

Community

Inclusion

Respect

Ambition

Nurture



Be Safe, Be Kind, Aim High!



Cuiken Call Out

May 2026



Welcome to our May Cuiken Call Out.

I am absolutely delighted to be back at Cuiken following my maternity leave and it has been such a joy to return to our wonderful school community. I have loved hearing all about the incredible learning, achievements and successes that have taken place across the school and ELC during my time away.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to Mrs Stevenson for the fantastic job she has done supporting our school community whilst I was away. Her dedication, care and commitment to our children, families and staff have ensured that Cuiken has continued to thrive. I know you will all join me in sharing our gratitude for all she has done.

As we head into the final few weeks of term, we have so many exciting opportunities ahead for our children and families and I look forward to reconnecting with everyone.

Staffing Updates

Following success at interview, I am sad to announce that Manuela Wilson and Lisa West will be leaving us in the first week of June. Both are moving to join East Lothian Council helping them pursue new opportunities and be closer to family. We wish them all the best in their new positions and extend our thanks for all that they have brought to our Cuiken team. We know they will be sorely missed. To support this transition we are delighted to announce that Katie Walsh and Catherine Peaker will be continuing to teach with us in the Nest after the summer, both have been brilliant additions to our team this year and we are thrilled to have them stay with us.

Class Updates

We are working with the local authority team to confirm staffing for next session and hope to share information on new class teachers in early June. Currently they have confirmed that we will have 9 classes in our Mainstream setting meaning that we will have composite classes across the school. Each session we work hard to ensure children are well placed and the updated guidance that we follow in creation of classes is attached. If your child is planned for a move of class group next session we will be in touch directly.

HMIE Follow Up Visit for The Nest

Following our inspection in February 2025, it was agreed that The Nest would have further time to develop and embed practice, with progress shared through a report from the authority. We are delighted that this report has now been submitted and we have met with our lead inspector, Gillian Frew, to celebrate the progress and success of The Nest over this past session. We will be sharing information regarding the outcome of our report in due course.

A huge thank you goes to all of our Nest staff team who have worked tirelessly to continue developing our setting and ensuring we provide the very best opportunities for our children. Their commitment to nurturing, inclusion and high-quality support is making a significant difference to the lives of our learners.

Congratulations Mrs Hutton!

We are delighted to share that Mrs Hutton welcomed her beautiful baby boy, James Finlay Hutton, at the end of April. Both James and Mum are doing well and we send them all of our love and very best wishes from everyone at Cuiken.

Cuiken's Got Talent Success

A few weeks ago we held a fantastic final of Cuiken's Got Talent, with our finalists taking to the stage on Saturday to share their incredible performances.

A massive well done to all of our finalists – Daniel, Cammi and Lana, and Lily – for their courage, creativity and talent. An extra special congratulations goes to Daniel, who scooped the title for Primary 1-3 performances. We are so proud of every single performer.

P6 Residential Trip to Locherbie Manor

Our P6 campers had an unforgettable time at Lockerbie Manor where they challenged themselves, developed new skills and created memories that will last a lifetime.

A huge thank you to Mrs Mason, Miss Swanston and Mrs Milne for supporting the trip and helping make the experience so special for all of our children. Parents are invited to share a celebration of this learning as part of an assembly on Thursday 28th May at 2.30pm.

Developing Positive Role Models

As part of our ongoing commitment to developing an inclusive and respectful school community, we are beginning work with a programme focused on Progressive Masculinity.

The programme will support our boys to challenge stereotypes, reflect on masculinity positively and develop as role models across our school community. In time, we hope to expand this into a mentoring programme where older pupils support younger learners to make safe, respectful and positive choices.

Our first workshop will take place on 28th May and permission slips for those planned to take part will be shared this week.

P3 Assembly

A huge thank you to all of the grown ups who joined us for our recent P3 assembly. The children absolutely loved sharing their learning and their important message of kindness with you all. We were incredibly proud of their confidence, enthusiasm and teamwork.

Great Athletes Visit

As part of Health Week, we are thrilled to be welcoming 8 times British Champion and Gold Medal Commonwealth Judo athlete Sarah Adlington and 3 times Team GB Paralympic Footballer Johnny Paterson to Cuiken to share their inspiring journey with our children. Alongside this event we will be hosting a sponsored fitness circuit event to help us raise money for sporting equipment for our school. All information will be sent home with children and we are grateful for any support our Cuiken community can offer. As P7s have already taken part in significant fundraising this session we will not be asking them to participate in this aspect of the event.

A huge thank you to Mrs Murray for organising this exciting opportunity for our pupils.

Additional Support Needs

We have had a focus on a different additional support need in each Call Out this session. This month, I wanted to raise awareness of neuro-affirming language; using this language can help change feelings of exclusion and othering into that of support and inclusion, part of our core values here at Cuiken. Please follow [this link](#) to find out more.

Inclusion is key to the culture and ethos we are working hard to build here in Cuiken. We must be mindful of all the needs of our children as we work tirelessly to support them all. Please take time to watch [this short video](#) that shares important messages about the importance of neuro-affirming language.



Dates for Your Diary

19th & 25th May - P7 Broomlee Transition Trip

Our P7 pupils will visit Broomlee alongside pupils from across Penicuik who will soon become classmates at Penicuik High School. The trips will provide an excellent opportunity for children to build friendships, develop confidence and enjoy a range of fun outdoor activities together.

22nd May - P7 Sponsored Walk

The second half of our P7 cohort will take part in their sponsored walk around the local community to raise funds for their end of term celebrations. We expect that they will represent Cuiken brilliantly by demonstrating our values of respect and community throughout the event.

