

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 1, August 2019

Respect

#### Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school! We hope you had a wonderful summer and enjoyed a lovely break. 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. Our new Primary 1 children have been just marvellous – they are settling in so well to the daily routine of school life and are a joy to have. We warmly welcome Freya and Keira to our school and look forward to continuing to work closely with all our families over the coming year and to continued success for our school and nursery.

We are moving towards a paperless newsletter so please help us by giving us an email address for us to use for you. Alternatively, our newsletter will be uploaded on to our school App and website each month.

Yours sincerely

Miss Christine MacPhee  
Head Teacher

#### Diary Dates for 2019/2020

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.

Every Thursday, parents and families are welcome to come in to our Celebrating Success Assembly. This will be taking place in the school hall from **2.15-2.45pm** each week and we would be delighted if you or someone from your family were able to come along. **This begins Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Sept, and everyone is very welcome to come along.**

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, it is helpful if you let the school know as soon as possible please.

**\*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 and named items such as Nike, etc should be kept for home. 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.

The PE days for our classes are as follows

	<b>Indoor</b>	<b>Outdoor</b>
P1	Wednesday	Thursday
P2	Friday	Monday
P3	Thursday	Friday
P3/4	Monday	Friday
P4/5	Friday	Wednesday
P5/6	Wednesday	Friday
P6	Tuesday	Friday
P7	Thursday	Wednesday

## **Fond farewell to Mrs Emmett**

At the end of the term, we bid a very fond farewell to Mrs Emmett who had been in our school for 35 years. Her work in and commitment to our school was exemplary and greatly appreciated by everyone. We wish her a truly fantastic retirement and many happy years ahead with her family and friends. Mrs Emmett herself would like to thank everyone for all the lovely wishes, gifts and cards she received. She appreciates and treasures each of them and sends her very best and warmest wishes to all family and friends of our school community.

Our Management team now consists of myself, Miss MacPhee, Mrs Wilson (Depute Head Teacher) and Mrs Campbell (Principal Teacher)

## **Further info about our fantastic school!**

**We have 8 classes in our school this session and these are formed as follows**

P1 with Mrs Sullivan and Mrs Hasson. We have grouped all 37 of our Primary 1 children together this year with 2 full time class teachers. We are loving our new classrooms too!

P2 with Miss Brand

P3 with Miss De

P3/4 with Mrs Murphy (Mon) and Mrs McCaig (Tues-Fri)

P4/5 with Mr Kelly

P5/6 with Mrs McGuire

P6 with Mrs MacIntyre

P7 with Miss Costello

CCC with Mrs McRoberts. Mrs Campbell and Mrs Wilson also help to deliver CCC each week

## **The Support Assistants in our school are**

Mrs Elliott, Mrs Anand, Mrs Stone (Mon and Tues), Mrs Byrne (Mon – Thurs), Mrs McDonald, Miss Dunsmuir and Mrs Tulloch

## **The clerical staff in our school office are**

Mrs Lynch (Team Leader) and Mrs Redmond

## **...and in our nursery office we have**

Mrs Holding

## **Our janitorial staff are**

Mrs Daly (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 and Deacon Joe

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

Carol Cairns, our Educational Psychologist

Kasia Meinicke, our English as Additional Language Support Teacher



## **Further Update**

### **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 31<sup>st</sup> 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.

### **School App**

We have a school app that is accessible through the Google Play or Apple Store by searching for St Elizabeth's Primary and Nursery School. From next month, our newsletters will be uploaded on to this App. We use the App for regular updates as well as our Twitter and Facebook Pages.

### **Homework Diaries**

Each child has their own homework diary and these are used in our school as a way of recording and sharing information. 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 will have the Hamilton Advertiser coming to school shortly to take a photograph of our Primary 1 pupils. We don't have the exact date as yet but I will let you know as soon as we hear.

\* We have organised a photographer to come to school on Wed 4<sup>th</sup> and Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. Careen will be with us to take individual and sibling photographs this year. Shirt and ties to be worn please.

### **Lunches and Milk**

\*The criteria for receiving Free Meal Entitlement changed last session and anyone in receipt of this before should 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 through Parent Pay. This allows our Cook-in-Charge, Janet, to order the milk we need and to bank the money each Monday. If any child forgets their snack any day, we have a small biscuit selection at a cost of 2p a biscuit. Children can buy on the day or bring their money the following day.

### **Breakfast Club**

We run a breakfast club each day in our school and this takes place from 8.15am until 8.45am. This is free of charge and open to all pupils in our school. Children should come to the front door of the school where a member of staff will register them and let them through to our dining hall for breakfast.

### **Clubs in our School**

\*We will shortly be looking at running clubs in our school and I will keep you informed of this. If you would be interested in helping with a club, or indeed running one, please let me know via the school office or by dropping us an email.

### **P7 Residential Trip**

\*We have our Residential Trip to Lockerbie Manor taking place next month during the week beginning the 16<sup>th</sup> September. There is great excitement in the air! We are looking forward to what promises to be a fantastic trip with our children.

### **Students and Work Experience**

Throughout the school year, we have several students and work experience pupils who complete placements with us. We warmly welcome the opportunity to work with partner agencies and thoroughly enjoy having young people come to experience the world of work in our school and nursery.

### **Community Partnership**

The first meeting of our Community Partnership is next week, Wed 28<sup>th</sup> August at 7pm in our school. **This is open to all parents and carers of children in our school and everyone is very welcome.** Please come along if you can and find out more.

### **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 is 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 4 houses. The house colours and names are St Andrew (Blue); St Columba (Green); 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. More information will follow about this. We will be having a Rainbow Cake and Candy shortly to help kick off our year and establish our Houses.

### **Good to be Green Behaviour System**

We continue to operate our Good to be Green System and this is working very well in our school. Each class has a Good to be Green Chart and this is used daily throughout our school.

### **Can you help?**

If you would like to be a parent helper in our school, please let us know. We are always looking for help with trips and events as well as activities in school and would be delighted to have your support. If you would be willing to come in to school to help with Book Week, World of Work Week, Fayres, Coffee Mornings, etc, please let us know.

### **...and finally**

Here's to another successful year ahead for our fantastic children and school. As always, your support and engagement with our school is crucial to us and we look forward to working with all our families for the benefit of every child. If there is anything you are unsure about or would like to discuss further, please contact the school office to make an appointment with one of us.

Best wishes

Miss MacPhee and the School Team  
Head Teacher



*St Elizabeth's Primary and Nursery School*

Return Sheet 2019/2020

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Newsletter (please tick how you would like to access our newsletter)**

Email

School App

Website

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Parent Helper**

If you are interested in helping in our school would you please let us know the days/times you would be available and what you would be happy to help with.

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**3. Comments/Questions**

If you have any comment or question about our school please let us know, thank you.

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Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Please return to school by Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Aug. Thank you)