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Cuiken Call Out

March 2026

Welcome to our March Cuiken Call Out.

I hope everyone has enjoyed the February break and are feeling well rested? Learners have returned and settled well to school this week.

Our March dates are detailed below and we will continue to update families of any changes via Seesaw. It is only 6 weeks until we break for Easter holidays although, as always, there is so much happening across the school and lots to achieve before then. We are hoping to make a visit to the church for an Easter Service but I am awaiting confirmation from them that the recent building works they are undertaking are complete and we can attend. More to follow on Easter shortly.

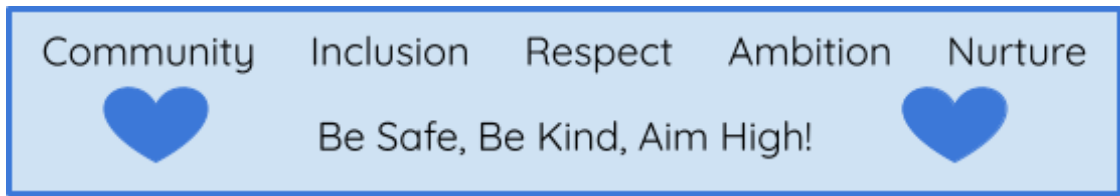
Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Staffing Update - Miss Duncan finishes today to start her maternity leave. We wish her all the very best and look forward to sharing her baby news in due course. Ms Ciska has been working alongside Miss Duncan all this week in P1 and will take over full time from Monday. This has allowed a smooth transition for our P1 learners.

We have appointed Miss Hanlon who will take over from Miss Pelosi (2 days a week) from Monday 23rd March. Miss Pelosi's last day with the class will be Tuesday 17th March. This has moved forward by one week. Miss Hanlon has started in school this week to cover teacher non class contact time so she will be getting to know P2 over the coming weeks which will also allow for a smooth transition.

Mrs Carr (Miss Gillies) has been appointed as the P3 teacher and will take up her post just after the Easter holidays when Mrs Hutton begins her maternity leave. We hope that Mrs Carr will be able to visit the class before the holidays to get to know the class but both will be in class together on Tuesday 21st April.

As shared previously, we have also successfully appointed a Support for Learning Teacher. Mrs Lane has started with us in school this week.



Introducing Meta Skills Across the School



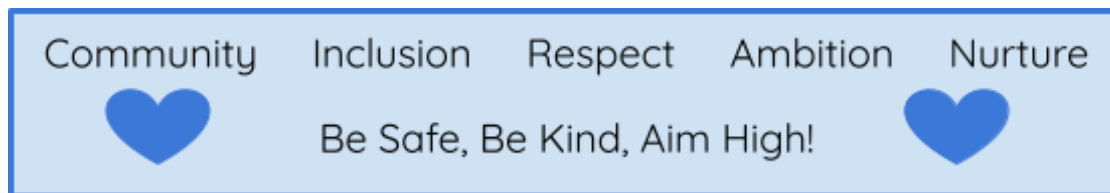
We are excited to share a powerful new focus in our learning community: the development of meta skills across all year levels and subject areas.

Meta skills are the transferable, lifelong capabilities that help learners thrive in an ever-changing world. These include skills such as critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, communication, self-management, adaptability, and reflective learning. While subject knowledge remains essential, research and industry trends consistently show that success in the future depends just as much on how learners think, learn, and work with others as on what they know.

Over the coming months, you will notice teachers explicitly teaching and embedding these skills into classroom activities. Learners are being supported to set goals, reflect on their learning processes, seek feedback, work effectively in teams, and approach challenges with curiosity and resilience. Rather than adding “one more thing,” meta skills will be woven naturally into existing curriculum and learning experiences. These will replace the existing Cuiken toolkit.

Our aim is to empower learners to become confident, capable, and adaptable learners for life beyond school. We look forward to partnering with families as we nurture these essential skills together.

If you would like to learn more about our approach, please keep an eye out on Seesaw as Ms Hancock is sharing these with you as we introduce each skill at our weekly assemblies.



Additional Support Needs – We have had a focus on a different ASN need in each Call Out.