22nd May - ASN Parent Network Vocal Workshop (9am - 10am)

Our ASN Parent Network continues to provide an informal, welcoming and supportive space for families across our ELC, school and provision. The group has been created for parents, by parents, and offers opportunities to connect, build networks, share experiences and support one another.

At Cuiken, almost half of our pupil population has an identified additional support need, making this an excellent opportunity for families to connect with others facing similar experiences.

The workshop will be led by Vocal, who will share information about the support they offer to children and families with additional support needs. The session will take place in the gym hall from 9am-10am and all families are warmly invited to attend.

Week Beginning 25th May - Hunter & Lass Week

We are delighted to celebrate Hunter & Lass Week and look forward to welcoming this year's Hunter and Lass elect to Cuiken on 27th May.

27th May - ASN Athletics Competition (12.30pm - 3.30pm)

Pupils from The Nest will take part in an authority-wide ASN Athletics Competition. We wish all of our participants the very best of luck and cannot wait to hear all about their experiences and achievements.

28th May - ELC Sports Day (10.15am - 12.30pm)

Families are warmly invited to join us in the school playground for our ELC Sports Day. We are looking forward to a morning filled with races, teamwork, fun and celebration.

28th May - P6 Camp Assembly for Families (2.30pm - 3.15pm)

Families are invited to join P6 for a celebration of their camp experience.

28th & 29th May - Progressive Masculinity Workshop

1st June - P7 Parent Transition Evening at Penicuik High (5.30pm - 6.30pm)

Parents and carers of pupils moving to Penicuik High School are invited to attend an information session to support the transition process.

Week Beginning 1st June - Health Week

We are excited to celebrate Health Week with a wide range of activities designed to support and promote physical, mental and emotional wellbeing across the school community.

Children may come to school in sportswear throughout the week, ready to participate in activities. Please note that football colours should not be worn.

2nd & 4th June - ELC Parent Evenings (3.15pm - 4.30pm)

A wonderful opportunity to meet with your child's key worker, discuss progress and celebrate learning together while exploring our ELC environment.

3rd June - Sports Day

We are keeping our fingers crossed for good weather and will share timings with families closer to the event. Should we need to postpone, our reserve date will be 9th June.

Ongoing - P4 Swimming

P4 swimming lessons continue every Wednesday morning until the end of term.

4th June - P7 Trip to Innoflate

Our P7 pupils will enjoy a fantastic end-of-term celebration trip to Innoflate. We hope that all children will be able to demonstrate the excellent behaviour, respect and safety standards expected of all Cuiken pupils as ambassadors for our school community.

4th June - Athlete Visit

Our sponsored fitness circuit and Athlete Assembly will be enjoyed by everyone!

9th June - Breakfast Blether (9am - 10am)

Families are warmly invited to join us for our Breakfast Blether – an opportunity to connect, chat and strengthen our school community. The focus for this Breakfast Blether will be Dyslexia. Our Support for Learning Teacher, Robyn Lane, will be there to chat through processes and supports for Dyslexia in school and answer any questions you may have. We will share support resources and links to help at home.

10th, 11th & 12th June - P7 Transition Days

Pupils moving to Penicuik High School will spend time getting to know the school, staff and their new classmates.

Information regarding arrival and departure from school will be communicated directly with P7 families. Following this, please contact your child's class teacher if you have any questions.

12th June - P1 Meet the Teacher (11.15am - 12.15pm)

Children will spend time in their new classes while parents and carers are invited to an information session in the gym hall led by our leadership team. Following the session, children will be brought to the hall by their buddies and families will have the opportunity to meet them too.

17th June - P7 Risk Factory Trip

Thanks to the continued generosity of our Parent Partnership, our P7 pupils will attend Risk Factory to further develop their understanding of personal safety and emergency situations.

We are incredibly grateful for this valuable learning experience and appreciate the ongoing support from our Parent Partnership.

18th June - ELC End of Term Party & Movie

A special celebration for our ELC children to mark a wonderful year of learning, growth and achievement.

18th June - Whole School Prize Giving

We look forward to celebrating the many successes and achievements of our pupils and houses across the school community.

18th June- Nest Summer BBQ (1:30-2:30pm)

The Nest families will come together for a BBQ to celebrate another wonderful year for all the children.

22nd June - P7 Fun Day

Our P7 pupils will enjoy a range of activities to celebrate their final weeks at Cuiken.

23rd June - ELC Graduation (3.30pm - 5pm)

Families are warmly invited to join us as we celebrate and say a very special farewell to our ELC children moving into P1.

24th June - Fischy Music Concert

Ms Hancock has very kindly arranged for Fischy Music to perform a special concert for our pupils as part of her retirement celebrations.

We are incredibly grateful for her generosity and know this will be a memorable experience for all of our children.

25th June - P7 Leavers Assembly (1.30pm - 3.30pm)

Families are invited to join us for a special farewell celebration as our P7 pupils prepare for the next chapter of their journey. Following the assembly, families are invited to stay for further celebrations led by our pupils and staff team.

25th June - Ms Hancock's Final Day

A fond farewell to Ms Hancock wishing her all the best for her retirement. We don't quite know what we'll do without her!

26th June - Final Day of Term

Last ever day in Cuiken Primary School for our wonderful P7 pupils, and wishing all of our families a safe, happy and restful summer holiday.

As we move towards the end of another incredibly busy and successful session, I would once again like to say how delighted I am to be back at Cuiken. I am so excited for the final few weeks of term and all of the wonderful opportunities, celebrations and memories still to come. Thank you once again for your continued support.

Kirsty MacPhie and Team Cuiken!

