St Mary's Primary School

Newsletter

August 2016

Welcome back after what I hope was a lovely summer, despite the weather. It is wonderful to see the children refreshed and all looking so smart in their uniforms. We have a number of new staff joining us this year; Mrs Russo in P5, Miss McEwan in P2, Miss Glen who is assisting pupils in P1 and P2, Mrs Mackie who will be assisting in P3 and a Miss Govan who is coming in to school on a voluntary basis throughout this session. We warmly welcome them all and hope they will be very happy in St Mary’s. Sadly, Mrs McKendrick and Mrs Hepburn are no longer with us. We will miss them and thank them for all of their hard work and commitment that they gave to St Mary’s. We wish them every continued success in their new schools.

We are very excited and looking forward to lots of learning opportunities this year, including the return of Rookie Rockstars and the opening of our brand new outdoor classroom (which looks amazing!). We will be looking for parental involvement in developing our outdoor learning programme and discussing best ways of sharing children’s progress and achievements with you.

We are holding a Meet the Teacher event on **Wednesday the 21st of September**. The event will run from 3.15 – 6pm. This is an informal event where you will get to meet your child’s/children’s teacher and find out a little of what they will be learning. You will also be able to comment and add to your child’s Personal Learning Targets. We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible.

Can I remind parents that there is no supervision in the yards before 9am and after 3pm, therefore you are responsible for your child’s behaviour. With this in mind, children from P1-3 who attend the breakfast club will remain in school until the bell. We expect the best behaviour from our pupils, and we expect parents to ensure this is encouraged, particularly when in school grounds. Bad language is not to be used under any circumstances. If it is raining, the GP room will be opened at 8.50am and children will be supervised inside the building. The breakfast club remains 20p and is a drop in service available to all whenever it suits.

As you will be aware we are moving to a cashless system for breakfast club and lunches. You have had a letter detailing the procedures. Please ensure you read it and keep it safe in case you need to refer to it in future. We will do our best to move to the new system seamlessly but as with any new system there may be teething troubles so we would ask that you are patient.

School ties are available from the school office all year, and children are reminded that they are expected to wear them at all times.

Finally can I say a HUGE thank you to Mr Cooley for organising and building our outdoor classroom. We will holding an official opening within the next few weeks but it is looking fantastic and would have cost us more than £5000 to get from a supplier. I know the children will benefit enormously and I appreciate the tremendous commitment and sacrifice made by Mr Cooley on our behalf.

As always, we are delighted to hear your views and opinions. If you require to speak to us about any matter please contact the school office after 9am.

Warmest regards

Kind regards

P Brazill

Head Teacher

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**PE Timetable for Classes**

Primary 1 Tuesday and Thursday

Primary 2 Monday and Thursday

Primary 3 Monday and Wednesday

Primary 4 Tuesday and Friday

Primary 5 Tuesday and Thursday (PE & SWIM)

Primary 6 Wednesday and Thursday

Primary 7 Tuesday and Wednesday

All jewellery must be removed for PE, earrings must be either removed or taped up at home before coming to school. Gym kit – T Shirt / Shorts / Sandshoes or trainers.

Can we also ask that all children bring a water bottle to school each day. We have water coolers in school for use.

**Breakfast Club**

The breakfast club is on each school day from 8.15am – 8.50am. Cost 20p. The children can have cereal, toast and juice. Children should enter the school by the main door no earlier than 8.15am due to staffing.

**Trim Trails**

Can we remind parents that the children are not allowed on the trim trails before the start of school and at 3pm. This is due to health and safety concerns.

**Tooth brushing – P1 and P2**

We will be starting our tooth brushing programme soon. If you have not already completed a tooth brushing form at enrolment time please keep an eye out for one coming home with your child.

**P5 Swimming and PE**

P5 will start the swimming and PE programme at the Tryst sports centre on Thursday 25th August for approx.. 12 weeks. Please ensure your child has their swimming costume and comes to school in their PE kit. Please also remember to bring in their school uniform to change into on return.

