



St. Andrew's Primary School



Parents as Partners



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have had a busy start to 2018, with lots of opportunities for parents to get involved in school. If you have not had the chance to come along to any of the events on offer so far, perhaps you will be able to find something this term that will suit you.

We are always keen to hear your ideas and suggestions about how we can improve our engagement with parents. We know how valuable the relationship between parents and school is in supporting the progress and attainment of our pupils.

Mrs C. Lambie

Principal Teacher



Outdoor Learning

Our outdoor learning calendar is now successfully up and running. Every class has now taken part in their first outdoor learning session. The opportunity to get outside and connect with the local environment has been such a valuable lesson for both pupils and staff and we are all looking forward to embedding this monthly experience into our curriculum. If you follow us on Twitter, you will get a taste of some of the wonderful learning that is taking place.

We are so lucky to have the support of a dedicated team of parents/ carers – but we are on the look out for more! If you think you would be able to spare an hour or two – maybe once per month, please get in touch and we can add you to our rota.



Biscuit and Blether

Our first biscuit and blether session got off to quite a slow start – although feedback from those in attendance was very positive. I'm sure that as word spreads, more parents will take advantage of this opportunity to catch up in an informal, relaxed setting, to chat with other parents. This is also a fantastic forum to voice any concerns or raise and issues that you may feel uncomfortable approaching more formally. It is also really helpful for us to hear your feedback and suggestions.

I hope you can catch up with us at our next session on:

Wed 7th March

@2:20pm

We can't wait to see you there!



Outdoor Learning Calendar

January	All sessions run from 1:15-2:30		19 th January	26 th January
			P1 –, Pauline Ramsey, Linsey Keyes, Tracy Logan	P1/2 – Nascera Adams, CA,
			P7- Eileen Gardner, Frances Bath	P6/7 – Kirsty Houston, CA
February	2 nd February	9 th February	16 th February	23 rd February
	P2/3 - Adele Meechan, Joanna Oslcleda, CA	P5 – Mrs Kerr, Donna Shaw	P1 – Miss Shanks, Siobhan Dawson, June Black	P1/2 – Maria Walsh, Miss Shanks
	P3/4 Nicola Li, Joanne Anderson	P4 – Patricia Rennie, Jean Martin,	P7 – Eileen Gardner, Miss Mina	P6/7 – Kirsty Houston, Student or CA
March	2 nd March	9 th March	16 th March	23 rd March
	P2/3 - Adele Meechan, Joanna Oslcleda, CA	P5 – Mrs Kerr, Donna Shaw	P1 – Miss Shanks, Kim Hillan, Carrie McCreadie	P1/2 – Maria Walsh, Miss Shanks
	P3/4 – Nicola, Li, Joanne Anderson, Miss Mina	P4- Patricia Rennie, Jean Martin	P7 – Eileen Gardner, Miss Mina	P6/7 – Kirsty Houston, Miss Irvine
April	Holiday	Holiday	20 th April	27 th April
			P2/3 - Adele Meechan, Joanna Oslcleda, CA	P5 – Mrs Kerr, Donna Shaw
			P3/4 – Nicola Li, Joanne Anderson,	P4- Patricia Rennie, Jean Martin
May	4 th May	11 th May	18 th May	Holiday
	P1 – Miss Shanks, Mrs Kerr, Pauline Ramsey	P1/2 – Maria Walsh, Nascera Adams	P2/3 - Adele Meechan, Joanna Oslcleda, CA	
	P7 – Eileen Gardner, Miss Irvine	P6/7 – Kirsty Houston, Miss Irvine	P3/4 – Nicola Li, Joanne Anderson,	
June	1 st June	8 th June	15 th June	22 nd June
	P5 – Mrs Kerr, Donna Shaw	P1 – Siobhan Dawson, Carrie McCredie, June Black	P1/2 – Maria Walsh, Nascera Adams	P2/3 - Adele Meechan, Joanna Oslcleda, CA
	P4 – Patricia Rennie, Jean Martin,	P7 – Eileen Gardner, Mrs Bath	P6/7 – Kirsty Houston, CA	P3/4 – Nicola Li, Joanne Anderson,

Please remember to send a change of clothing and footwear on these days!





Boys Night



At Saint Andrew's we know that families come in all shapes and sizes. The following section refers to 'fathers' and 'mothers'. By this we mean any caregivers that assume a fatherly/motherly role.

Although traditionally in most schools, the responsibility for attending to school matters: attending events, completing homework, reading etc has been taken on by mothers, it is encouraging to see more fathers becoming increasingly involved in their child's schooling

Research has shown that when fathers are actively involved in their child's education, it has a positive impact on the progress and behaviour of their children. This is especially true for boys and is something that we are really keen to promote and encourage.

To this end, we are delighted to announce that our first 'Boys' Night', will take place on:

Tuesday 20th March

From 3:15-4:45

This event will be a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to come along with their dad, grandad, step-dad, uncle etc and enjoy a night of team building activities. Pizza will also be provided on the night.

Please complete and return the attached flyer if you are able to attend!

You won't regret it!

Improve your English



Our EAL (English as Additional Language) sessions have gotten off to a super start, with a good turnout of parents and children. We have recently purchased a selection of bilingual story-books and a bilingual e-book subscription. It was lovely to see the children enjoying a story in their own language.

Parent Volunteers

The safeguarding of our pupils is a top priority for us as Saint Andrew's. As such, we are offering to pay for the disclosure of any parents who are able to offer us regular support as a volunteer. If you think you have an hour or so per week/fortnight, that you could offer, please call into the school office to collect a 'Disclosure Scotland' form.

A copy of our Parent Volunteer Policy should also be read and completed. This can be found on our school website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/standrewsairdrie/parental-engagement/>



Attendance Awareness Week

We had a very successful attendance awareness week, back in October. During this time, the children learned about the importance of good attendance.

We are delighted to announce that the winners of our attendance poster competition are: **Eva Kerr, Luca Kerr** and **Millie and Danni McCormack**. Look out for their fantastic artwork displayed on the small balcony that is outside Mrs Henderson's classroom.

The Effect of Absence on School Progress

A whole year has 365 days A school year has 190 days. This leaves 175 days for family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments					
No absence	10 days absence	12 days absence	19 days absence	29 days absence	38 days absence
190 days of education	180 days of education	178 days of education	171 days of education	161 days of education	152 days of education
100%	95%	94%	90%	85%	80%
Very Good Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start.		Worrying Less chance of success. Harder for your child to make progress.		Serious Concern Your child will find it very difficult to make progress. May result in court action.	

Poor attendance puts your child at a disadvantage academically.

It also affects how your child feels about coming to school and can develop feelings of anxiety associated with school.

Give your child the best possible chance of success by sending them to school – on time – everyday!