

Faith

Kindness

Love

Persevere

St Elizabeth's Primary School and Nursery Class

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

Our School and Nursery Information Newsletter

March 2022

Enjoyment

Respect

Our vision

Our vision is for everyone in St Elizabeth's Primary School and Nursery Class to strive to excel in all that we do through working hard and having loving, respectful relationships in a safe, happy and nurturing environment embracing a love for lifelong learning.

***All our latest information about our school and nursery is available on our App, available from the App or Google store.**

***Please follow us on Twitter - @StElizabetsPS.**

We also have our website which contains further important information.

Dear mums and dads, boys and girls,

As we reach the end of another term, I can only praise our wonderful children and staff for all the hard work that has been accomplished over the past few weeks, under very trying times some days. Your support of our school has also been wonderful and very much appreciated by us all.

We will be continuing to follow COVID procedures in and around our school and nursery when we return next term and I will keep you updated over the coming weeks.

We hope you find our latest newsletter informative and we wish you all a very happy Easter Holiday.



**** Breakfast Club ****

Our breakfast club continues to run from 8.15 to 8.45am each day and is open to any school child to attend. Children are not allowed out in to the playground until 8.30am. We have adult supervision in our playground from 8.45am each day.

**** School Lunches ****

From 19th April, the cost of school lunch will be £2.00 for our P6 and P7 children, all other children are entitled to a free school lunch each day. A carton of milk will also be priced at 24p. Parentpay will be updated accordingly.

**** P7 Transition ****

We are delighted to say that our P7 children had a ball at their recent Team Building day in Holy Cross on Friday 25th March. We were all so excited that this year they were able to attend in person and to meet lots of new pupils. Our children were also complimented on their wonderful attitude, overall engagement and their manners and even the bus driver commented on how polite our children were in thanking him. We were very proud of them all. We have also enjoyed a special visit from Mr Reilly, the Head Teacher of Holy Cross who spoke to our P7's for over an hour. Once again our children were a delight, well done boys and girls.

We now look forward to 2 transition days in June for our children and again these will be in person – great to see life returning to more and more normality. The dates for this are Thursday 9th and Friday 10th June. More info to follow nearer the time.

****P1 Transition****

Our Primary 1 transition begins in earnest next term and we are very much looking forward to having our new wee ones involved in our school. Our Primary 6 children have now been allocated their buddies and have written lovely introductory letters to them which are being posted this week. We have been busy taking photographs and also organising lunches and playground time for the children to enjoy with our school children. We also welcomed our pre-school children to a school assembly on Monday and we were so impressed with how well they sat and listened. We know they are going to be fab Primary 1 children!

The dates for this are Mon 23rd May, Mon 30th May, Mon 6th June and Mon 13th June. Parents are invited to join us in our lunch hall on Tuesday 7th June at 12.30pm for a taster lunch.

We will also have information sessions and meetings for our new P1 parents and we will be building this around the dates for the P7 Induction Days in June.

**** Pupil Responsibilities ****



**** Pupil Engagement ****



Can you help us get balls down from the roof of our school? Our children would be absolutely delighted to have the balls back down and any help anyone can give us would be much appreciated.

Our Pupil Council are focusing on evaluating number talks, getting opinions, suggestions and ideas from pupils across our school

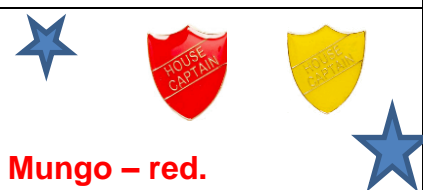
Our Pupil Focus Group is looking at creating a questionnaire for parents on parental engagement then they are going to look at maths over a number weeks and agree useful cues and supports that we should have on classroom walls at each stage (looking ahead to August).

Our Head Boy/Girl, House and Vice House Captains are also looking at how well we engage with our families and what we can continue to build on across our school.

All our children contribute their ideas and suggestions to our focus groups and we all help drive and build our priorities across our school and nursery.



