

MEADOWPARK – NEWSLETTER – WEEK 41 – 25.05.18

What a difference the weather makes: lifting spirits, increasing resilience and generating energy. I have certainly benefited from the warmth and longer days during a recent absence and know that much of my recovery is due to the better weather. Furthermore the long range forecast bodes well for our Activities week beginning Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May.

Staff have worked hard and have shown determination and tenacity when planning and organising the vast range of activities on offer to Meadowpark pupils. We encourage all Meadowpark pupils to participate, knowing that the opportunities presented to them helps to foster positive relationships, greater awareness and enjoyment of their surroundings and at times to step out of their comfort zones. I still have a very clear memory of Meadowpark pupils last summer sitting in front of a fire, toasting marshmallows, having built dens at Yellowcraigs, and I am confident that our young people will have as much enjoyment this year as they participate in Swimming, Museum of Flights, a visit to John Muir Museum, Yellowcraigs and Archerfield, Blair Drummond Safari and finally a day of activities in Meadowpark.

We had hoped to have had a tyre structure completed by the end of next week but this has been delayed due to delivery difficulties and will commence the week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> June. I never cease to be amazed at how quickly our young people welcome the introduction of materials into the playground. We have had a number of tyres of all shapes and size delivered here and they have been turned into towers, tunnels and even a 'hamster wheel'. Pupils have collaborated with each other to be able to manoeuvre some of the larger tyres into position and have cooperated effectively when washing the mud off the larger tractor tyres.

Kelly Clark from Loose Parts Play has been a source of inspiration and tireless energy and we have had additional support from Theresa Casey who has helped coordinate volunteers and given us ideas of possible final structures.

I have to thank Mr and Mrs Graham again for their incredible fund-raising efforts last year, and without whom there would be no budget to even consider this enterprise. I look forward to being able to share photos of the final product and will ask Cameron Graham to officially open access to the playground upon completion #wecandoit.

During my absence I was reassured that staff pulled together as a team and offered the support, guidance and consistency that are so desperately needed by Meadowpark pupils. It is good to be back but the sun is beckoning and I have to go and retrieve and update the flyers that were distributed across Haddington looking for volunteers for the Great Tyre Build!

If you are available the dates are 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June at Meadowpark Victoria Rd Haddington further details on Knox Academy website. #wecandoit

C Prime 25.05.18