# **Greyfriars Primary School**

**Newsletter**

**22nd February 2023**

Dear Parents

We have been very busy in school with many different things happening at various points in the term. It was lovely to see so many parents attending our in-person parents’ evening, the first since 2019!

**Staffing Update**

On Thursday, 29th March, we will say goodbye to Mrs Campbell. As you will be aware, Mrs Campbell is moving to Anstruther Primary permanently after the Easter holidays. Over the past few weeks she has been sharing her time between both schools but will finish the term with us on Thursday. We all wish her every success in her new post.

After Easter, we will be welcoming Mrs Robertson as our new Admin Assistant. Mrs Robertson is very experienced in working in a school office and will be a great asset to our Greyfriars Family.

Mrs Vaughan-Smith will continue to be absent in the new term. Miss Donnelly, who joined us two weeks ago, will be with us until the summer holidays. She replaces Miss Hodge who has been teaching P5 this term alongside Ms Harkins.

**Bikeability**

Pupils in P6 have nearly completed Level 1 in Bikeability. Each group has been scheduled to have one more lesson after the Easter holidays. This means that P5 will start Bikeability on Tuesday 2nd May. More information regarding this will be sent out to P5 parents after the holidays.

**Rotary Quiz**

Congratulations go to our Rotary Quiz Team from P7. They came second in their heat and were just one point behind the winning team!

**Rights Respecting Schools’ Silver Award**

Congratulations go to Mrs Farnaby and the Rights Respecting School Committee for achieving the Silver Award. They had an online visit from an assessor to establish if we met the criteria and had sufficient evidence to support our application. The assessor spoke to groups of children and staff before awarding us our Silver Award. Well done to everyone involved.

**Shared Starts**

These have continued to be well attended by parents and grandparents from P1 to P7. Next term we plan to continue to offer this experience but will change the time to 2.30pm and will be called a ‘Shared Finish’. Dates will be shared after the holidays.

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Congratulations go to those children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday 25th March. It was a very reverent experience for all involved.

**Easter Holidays**

A gentle reminder that school will close at 3pm on Thursday 30th March for the Easter holidays. We will reopen on Monday 17th April.

**Attendance**

Once again I would ask you to be vigilant about your child’s attendance at school. We are currently experiencing a dip across our school attendance figures. There is concern nationally about the tendency towards casual absence and taking holidays during term time. Unnecessary absences mean that children miss out on important teaching input which is difficult for teachers to replicate. This also applies to children who are consistently late for school. Please try to ensure that your children arrive on time.

**PE Kit**

There is a growing problem in school of children not having PE kit. Every child should have a pair of plain black/navy shorts, a plain white tee shirt (or school logo tee shirt) and a pair of black plimsolls for indoor PE. Lack of kit is a real barrier to the child’s learning. Please make sure that your child has a full PE kit for the start of the new term.

**Gardening Club**

The Gardening Club have put together instructions on how to grow Sweet Peas. They have been very busy weeding and planting our large planters so that our school grounds will look colourful in the summer term. Many thanks go to them.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Easter and to thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Collette Crompton