**** Houses ****
As you know, we have **4 houses** in our school



St Andrew – blue; St Columba – green; St Margaret – yellow; St Mungo – red.

Our house tokens have again been counted on the last Friday of the month and the winning house for this month is St Columba. The children enjoyed a sneaky play this week, well done boys and girls for great teamwork and receiving so many green and gold tokens!

**** Buddies ****

We have P5 Nursery buddies in place and our school and nursery children enjoy spending time with one another and developing key aspects of their health and wellbeing. Needless to say our little children in the nursery just adore our older children and have great fun with them. Thank you to our fab P5 children for embracing this opportunity so enthusiastically.

I am sure the superb example set by our P7 Buddies has spread throughout our school and inspires our future buddies. Our Primary 7's have been just wonderful with our Primary 1's and we cannot praise them enough. We will have buddy lunches, playtimes and assemblies all happening next term.

As mentioned earlier, our current P6 children are also preparing for buddy life in Primary 7 and they have written lovely letters to our new children introducing themselves. Many thanks to Gillian in our nursery for taking photographs of our buddies, these are now displayed in our school for us all to admire.

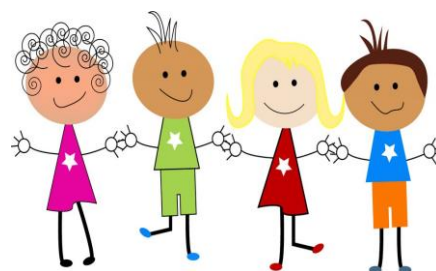
**** Book Fair****

Thank you very much for your fantastic support of our recent Book Fair. The children were delighted with the new books and goodies that they bought and your purchases meant a grand total of £1153.81 was raised. Our school has a an amazing £632.29 in commission to spend on books of our choosing. Thank you very much. Mrs Wilson will now meet with our reading champions to decide how best to spend this money.

**** Pupil Wellbeing****

We have completed a wellbeing questionnaire with all our children and they have given us their thoughts about our school and how they feel. We are in the very fortunate position to have a spare classroom this session which has now been turned in to a wellbeing room for us to be able to use – this will begin from next term and we will have groups of children working within this room

We are also looking at creating Wellbeing Warriors and our children from P2 to P7 have been given the opportunity to apply for these posts – our children are so caring and keen to help that I imagine it will be a very difficult job choosing a small group of warriors. We'll keep you informed of this development.



**** We need your help****

You may be aware that we have had several instances of vandalism within our playground. This is an ongoing issue that is causing us a great deal of concern as we are now unable to develop our playground the way we want. Unfortunately, our children are suffering as a result of this which makes us very upset.

Our beautiful hut installed over the summer has been badly damaged and has been used as a space for vandals to smoke and drink, leaving their debris behind which has been horrible for our janitor and staff to see. Our children have been unable to use this resource and we are all very upset about the state of it.

We are continually having vandals entering our school grounds, moving school furniture in an apparent bid to get up on to the roof, piling tables on top of each other and moving our reading huts closer to the school building. These individuals have also been quite intimidating towards staff leaving the building at the end of the day.

Materials that had been gathered for our nursery children were removed recently and we believe they were taken to the park and burned. Again, very upset nursery children and staff as a result. I have been given several names and have now passed this information on to the local police as they are aware of the disruption and vandalism and are working closely with us

We are asking for your help – if you know of anyone who is doing this to our school property will you please ,please telephone us to pass this on and together we will hopefully stop this. I have spoken to the children at our recent Assembly and everyone is horrified to hear of what is happening. We want our children to enjoy the toys and facilities your hard earned money allows us to buy through our fundraising. Thank you very much for any help at all you can give us with this matter.

**** Parental Engagement ****

**** Numeracy Teaching ****

We know many of you would like to know how we teach various strategies in our school and we are in the process of compiling short videos that we hope will help with this. We have currently uploaded information on to our Google Classroom page for Primary 1 and the short video shows various strategies that you can also use at home. We will be uploading more videos over the coming weeks. Huge thank you to Mrs Campbell and our staff for doing these videos for us.