This month, I attach a leaflet on Speech Delay and typical milestones. I hope you find this to be useful.

Inclusion is key to the culture and ethos we look to create here at Cuiken. We must be mindful of all the needs of our children as we work tirelessly to support them all.



Assemblies – We have been launching a meta skill each week at assembly recently. Our assembly next week has a Digital theme, the week after a STEM theme and we then have a focus on Neurodiversity as part of Neurodiversity Week. Our assemblies also give us the opportunity to share house points weekly and share school news with all our learners.

Cuiken Terrace - You will be aware that footway resurfacing works on Cuiken Terrace are now underway. I hope this is not causing too many issues in getting to and from school? Please plan accordingly. Please note that the school car park is for staff only and should not be used by families during this time.

Attendance Matters - Regular attendance is one of the strongest predictors of success at school. Every day in class builds knowledge, confidence, friendships, and routines that support learning. Even occasional absences can mean missing key explanations, discussions, and experiences that are difficult to fully catch up on later.

We understand that illness and exceptional circumstances arise, but we encourage families to prioritise school attendance wherever possible. If your child is experiencing difficulties that are affecting their attendance, please get in touch – we are here to work in partnership and provide support. Together, we can ensure every child has the best opportunity to thrive.

Cuiken's Got Talent - It is that time of the year again when learners are asked to share their talents during auditions, with a small number going through to the final, performing in front of the school and then the overall winners perform during the Hunter and Lass Week in Penicuik. In the past, we have enjoyed singers, dancers,

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comedians, musicians, gymnastsanything goes! Please speak to your child at home and encourage them to put themselves forward for this. We will share at the assembly too.

Dates for Your Diary

Miss Duncan - Friday 27th February - Miss Duncan starts maternity leave today.

Breakfast Blether - Tuesday 3rd March - All parents invited for a Breakfast Blether from 9am in our Community Room. Come and enjoy a breakfast roll and a discussion around Health and Wellbeing across the school.

Rosslyn Chapel - Tuesday 3rd March - P6/7 will be visiting Rosslyn Chapel.

Parent Partnership AGM - Wednesday 5th March (evening) - The AGM is online and is open to all our families - you would be most welcome. This is a good opportunity to hear more about what is going on in school and how you can support. Please contact the school office if you wish us to share the joining instructions.

Rosslyn Chapel - Monday 9th March - P3 will be visiting Rosslyn Chapel.

P6 Football Festival - Thursday 11th March - Our P6 football team will represent us at a local football festival - more to follow.

Neurodiversity Week - WC 16th March - Neurodiversity Week aims to bring about worldwide neurodiversity acceptance, equality and inclusion in schools. It is a celebration of individuals who think, move, communicate, and process information differently.

Miss Pelosi - Tuesday 17th March - Miss Pelosi starts maternity leave today.

Comic Relief 2026 - Friday 20th March - Red Nose Day at school.

Pupil Leadership Group - Monday 23rd March - Our PLG will meet on line to learn more about being a Midlothian Learner.

P1/P7 Class Photographs - Tuesday 24th March PM - Our P1 and P7 class photos will be taken in school.

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P4-7 Community Champions - Tuesday 24th March PM - Our next visit to Strathesk PS for our four community champions takes place on this day. The focus for the champions is sustainability.

Book Fair - WC 30th March - The bookfair will be in school this week to coincide with Parents Consultations.

Easter Picnic - Monday 30th March PM - Families are invited to enjoy an Easter Picnic in school organised by our P7 learners in the afternoon - more details to follow.

Parents Consultations - Tuesday 31st March and Wednesday 1st April - Sign up letters will be issued shortly to allow you to allocate a time to meet with class teachers to discuss learner progress.

Easter Church Service - Thursday 2nd April PM - To be confirmed.

Last Day of Term - Thursday 2nd April - We finish up today for Easter Holidays with learners returned to school on Tuesday 21st April.

Mrs Hutton - Tuesday 21st April - Mrs Hutton starts maternity leave today.



Thank you once again for your continued support.

Lynsey Stevenson and the Team Cuiken!