

St Mary's RC Primary

Newsletter 9

February 2016



Well we survived the storms and rain of January – maybe February will bring us some calmer weather!! Although the forecast today looks stormy!! On that note could I urge you to send your child suitably clothed for the cold and changeable weather even if it is dry in the morning – we have a number of pupils with no jackets or waterproofs and we do send the children out for playtimes in light rain! At the moment we have around 6 boys with the same warm winter jacket from ASDA without names in them – PLEASE take a few minutes to write your child's name on the label. Staff are wasting a lot of time trying to track down the owners of coats, jumpers etc.

Well done to our P7 team who took part in the Indoor Athletics competition earlier in January coming third on the day – again they represented the school really well and were a credit to you.

Congratulations to our Learning Assistant Miss Lovell who got married last month. She is now known as Mrs Huxley.

This week is **Catholic Education Week** and we are being asked to focus on Pope Francis' message to "be merciful" and "show mercy". We would like to show mercy by supporting our local food banks at this time and I have asked the children to bring in tins of food that we can donate locally. If you can spare a tin of soup, tuna, vegetables, something that can be easily warmed up we will gratefully receive it. 20 extra house points for each donation!!

Mrs Laird - Headteacher

STAFFING UPDATE

Congratulations to Miss Murphy, our P2 teacher, who was successful at interview and will take up the post of Principal Teacher at St Andrew's RC PS in Gorebridge after the February break. Her last day at St Mary's will be Friday 12th February. From 22nd February Mrs Bringmans will be Class Teacher for P2.

Changes in our Nursery provision mean that we have a morning session only at the moment. Over the past couple of months Mrs Bringmans has been providing Support for Learning in a range of classes and providing some management time for Mrs Macaulay. From 22nd February she will take on the teaching of P2 full time until the end of the session. Mrs Wheeler and Miss Kibble will be in the Nursery every morning.

Thank you to Mr Hunsley who has covered P5 for 4 out of the 6 weeks Mrs Brolly has been absent. Mrs Brolly hopes to be back on Monday 22nd February.

KEEPING MYSELF SAFE MEETING

There will be a meeting for parents and carers of pupils in P5, P6 and P7 on

Tuesday 23rd February at 7pm

to learn more about our approach to teaching sex and relationships education at Second Level. Look out for a letter coming home with a reply slip indicating if you are able to attend.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Local Schools Consultation. Completed surveys handed in to school have been submitted to Midlothian Council.

HEAD LICE

As you know this is a recurring problem in schools, especially after a holiday period. Please check your child's hair on a regular basis. Prevention is better than cure, so please tie back long hair for school. We currently have head lice in a number of classes in the school.

Could you please ensure that ALL medicines brought to school especially inhalers are clearly labelled with your child's name and class. **ALL MEDICATION SHOULD BE HANDED IN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE AND A SCHOOL MEDICAL FORM COMPLETED.**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

31 st January – 5 th February	Catholic Education Week
Friday 5 th February	P7 Mass at St David's RC HS
Tuesday 9 th February	Parents Meeting for Confirmation – Our Lady Church Hall 7.30pm
Thursday 11 th February	Meeting about ASG Cluster Camp for P7 pupils and parents – 7pm St Andrew's RC PS Gorebridge
Friday 12 th February	School closes at normal time for February Break
Tuesday 23 rd February	Keeping Myself safe Meeting for Parents in P5, P6 and P7 – 7pm

FEBRUARY HOLIDAY
SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL PUPILS
Monday 15th Feb – Friday 19th Feb
RE-OPENS ON MONDAY 22ND FEBRUARY