



## MUIREDGE MAY NEWSLETTER

2023

### Step into Summer . . .

We cannot believe that we are now in our final school term! As always life in Muiredge is busy and not a day goes past without something interesting and exciting happening! From School outings to sporting events and of course our Coronation celebrations, we really have a lot to be proud of this session. The good news is we have 6 weeks until the summer break, so still time to create more 22/23 memories!



### Dalguise 2023

The sun was shining as our Primary 7 pupils headed off on an adventure of a primary school lifetime, to Dalguise Outdoor Centre. The children enjoyed an action packed week of activities including canoeing, abseiling and burn walking. They faced fear, challenged themselves and supported each other to make memories, which will last a lifetime. They even learned to become more independent cleaning dorm rooms and getting themselves up and organised in the morning. A huge thanks to our super staff who attended this trip with the children. We are now signing our P6 pupils up for next year and the countdown begins again!



Be The Best You Can Bee



# School Improvement

## Self-Evaluation for Self Improvement

In each newsletter, we like to share our focus for whole school improvement. This term is when we begin to evaluate our progress this session as we look to set new priorities for the term ahead. We will also be asking for pupil and parent feedback in our big survey on our school, to help us consider next steps.

This term our focus has been:



We have made very good progress with our priorities. We have had a huge focus on reading across the school and have been working hard to create a culture for reading of enjoyment. Our Book and a Biscuit events, new library, alongside the introduction of the Accelerated Reader programme has led to increased engagement and attainment in reading across the school.

All of our classes have greatly benefited from enhanced music provision and have had planned sessions with Mr Barclay from Beat Buddies. We have also targeted wellbeing support to our pupils who need it most and some of our families have been working with our Barnardo's support worker Tracy.

Our work on interdisciplinary learning continues and we are in the process of developing a new skill framework for our learners to build skills for life, learning and work. This session pupils have been immersed in a wide range of dynamic learning opportunities across a range of disciplines. We have also enhanced our learning through the return of educational outings, which have been most enjoyed!

Our staff and pupil leadership groups are leading the way across the school and new framework for leadership is here to stay. Both pupil and staff lead improvement groups and plan positive action.

Our early level staff continue to plan exciting learning opportunities for our youngest pupils, based on play pedagogy learning and teaching is delivered with learners at the heart.

A further review of our progress will be published in our school Standards and Quality report in August.

**Below is our new section of our newsletter, which offers advice on how you can support your child at home and in school. Our guide this term about how we assess children to ensure progress and achievement.**



## Learning In Focus

### Supporting Your Child At Home and In School : **ASSESSMENT**

## Why we assess:

The Scottish Government wants children to become Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors. To find out whether we are achieving these aims, we need to gather information across the full span of children's learning, from the early years, through to the point where they leave school. This information will tell us how children are progressing individually, as well as at school, local and national levels. Teachers will use the information to make decisions about next steps in learning, both for individual children, and in terms of the particular approaches and interventions they use in the classroom.

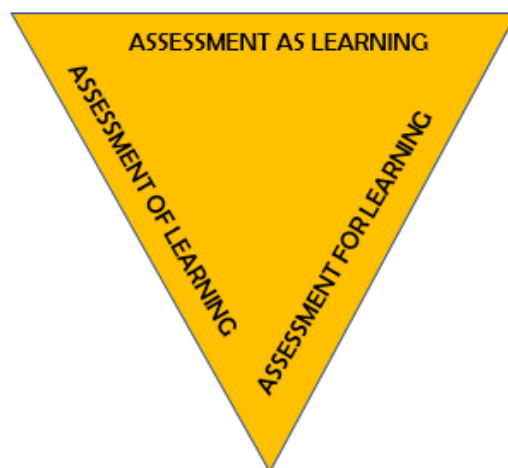
Assessment of children happens throughout the school year. Muiredge teachers use a wide range of assessment tools, which are both formal and informal to gather information about our pupils. The focus of assessment is to inform next steps in learning and teaching. In Scotland teachers' professional judgement is used to track children's levels, this means that teachers call on a range of evidence to decide if a pupil is on track and meeting expected curriculum milestones.

The vast majority of evidence teachers consider when making their judgements is gathered frequently and informally.' This ongoing assessment can take the form of:

- Children assessing their own work,
- Children assessing the work of others
- Teachers asking questions
- Teachers observing children working
- Teachers commenting on children's work.

More formal assessment can include:

- Projects
- Class Tests
- Question Papers
- Standardised Assessments
- Writing Assessments
- SNSAs - Scottish National Standardised Assessments



At this time of year, we use more formal assessments to check in on progress, you might hear your child talking about this happening in class. Teachers are highly skilled at explaining the purpose of formal assessments and reassuring pupils not to worry about this. Assessments are child friendly and some are even completed on the computer. At home it is really important that parents reinforce to children that doing their best is all that we are looking for and that assessments only give the teacher a snapshot of learning.



