



# Brunstane Primary School

106 Magdalene Drive  
EDINBURGH  
EH15 3BE

Chris McMillan, Head Teacher

Tuesday 17th January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

On behalf of the school, I would like to wish a very Happy New Year to all our Brunstane families. I hope that you all had a happy, healthy and relaxing break and those celebrating had a very merry Christmas.

We are delighted to have welcomed our pupils back and are looking forward to another exciting term of learning as we kick off 2023.

## **Infrastructure Update**

Following the recent launches of our Sensory Room, Sensory Playground and new Library, we were delighted to launch our new Adventure Playground at the end of last term.

The playground was designed by pupils from across the school, working with our Pupil Support Assistants to help design the perfect playground for our school community. This has been a huge piece of work, beginning with initial ideas in pupil parliament three years ago and growing into a whole-school project over the last two years.

We are incredibly grateful to all the families who supported with fundraising and the staff who worked so hard to make this project a reality.

Whilst the Adventure Playground and Outdoor Classrooms are a massive step forward in realising the plans for our playground, we aim to continue to develop other areas in the near future, including quieter spaces, sensory spaces and seating areas. We look forward to sharing these plans with you soon.

We are also looking to expand this further through our loose parts play. We are looking for donations of scooters, old tyres or guttering and old pots and pans and kitchen utensils. Please send any donations into the main office. Thank you!

## **Fundraising - School Camp**

You will remember from last year that Brunstane was able to raise a huge amount of money towards the P7 school camp and we will be looking to do that again this year. The campaign is called 'Tri to get P7 to Benmore and back' and like a Triathlon, the whole school community can raise money by running/walking, cycling or swimming the length of the journey to Benmore. There will also be whole school

events organised by P7 which will include the very popular 'splat the teacher'. Please keep an eye out on correspondence from the school in the coming weeks to let you know how to get involved. Let's try to get P7 to Benmore and back!

### **Pupil Parliament**

We are really excited to start Pupil Parliament but this time, we are doing it in our school families. Each Tuesday, the school families will get together and think of ways of making Brunstane an even better place to learn. There are 5 themes we will be focussing on - relationships, learning and teaching, health and wellbeing, our school community and successes and achievements. Keep up to date with the fantastic ideas being created by searching for the hashtag - #BPSParliament.

### **Pupil Participation Groups**

The children are coming up with fantastic ideas within their pupil participation groups and are really eager to put their ideas into practice! The Eco group have created posters to go above electrical equipment to remind everyone to switch things off to save energy. They are currently working on ways to help reduce the amount of printing/paper used within the school. The Digital group are working hard to increase everyone's knowledge of technology and feeding this back to classes. The Rights Respecting group are looking at how our rights link into the school values and how we can make this visible within classrooms. The Sports Leaders are focussing on how to improve the accessibility of various sports at Brunstane and trying to get all pupils involved in a group. Playground leaders are continuing to improve our outdoor space which the children have lots of ideas about! Brunstane Road Stars have been learning about the road safety responsibilities of both drivers and pedestrians. They have begun work on some beautiful and eye-catching posters which will be put up to help raise awareness of road safety throughout the school and the local community.

### **Attendance**

Last year, families, staff and pupils worked very hard to raise attendance so we would like to keep this momentum going this year. It is vital that the children are attending school each day. Not only do children miss out on learning through absence, they miss many experiences that help them develop both socially and emotionally.

Please check our class Twitter pages on Thursday evenings which share all the learning we will be doing on Fridays.

### **Families Connect**

Families Connect is a programme which aims to build strong bonds between learning at home and school. It starts on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January at 9.30. If interested, please fill in slip from families connect letter or get in touch with Miss Mechie.

### **Early Pick Up**

Please note that if you are needing to collect your child from school early for an appointment you must bring the appointment letter with you to show at the office. We cannot dismiss children early without it.

### **Curricular Events**

Each level will be holding a curriculum event to share our approaches to teaching literacy and numeracy. A separate letter will come out soon but for now please save the dates below:

P1 Curricular Event 3-4pm Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> of February

P2-P4 Curricular Event 3.30-4.30 Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February

P5-P7 Curricular Event 3.30-4.30 Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January

### **Sickness/Diarrhoea - 48 hour Rule**

We would like to remind families that all Edinburgh schools and nurseries follow the NHS guidelines on sickness and diarrhoea – that children showing these symptoms should not return to school/nursery for 48 hours.

We also ask families not to send children into school with a high temperature.

We thank families in advance for adhering to these rules to keep the school community well and prevent the spread of illness.

### **Class Newsletters**

We will be issuing class newsletters next week. Please keep an eye on school bags for all the latest on your child's learning!

Yours sincerely



Chris McMillan  
Head Teacher