

# MAURICEWOOD PRIMARY

January 2015

## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year

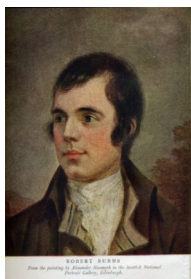
On behalf of all the staff I would like to wish all our families a Happy New Year. We hope everyone has had a good break and has returned refreshed for the challenges the new term has to offer.

Judith Mathers

### Scots Night 2015

Thursday 29th January 6.30pm

School Hall



January sees our term start with a focus on Scots literature and music. Classes will be choosing poems to learn for our Burns Assembly and once the hard job has been done of choosing the best performances, families will be informed so they can join us at our Scots Night. We will as always handover the hard decision to our guest judges on the day!

If your child would like to play an instrument, sing or dance with a Scottish theme they will be given the opportunity to audition for a place on the night. Tickets will cost £ 1.00 and will be limited at least initially to 2 per performer. Performers will be informed by Friday 23rd January. We are very grateful to the PTA who support this event by providing the refreshments and helping on the night.

### Free School Meals for P1 to P3 Pupils

This week has seen the start of the Scottish Government commitment to free meals for P1, 2 and 3 pupils. Hot meals or a packed lunch option with soup are provided every day except Fridays and it was good to see many children taking up the offer yesterday. On Fridays there is only the packed lunch version available for children to take home. Packed lunches will be prepared every week for the children whose parents have notified us that they wish this option. You can add your child to the list on a weekly basis as long as you let the school office know before Wednesday each week.

## Learning Powers : A whole School Ethos

Those of you who joined our Open Day or Information Evening on positive mindsets will already have an idea of the learning culture we are trying to create in school. This term we are introducing all children to our new 'Learning Powers'. Each learning power is linked to an attitude or characteristic of a good learner and will be introduced to children through a character and story. Children will be encouraged to develop the characteristics and will reflect on how they use them in learning so you should get to know them well in the coming months. The Learning Powers are

Concentrate

Don't give up

Be cooperative

Be curious

Have a go

Use your imagination

Keep improving

Enjoy Learning

The classes will look at one learning power a week from Monday the 12th January so you can have a chat with your child and help them think about how to use their powers to become better learners.

## Stakeholder Feedback

Calling all parents of P5 and P7 pupils to give their views !

All schools in Midlothian have been asked to take part in an online survey of the views of staff and selected groups of parents/ carers and pupils. If your child is in P5 or P7 they will be given the chance to do the survey in school and you will be sent the link to complete the parental survey at home. It would be fantastic if all parents of P5 and P7 pupils could complete the survey. If you have difficulty accessing a PC we would be happy to provide access in school. The results will be shared with the Parent and Pupil Learning Councils and we will report back on findings and actions taken through the School Newsletter.

Link for Parents/ Carers of P5 and P7 pupils

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/midparents2014>



## Dates for the Diary

**Wednesday 14th January Please note there will be NO swimming for P4C as the pool is closed**

Tuesday 20th January 9.15 Burns Assembly

Thursday 22 January Group of P7 pupils to Sportshall Athletics

Thursday 22 January 7.00 Parent Council Meeting Beeslack High School

Friday 23 January 9.15 P5R Class Assembly

Thursday 29 January Scots Night 6.30pm School Hall for Performers and  
Parents

Friday 30 January 9.15 P2L Class Assembly

Science Week begins Monday 9 February

Thursday 12 February Group of P7 pupils—Rotary Quiz Penicuik High School

**Parents Science Morning Friday 13 February — Pupils will present their learning to parents/carers**

Mid Term Break All Break on Friday 13th February

All Resume Monday 23rd February

Tuesday 24 February 7.00 Parent Council Meeting Beeslack High School

Friday 6 March 9.15 P6W Class Assembly

Friday 13 March 9.15 P2J Class Assembly

Friday 27 March Easter Service in School

**Saturday 28 March Ground Force Day— family day to prepare the school grounds and garden for the summer term**

Book Fayre Week Monday 30th March

Parent Evenings Tuesday 31st March 6.00 to 8.30pm

Wednesday 1st April 4.00 to 6.30pm

Easter Holidays Pupils break Wednesday 1 April

Staff break Thursday 2 April

All Resume Monday 20 April

