June 2021

Tuesday 1 st	P.,2/1 Green Gym session
Tuesday 8 th	P.7/6 Green Gym session
Wednesday 10 th & Thursday 11 th	Parents Consultation Appointment (Parents' Night Phone Calls)
Tuesday 15 th	Prize Giving (Online/Recorded Event)
Tuesday 15 th & Wednesday 16 th	P.7 Visits to Carlisle High School
Tuesday 15 th	P.6/5 Green Gym session
Thursday 17 th	P.7 Leavers Celebration/Assembly
Friday 18 th	Sports Day tbc
Week beginning 21 st	Uniform Swap Shop – Non-uniform all week
Tuesday 22 nd	P.4/3 Green Gym session P.7 Leavers Treat
Thursday 24 th	Schools closes at 1pm for Summer holidays

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