**Meet the Teacher Day – Wednesday 21st September**

The event will run from 3.15 – 6pm. This is an informal event where you will get to meet your child’s/children’s teacher and find out a little of what they will be learning.

**School Bus Transport**

**Our Bus contract now drops off and picks up from outside the school. Can we ask that if you are dropping off your child by car that you leave space for the bus to manoeuvre ?**

If your child is using the school bus can we remind parents that the office / class teacher needs to know if your child will **not** be using the service at 3pm. We take a register of the children for safety reasons. If we have not heard from you your child will be placed on the bus at home time. You can call the school office or drop a letter in if you know which days your child/ren will **not** require the transport. We appreciate your cooperation with this matter.

If you live in the following areas of the school you are entitled to a free bus for drop off and picking up from school. You can pick up a form from the school office or download one from the council website.

**Abbotsford Court and Road Ashiestiel (ALL)**

**Athelstane Drive Darroch Way**

**Lochinvar Road Locksley Ave and Court**

**Marmion Place and Road Melrose Road**

**Scott Drive and Crescent Waverley Crescent.**

**Medication**

Can we remind all parents and guardians if your child has a medical condition it must be passed onto the school in writing and a form will be sent home for you to complete and return. If your child has Asthma please keep a note of the expiry date and replace when necessary. If your child’s medical condition changes at any time please inform the school as soon as possible in writing and their record will be updated. All new Asthma medical information letters have been sent home with your child. If you have not received one please call the school office immediately. Thanks

**School Staff**

Below is a list all the teaching staff.

P1 Mrs Craig P2 Mrs McColl / Miss McEwan

P3 Mrs Rose / Mrs Yuill P4 Mrs Russo

P5 Mrs McPhilemy / Mrs McHenery P6 Miss Martin

P7 Mrs Hillhouse

HT Mrs Brazill PT Mrs Yuill and Mrs McColl

Office Mrs Fenton and Mrs Thomson

Classroom Assistants- Mrs Keegans / Mrs Shearer

**Quick Glance Ahead: September**

Thursday 8th September Feast Day Mass 11.00am

Wednesday 21st September Meet the Teacher

Friday 23rd September School Holiday

Monday 26th September School Holiday

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**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT WE**

**ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL**



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**Adam Clelland Mia Eaglesham Connor McAteer**

**Millar McGroarty Leighton McKinstry Orlagh Moran**

**Sophie Rutkiewicz Emily Scott Mark Sheerin**

**Nikhil Tony Shay Tracey Aidan Trivett**

**Archie White Aynjil Whitelaw Charlotte Williamson**

**AUGUST**

**REMINDERS**

**Sickness** - Can we remind parents that if your child has a Sickness Bug / Tummy Bug they have to be **48hrs clear** before returning to school. This stops the infection spreading to other children.

**Belongings -** Can we remind parents/guardians to put their child’s name on their belongings. Can you also check on a **daily** basis that your child is wearing their own Cardigan/Jumper/Jacket.

**No Jewellery** to be worn on gym days, all earrings **must** be taped up at home or removed prior to coming to school.

**Attendance** - Please call the school office if your child is unwell or unable to attend school followed with a letter to their class teacher. If no prior notice of an absence is received a text message will be sent.

**Head Lice** – Please check your child’s hair at least once a week and treat if required.

**Bus Children** must wear their seatbelts and are **NOT** allowed to **STAND** until the bus has **STOPPED**. If your child is not returning home on the school bus please send in a letter to the class teacher or call the school office.

**Cafeteria** - Please ensure your child has sufficient money if buying a lunch from the cafeteria. Any money owed must be **returned to the cafeteria.**

**PARKING AT SCHOOL** – Please be considerate of Local Residents when parking at the school. School Car Park **only** for Staff.

**\*\*\* NO PARKING ON THE ZIG ZAGS AT ANY TIME \*\*\***

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Parent Council Corner

The Parent Council will meet in school on **Monday 16th February** at 6.00pm. If you are interested in joining or helping out at any future events please come along and join us.