## What assessment looks like in Muiredge . . . .

✕ *Our pupils and staff identify and reflect on their own learning evidence*

✕ *Our pupils and staff help set learning goals*

✕ *Our pupils and staff use peer and self-assessment*

✕ *Staff use a range of evidence from day to day activities to check on pupils progress*

✕ *Our pupils, staff and parents are clear about what has to be learned and what success looks like*

✕ *Staff talk and work together to share standards across schools*

✕ *Our pupils and staff are given timely feedback about the quality of their work and how to make it better.*

✕ *Staff use assessment and achievement information to help plan improvement priorities*

✕ *Our classroom assessment involves high quality interactions, based on thoughtful questions, careful listening and reflective responses*

✕ *Our pupils and staff are fully involved in planning next steps in learning and setting targets*







## The medals keep coming!

Our school has never been involved in so many exciting sporting opportunities, and the medals just seem to keep coming! Our school Netball team won gold at the netball fun5 tournament. Well done to our coaches Miss Duffy and Mr Rafferty and our superstar children!

We also had success at the Davie Cooper football tournament. The girls just missed out on the semi final due to goal difference and the boys picked up medals for their efforts, they just lost out in the semi final on penalties! It was nail biting! Huge thanks to Head Coach Mrs O'Neill and our senior Uddingston Grammar pupils who have been working with the children this year.

## Sponsored Sports Star Visit

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May you could have heard a pin drop in our assembly hall as sports star Callum Deboys shared his inspirational life story, from real tragedy to ultimate success, you couldn't fail to be inspired. Callum Deboys then worked with all of our pupils to complete the sponsored event which raised a fantastic **£4500**. This will greatly benefit all of our children, we are aiming to add to our ICT equipment and will be purchasing further Chromebooks to support learning with funds raised. As always thank you to our families for your ongoing support, we very much appreciate your kind donations.





## Coronation Celebrations!



The bunting was strung out, tables decorated and crowns adorned our children's heads as we celebrated the Coronation of King Charles the third. Councillor Brown and BBC Radio Scotland came along to see our special Coronation lunch in action. They were not disappointed and commented on how polite and well-mannered our pupils were. The children had an enjoyable party lunch provided by our school catering team led by Myra our new Cook in Charge. It certainly was a school lunch to remember!

## P1 New Intake

We are welcoming our new P1 parents and carers to Muiredge this week as we host our Primary 1 induction meeting. This is a great opportunity to welcome our new families and share information about our school. Parents will also get a guided tour of our fabulous school building. We have 50 new P1 pupils starting in August; the children will be invited to Stay and Play workshops in the coming weeks and will get to meet P6 buddies, who are super excited.



## Parents as Partners . . .

Plans for the joint Summer Fete with St John the Baptist are well underway and we cannot wait to see the return of this super community event. The committee have been busy organising a wide range of activities and stalls for everyone to get involved in on **Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> June**. The fete is always a huge success but is only possible when everyone takes part. So please get in touch if you can spare an hour to help, your time would be greatly appreciated.

Our P7 parents have been working behind the scenes to arrange a super Leavers Festival for our P7 children. A huge thanks to everyone for donating so kindly to the fundraising activities, the children are going to get a wonderful send off, fingers crossed we get some good weather on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

A huge thanks to our Parent Council who organised our summer disco, this was extremely well attended and the children had a ball! The dancing was super and the tuck shop was a great hit!



## The Big Survey



As mentioned at the start of this newsletter we are asking parents/carers and pupils to take part in our big survey to help us shape our improvement focus for next session. This survey will be sent out via our school app and we ask that you spare some time to complete it. It covers a wide range of topics and helps us look at our work as a whole. We aim to make the big survey an annual element of our school improvement framework. The children from P4-P7 will also be asked their views and the survey links will be posted on Google Classroom. As always thank you for the ongoing anticipated support.

## Parents Portal

South Lanarkshire Council have invested in a new IT system called Parents Portal, which will give all parents access online to a range of useful tools linked to school life. Parents will be able to return permissions, log absence and keep us up to date with important contact information using this system. Whilst at this stage we are unsure if this will replace our school app, we need all of our parents to sign up and get logged in and we will endeavor to navigate this new technology together. Many of our families are already signed up, if you are having difficulty please contact our school office.

## End of Term Service

As the end of term approaches we want to invite parents and carers along to our pupil awards service at Uddington Old Parish Church on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June at 10.30am**. At this service, we will say a formal farewell to our P7 pupils, tissues at the ready! We will also celebrate achievements across the school and entertain with music and performances from our talented children.

## A Final Thought . . . time waits for no one

This session in many respects has gone by in a flash, maybe it's a sign of getting older or maybe life in general seems to be so fast paced, that blink and you miss it! School is of course supposed to be the best time in your life, and as a staff team we come to school every day with this in mind. Time is precious and the time we have with your children and young people is a gift we treasure. In all honesty, it has been a privilege to spend time this session with our kind, ambitious and committed pupils and we cannot wait to do it all again next session!

Kindest Regards

Leigh Miller

