

Faith

Kindness

Love

Persevere

St Elizabeth's Primary & Nursery School

Head Teacher, Miss Christine MacPhee
William Drive, Hamilton, ML3 7RQ, 01698 285080



Learn Together, Laugh Together, Be the Best You Can!

Enjoyment

School Newsletter, August 2018

Respect

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school! I hope you had a wonderful summer, enjoying the beautiful weather at home or abroad! The sun certainly shone for us all! It is lovely to have our children back with us safe and sound and thank you so much for turning them out so smartly in our school uniform. The presentation of our children every day is just beautiful and they all look so smart. Haven't our new Primary 1 children been just marvellous – they are settling so well in to the daily routine of school life and are a joy to have. We look forward to continuing to work closely with all our families (old and new) over the coming year and to continued success for our school and nursery.

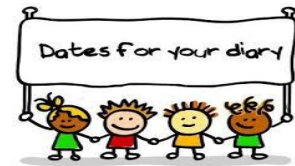
Yours sincerely

Miss Christine MacPhee
Head Teacher

Diary Dates for 2018/2019

Our Yearly Calendar is home in bags today and also on our website. Please note we try as hard as possible to stick closely to the dates we have planned but at times there may be an occasion where we have to re-arrange or even cancel an event due to unforeseen circumstances. We will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible if this is ever the case.

You can always find further information about our school and our children on our Twitter page (@stelizabeths), our web site and our facebook page – all have frequent updates in between newsletters to help keep you as up-to-date with school news. Many thanks to our members of staff and parents who help update and maintain these sites for us.



Our School Motto is

Learn Together,
Laugh Together,
Be the Best You Can.

Our 6 School Values are

Enjoyment, Faith, Love, Kindness,
Perseverance and Respect

Our School Vision is ...

To strive to excel in all that we do through working hard and having respectful relationships in a safe, happy and nurturing environment based on Gospel Values embracing a love for lifelong learning.



Important School Information - a reminder ...

***Nut allergies** – just a reminder to everyone that we are a nut free school. Children should not bring any snacks or items to school that may contain nuts or nut based ingredients.

***Fizzy drinks** – fizzy drinks are not permitted in our school as they contain a vast amount of sugar which affects children's attention and behaviour.

***Health Promotion** – we are a health promoting school and encourage our children to think about what they eat and drink. This includes snacks at playtime and lunchtime. Milk is available each week at a cost of £1.00 and a biscuit can be bought for each day of the week for the total cost of 10p. We are looking to set up a healthy tuckshop and more information about this will follow.

***Absences/Lateness/Leaving Early** - If your child is to be absent from school, please phone our school office as soon as possible to inform us. We have an answering machine for your use. All children should be in the playground before the bell rings at 9am each day and we now have a bell ringing at 8.55am as a reminder to our children that 9am is fast approaching! The legal requirement is that children attend school from 9-3pm each day. If they are required to leave early, please bring your appointment letter to our office staff who will then note this. Lateness, absences and leaving early are recorded daily and if either of these become detrimental to any child's time at school, the council procedure is that an attendance officer will be asked to contact you to discuss further.

***Contact Details** - If your telephone number or e-mail address change throughout the course of the year, please do let our office staff know to allow us to update our records. This also applies to emergency contacts.

***Head Lice** – We ask all parents and carers to please check hair regularly and if there is any case of head lice, please let us know so

***School Uniform** – the children are very smart in our school uniform and we thank you so much for your great support with this. Please note that trainers are not part of our school uniform. Children need a full PE kit each week and will also require joggers and a warm top as each class has a timetabled slot each week for outdoor PE. Children are not allowed to wear jewellery during PE due to Health and Safety and earrings should be removed or covered. As the weather is now starting to turn wetter and cooler, all children should have a coat with a hood and be suitably clothed for outdoors.

