

Holy Cross Primary and Nursery Class

Head Teacher Update to Parent Council

**Pupil Equity Fund**

As part of the Scottish Government’s programme to increase attainment and reduce the poverty related attainment gap Holy Cross has been allocated £36 000. This amount relates directly to the number of pupils in receipt of free school meals.

Conditions attached to this are currently in draft form and staffing permitting, the HT will attend the Government briefing on the 27th of February at Celtic Park.

The spending of this money must also link to the identified Improvement Priorities of Holy Cross and of the Local Authority.

We will consult with all stakeholders as part of the decision making process.

**Careers Week**

This is planned for the week beginning the 6th of March. Information and sign-up sheets for parents will be sent out shortly.

**Living Eggs**

These be delivered on the 27th of February. P6/7 will take overall responsibility for them. The incubator will be in the main corridor.

**Charity**

We will support SCIAF during Lent with the ‘wee boxes’ and we will have a dress down day to raise funds. Date to be confirmed. A representative from SCIAF will visit the school during Lent.

**Playground development**

We have successfully bid for a £10 000 grant from Awards for all. As part of this we will work with Scotplay on the installations. Thomas Craig will be in school later this week and work with pupils on options. Based on the bid submitted we require a further £6000, this amount will be made up from PTG funds and School Fund.

**SPS Playground furniture**

We have several volunteers to build the benches, tables and planters. A date will be finalised once we have all the availability slips returned. Approximately £1000 has been spent on this.

**Teaching Staff**

Since January we have been 2.4 teaching staff short. Classes have been covered internally by the Senior Management Team. The collegiate time has also been covered by the SMT. There are no supply staff available. All planning for teaching and learning has been completed by the SMT to ensure continuity for the children.

From the 15th of February the new Principal Teacher, Mr McKenna will join us. Personnel confirmed on Friday that Miss Kiernan will remain and will be class teacher to P4H. This will mean our staffing will be 1.4 short.

The closing date of the 0.4 and 0.2 teaching posts is today. This is the second advert for both posts. We are hoping that these posts will be successfully filled before by Easter.

Our staffing allocation for next session has not been confirmed yet but we have submitted our projected school roll.

**Support Staff**

Mrs Love has been off but returned today. In the next few weeks Mrs Jennings will join us for 5 mornings. The current two vacancies for Classroom Assistants will be filled when Personnel finalise redeployments.

Mrs Rutherford is now working our office from 9am-12pm Wednesday to Friday. Mrs O’Brien is now the Senior Clerical in the office.

**School Roll**

P1 Intake August 2017

38 pupils within the catchment

6 placing requests to other establishments

6 placing requests to Holy Cross (that we are aware of)

There are also pupils waiting to find out about specialist placements.

There are 54 pupils P7 pupils leaving in June.

We are currently at 98% capacity which may affect placing requests in future years.