

# St Mary's RC Primary

## Newsletter 2

### September 2015



Apologies for the delay in getting this newsletter and the annual calendar to you – we have had a few problems with printers and photocopiers in school since returning after the holidays.

Thank you to the Parents who came along to the Curriculum Evening and Parent Council AGM last week and enjoyed a very informative presentation about Cyber Safety from our IT Development Officer, Mr Tommy Lawson. Please find enclosed a copy of our updated Anti Bullying Policy and a leaflet from Respect Me which includes a lot of useful tips on keeping your children safe online and what to do if your child is being bullied.

I have also enclosed a copy of the annual calendar for the year. I will be meeting with our new Parish Priest, Father Allan Ocdenaria this week to finalise dates for School Masses and Sacramental Preparation and these dates will be included in future newsletters. Father Allan was in school last week and visited all the classes and has asked me to pass on his thanks to those who supported his first Parish Fete, and made him feel so welcome at Mass at the weekend. Over £8,000 was raised at the Fete.

A few dates to draw to your attention are the first Parent Council meeting on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September – at 7.15pm**. There are still a couple of vacancies so if you are interested check the list below and let the School Office know that you are interested in joining.

**PLEASE NOTE THE “UNLOCKING YOUR CHILD’S POTENTIAL” EVENT AT ST DAVID’S HIGH SCHOOL ON 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER HAS BEEN POSTPONED.** More information about this event will follow when a new date has been agreed.

Mrs Liz Laird – Head Teacher

School photographs will be taken of all individuals and family groups of siblings in school on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September. The Midlothian Advertiser photographer will be in to photograph our P1 class On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September.

Thanks to everyone who returned the Seemis update forms promptly – hundreds of extra house points have been given out.

#### MILK MONEY

The next block of milk money is due on **1st October**. The cost for October – Christmas is £7.20 or for the remainder of the year £24.80. Please make cheques payable to **Midlothian Council** and place monies in a sealed envelope with your child’s name and class and MILK MONEY clearly marked on it. Payments after this date will not be accepted.

We welcome Mrs Elisabeth Leslie, from St David’s High School, to St Mary’s every Wednesday this year to teach Music. The children really enjoyed their first lessons last week!!

**REMEMBER  
SCHOOL HOLIDAY  
FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> AND MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup>  
SEPTEMBER**

**School starts at 9am for P1-P7** Thank you to everyone who gets their child to school on time **BUT** we already have a number of children arriving late every day! Pupils must sign in if they are late and parents need to ensure that a lunch has been ordered if required. Children arriving late are missing registration, lunch orders, money collection and their first tasks in class. Please also let the office staff know if you are running late to pick up. Your child will be taken to the school office to wait for you.

**THE PARENT COUNCIL** meets for the first time this year on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 7.15pm. At the AGM last week the following names were elected to the PC. Let the School Office know if you can fill a vacancy!

**PARENT COUNCIL OFFICE BEARERS**

**Chairperson: Paul Baker (P3, P5)**

**Vice Chair: Matthew Dunn (P1)**

**Secretary: Joanna Shields (Nursery)**

**Treasurer: Chris Shields (P4)**

**STAFF**

**Alison MacKerron**

**Lauren Arkley**

**PARENT COUNCIL CLASS REPRESENTATIVES**

Nursery: Lynsey Eaton and Joanna Shields

P1 - Gavin Conington and Lauren Fenty

P2 - Mary Sutherland

P3 - Dawn Kerr

P4 - -Kerry Ann Baker

P5 - vacancy

P6 - Wendy Bell

P7 - Ally Hollins Kirk

**POLITE REQUEST** It is lovely to see so many parents gathering in the school playground before and after school. Could parents please move further into the playground to avoid congestion at the gate. Children are struggling to get past with bags, bikes, scooters, musical instruments etc. Parents are also finding it difficult to get past with buggies. The staff car park is **NOT** a designated pupil entrance to the playground and is not safe for pupils to use as cars are moving in and out of the car park at the beginning and end of the day.

If you need to speak to your child's teacher please arrange to do this after school and not first thing after the bell has gone as the children need to be escorted into school. Could parents please stand back from the lines in the morning so that the children can line up quickly.

We have a number of children who are not being collected on time from Nursery and school at the end of the day. Nursery staff have a very short break between sessions to clean and set up for the afternoon, and need to have their own lunch too. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.

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