***School Lunches** – children who pay for their lunch should have sufficient money with them each day and should pay Janet (our Cook) before 9am. Our dining room doors are open from 8.45am for this purpose. If children do forget their lunch money, every effort should be made to bring it in the next day to allow Janet to record her monies accurately each week. If your child does not like anything on the lunch menu on any given day, a packed lunch should be brought to school.

***Car Park** – please remember not to park in the disabled bays unless you have a relevant badge. Can I ask all drivers to be vigilant in our car park as our children are entering and leaving the school and nursery. Thank you for your help with this.

More info about our fantastic school!

We have 9 classes in our school this session and these are

P1 with Mrs Sullivan

P1/2 with Mrs McGuire

P2 with Mrs Hasson (Mon, Tues and Wed) and Mr Kelly (Thurs and Fri)

P3 with Mrs Murphy (Mon) and Mrs McCaig (Tues to Fri)

P4 with Miss De

P5 with Miss Costello

P5/6 with Miss Whitefield and Mrs Campbell (Mon afternoon and all day Thurs)

P6/7 with Miss Brand

P7 with Mrs MacIntyre (Mon to Thurs) and Mrs Campbell (Fri)

CCC with Mr Kelly and Mrs McRoberts

The Senior Staff in our school have specific areas of responsibility and these are

Mrs Campbell P1 and P1/2

Mrs Emmett P2, P3 and P4

Mrs Wilson P5, P5/6, P6/7 and P7

The Support Assistants in our school are

Mrs Elliott

Mrs Anand

Mrs Stone

Mrs Byrne

Mrs McDonald

Miss Dunsmuir

We are awaiting a start date for another support assistant to join our team and I will keep you informed of when she arrives with us.

The clerical staff in our school are

Mrs Lynch (Team Leader)

Mrs Redmond

...and in our nursery we have

Mrs Holding

Our janitorial staff are

Mr Aubrey (M, T one week and M, T, W the next week)

Mrs Scott (W, Th, F one week and Th, Fri the next)

Other important people to our school are

Fr Charles O'Farrell, our Parish Priest,

Garry Kemp, our Support for Learning Teacher (with us on a Friday morning)

Carol McCulloch, our Educational Psychologist



Further Update

Come and Meet the Teacher

We are having our annual Meet the Teacher next week on Thurs 30th August. The times for this are 3.30-4.30pm and 6.15-7.15pm. Come along and meet your child's teacher, see round their classroom and hear about the routines and procedures in place.

Students and Work Experience

Throughout the school year, we have several students and work experience pupils who complete placements with us. We currently have a postgraduate student working in P7 from now until the 12th Oct as well as 2 Dalziel High School Pupils on work experience every Wednesday afternoon from now until June. These pupils have been placed with our P2 and P3 classes

Homework Diaries

We are awaiting delivery of our homework diaries and are hoping to receive them shortly. The children will use this as a way of recording information and we would greatly appreciate you signing the diary each night and returning it to us in school bags each day. It is a great way of providing another level of communication between school and home ... please feel free to use it like that.

Photographer

*We have the Hamilton Advertiser coming on **Thurs 30th August at 10am** to take a photograph of our Primary 1 pupils for the paper. I will let you know if we hear of the date it will be in the paper.

* We have also organised whole class photographs as well as P1 and P7 photos with siblings for Thursday 20th September. Please note the siblings photograph is just for children in P1 and P7 and not other classes this year.

Lunches and Milk

*The criteria for receiving Free Meal Entitlement has changed recently and so anyone in receipt of this before would you please double check you are still entitled to receive it this session.

*As usual, our children can purchase milk to drink at playtime. The cost of this is 20p per day and the children order their milk for the week, ordering and paying £1.00 on a Monday. This allows our Cook-in-Charge, Janet, to order the milk we need and to bank the money each Monday. We also provide biscuits at a cost of 2p a biscuit; again this is ordered and paid for each Monday at a cost of 10p. We are looking in to the possibility of a daily Healthy Tuck Shop and our Head Boy and Girl will be meeting shortly to discuss this...watch this space.