**** Positive Relationships and Behaviour**

During our recent in-service day, we reviewed our Positive Relationships and Behaviour Policy. A copy of the policy will be uploaded on to our website and school app for you to view. We will also issue an abbreviated version for your convenience.

As you will know, we have a Good to be Green system in place within our school and our children enjoy this system and respond very well to it. Part of this system involved yellow and red cards – the yellow card is used to indicate warnings and think time and the red card is for a consequence for inappropriate behaviour. In the event of a child receiving a red card, we will also be in contact with you to inform you. We know you appreciate being kept informed of how your child is doing at school and your support is crucial to our work and very much appreciated.

**** P7 Residential Trips ****

Our P7 Residential Trip takes place from Monday 16th to Wednesday 18th May and we are all getting very excited! When we return to school next term, we will issue a list of the items they will be required to bring along. We also have an information session planned for Wednesday 20th April at 6.30pm via Google Classroom. A reminder that this trip needs to be paid please by the middle of April.

Our Residential Trip for next year's P7 children is also underway and again, the children are getting super excited about this. There will be an information session for this on Tuesday 23rd August and this trip is also needing paid please by the end of May.

Should you have anything you would like to discuss with me about any aspect of the trip, please contact me at school and I'll be more than happy to chat.

**** Attendance and Absence ****

If your child is to be absent from school, it is important you please telephone the school office to let us know this. Our office staff are available from 8am and we also have an answering machine for your convenience.

If you would like to know what your child's current attendance figure is or are concerned about your child's attendance for any reason, please give our school office a call on 285080 and we will be happy to help.

**** Community Partnership ****

Many thanks for all the smarties tubes that were returned – the Community Partnership were delighted and the total amount raised is £450.79
Thank you very much for all support with this fundraising activity.

**** Important Information ****



**** Diary Dates ****

Friday 1 st April	School and Nursery Closes at 2.30pm
Tuesday 19 th April	School and Nursery reopens
Wednesday 20 th April	P7 Residential Trip Information Session, 6.30pm
Thursday 21 st April	Dance Showcase Event at Holy Cross for P7
Monday 2 nd May	Holiday
Saturday 14 th May	First Holy Communion, 11am
Monday 16 th May	First Communion Party in school
Tuesday 31 st May	Confirmation, 7pm in Our Lady and St Anne's Church
Wednesday 1 st June	Confirmation Party in school (am)
Wednesday 1 st June	School tea party to celebrate Queen's Jubilee (pm)
Thursday 2 nd June	Holiday
Friday 3 rd June	Holiday
Friday 17 th June	Sports Day
Friday 17 th June	End-of-Term reports out to parents
Monday 20 th June	Nursery Graduation and Fun Day
Wednesday 22 nd June	P7 Leaver's Service, 1.30pm
Friday 24 th June	School and Nursery close at 1pm for Summer Holidays
Wednesday 17 th August	Children return to School and Nursery

Please remember to check our App and Twitter page as we regularly update information throughout each term.

**** Parish/Faith Life ****

**** Sacramental Preparation ****

Our Sacramental children have now all received their Home School Workbooks and are busy working their way through this in preparation for their Sacraments. Fr O'Farrell will confer the Sacrament of Reconciliation in September when our children are in Primary 4 however the children will undertake the preparation for this Sacrament this year.

We are looking forward to celebrating the Sacraments with our children this year and will issue more information to the relevant year groups as we move in to next term. We ask that you keep our children in your prayers as they undertake their preparations.

**** Lent ****

We have been raising money for SCIAF during Lent and we have all enjoyed taking part in all the focuses each week. We have raised a fantastic amount of £600.46. Thank you so very much for this wonderful amount I have a sneaking suspicion that this Friday's focus – no work day – will have been the most favourite somehow!!

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

If at any point, you have a concern, a worry or a compliment please speak to myself, Mrs Wilson (Depute Head Teacher) or Mrs Campbell (Principal Teacher). We hope everyone has a wonderful Easter break and we will be back to business from Tuesday 19th April.

Best wishes everyone,

Miss MacPhee, Head Teacher

