

MEADOWPARK MATTERS 21.06.19

Transitions have been a huge success and it has been a joy to witness young people become more established and secure in our environment as their familiarity has increased. The addition of Mr Swanston to the team is very exciting and he brings with him knowledge, experience and enthusiasm. After our teacher meeting on Tuesday afternoon I reflected on how much we have progressed and that all those who have joined the Meadowpark team its emerging journey have done so with good grace, optimism and energy which is sending out a positive message to pupils, parents and the wider community #whatwecando #wecandoit.

I was delighted to receive a phone call from CALA homes last week advising that although we hadn't been successful in securing their full community bursary, the developers were so impressed with our submission which named other organisations who access Meadowpark facilities that they have agreed to contribute up to £2,000 each, netting a grand total of between £8,000 and £10,000. I have been in contact with Lothian Autistic Society, East Lothian Special Needs Play Scheme and Haddington Peer Project and we hope to agree on a time to meet in the next two weeks. I am sure we are all of a mind to develop a sensory garden and will consider all possible options as to how this can be achieved so that we all benefit and are able to sustain this initiative.

Five Meadowpark pupils will each be receiving a Knox Academy Personal Achievement Award on Wednesday at the Award's Ceremony for showing determination, diligence and perseverance over the course of this academic session. In spite of communication barriers and heightened levels of anxiety these young people have embodied our whole school values of ambition, respect and community and I know they will all have an important role to play in the wider community as they progress through school and into college.

I can hardly believe we only have a week until the summer holiday and still so much to achieve: we will be holding interviews for learning assistants next week and as much as we are preparing to welcome our new cohort we are also preparing to say good-bye to two of our seniors who are moving on to an alternative provision where we believe the pace of learning is more suited to their needs. They will be hugely missed but we wish them all the very best with their new friends.

Have a peaceful weekend

Ms C Prime 21.06.19