P7 Children

*There is a Mass for our P7 children at Holy Cross High School on **Monday 3rd September at 6.30pm**. Children should attend wearing their school uniform and be accompanied by an adult. This is a beautiful Mass and is the first event in a year of transition for our P7 children. We look forward to seeing you there.

*Our Hoodies have arrived for our P7's and they are loving them! They look very smart and it complements our school uniform. Thank you to Mrs Redmond for all her guidance with ordering of correct sizes...not an easy task!

*We have an information session on **Tues 4th Sept from 6-7.30pm for our Residential Trip** to Lockerbie Manor, taking place later in the session. A representative from Lockerbie Manor will be in our school to talk to us about the trip, activities, accommodation etc. We will meet in the school hall. All P7 parents and children very welcome.

Clubs in our School

*We will shortly be looking at running clubs in our school and I will keep you informed of this. Our Eco Club will run again from Mon 3rd Sept, all children, mums, dads, grans, etc are welcome to come along. Cost of this is £1 per session and the dates for this are 22nd Oct, 12th Nov, 10th Dec, 21st Jan, 18th Feb, 18th Mar, 29th Apr, and 3rd June.

Important Forms

Lots of important forms are home today and we really need these returned to us as soon as possible please and no later than Fri 31st August. This allows our office staff to update the information we keep about your child. Thank you very much for your co-operation and time with this. If your information changes at all, please remember to keep us informed.

Community Partnership

The first meeting of our Community Partnership is next week, Wed 29th August at 7pm in our school. This is open to all parents and carers of children in our school and everyone is very welcome. The Community Partnership are planning a first fundraising event for this session – a Ladies Prosecco Afternoon. This is planned for Sat 6th Oct, cost of ticket is £25 and includes Fantastic Entertainment, glass of Prosecco, glass of Pink Bubbly and a Finger Buffet.

Contacting our School

Please note our office staff are delighted to help you in any way and, as you know, do a wonderful job keeping our busy school office running smoothly. It is not always possible to get messages to children after 2.45pm due to them being in various parts of the school and this has caused a bit of anxiety for our office staff in trying to do so. Our answering machine will now be switched on from 2.45pm until after 3pm in order to try to help reduce the busyness at what can often be a frantic time of day. Should you have a message that needs passed on, please contact our school office as early as possible in the day. Please, please only call the school office in an emergency. Many thanks for your help with all of this.

Houses

Our Houses have been revamped and all our children have been placed into one of our 5 houses. The house colours and names are St Andrew (Blue); St Enoch (Green); St Columba (Purple); St Mungo (Red); St Margaret (Yellow). The children will gain points for their house and winning houses will receive a treat as we progress through the year. The House Captains are kicking off the year by organising a **Rainbow Cake and Candy for next Fri 31st August** and children can come to school wearing the colours of their houses and bring money to buy goodies. Any possible donations of goodies for this would be wonderful and much appreciated.

Class Charter

Each class has been working on a Class Charter which outlines the do's and don'ts for their classroom. You will receive a copy of your child's class charter to read and sign along with your child. These will be winging their way to you next week.

Getting Information to you

We are keen to get the newsletter to you in the most convenient way – please indicate on the return sheet how you would like to receive this, either in paper form or email. The newsletter is always uploaded on to our website (<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/sl/stelizabetsprimary/>).

...and finally

Here's to another successful year ahead for our fantastic children and school. Your support and engagement is crucial to us. If you would be interested in being a parent helper in our school, please also indicate this on the return sheet. Thank you everyone.



Return Sheet

Child's Name _____ Class _____

1. Newsletter

Paper copy

Email

Email address (please write clearly) _____

2. Parent Helper

If you are interested in helping in our school please let us know the days/times you would be available

3. Comments/Questions

If you have any comment or question please write below.

Signed _____ Date _____

(Please return to school by Friday 31st August, thank you)