

St Mary's RC Primary

Newsletter 2

September 2017



Please find attached the annual Calendar with as many dates on it as I can confirm at the moment – there will be dates to be added as events are confirmed throughout the year.

Thank you to those of you who came along to the Parent Council AGM last week. Paul Baker has decided to stand down as Chairperson this year to allow a parent with younger children in the school to be Chair, as we progress with plans for our new school building. I am sure you will join us in thanking Paul for all of his hard work as Chairperson over the past few years. He will of course continue to support the school in many other ways.

Thank you once again to all of our Parent Council members for their service to the school last year. Thank you to all who have put themselves forward to stand as representatives of the Parent Forum on the Parent Council this year. We still need a couple of volunteers at P4 and P7. Please contact the school office if you would like to be nominated for these classes. The new Parent Council Members are:

NURSERY	Stephanie MacFadyen	CHAIRPERSON	Chris Shields
P1	Sara Noman	VICE CHAIRPERSON	Brendan Lacey
P2	Joanna Shields	TREASURER	Joanna Shields
P3	Linsey Brown	SECRETARY	Kerry Ann Baker
P4	vacancy	TEACHER REPS	Alison MacKerron Maria Brolly
P5	Dawn Kerr	PARISH REP	John Allan
P6	Paul Baker		
P7	vacancy		

The first meeting of the Parent Council is on Wednesday 20th September at 7.15pm in the school.

PLEASE NOTE – NEW SCHOOL TIMES

Mon – Thurs 9am – 3.30pm

Friday 9am – 12.15pm

for all pupils P1-P7

We already have a number of children arriving late for school and a number of unexplained absences. Please follow the procedure below to inform school of absence and help your child to arrive at school on time

Mrs Liz Laird – Head Teacher

PLEASE NOTE Any money to be handed in to school should be given to your child to be recorded against the class cash sheet at registration time. All money should be in an envelope with your child's name, class and reason for payment clearly labelled. Please avoid handing money into the School Office.

ALL MEDICATION MUST be handed in to the school office and the appropriate medical form completed. Please do not ever give your child medication to bring to school in their bag. Pupils requiring inhalers need to have two in school – one in class and one at the school office. Please check expiry dates on medication such as epi pens and inhalers.

SCHOOL MEALS are now £1.90. Cash can be sent in each day in a named envelope or purse – change is given. Or you can send in the amount for the week and we will hold this in school for use each day.

As you will see from the School Calendar, classes are involved in a number of activities that take them out of school. We can only participate in these events if we have the support of parent helpers to escort the children. We have had a number of parents who have volunteered to help with any class but we still need more. If you are willing to be asked to volunteer (sometimes you might not be able to), please let the School Office know so that they can contact you.

Thanks to everyone who returned the Seemis update forms promptly – hundreds of extra house points have been given out. Please remember to provide a **NAMED**, waterproof jacket each day for school. I will open the side door to the gym hall at 8.50am in the event of very heavy rain. Children will still go out to play in light rain so jackets are essential.

POLITE REQUESTS 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. Bikes and scooters should be placed on the racks as soon as pupils arrive at school .

Please supervise your child entering the playground from the car park as we have already had a few near misses.

Please note that dogs are not permitted in any Midlothian Council School Playground and I would ask that if you are waiting outside the gates with a dog that you move further back from the entrance, as a number of children are afraid to pass dogs on the pavement.

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, especially P3/4 -P7, where the lines are very long.

We have a number of children who are not being collected on time from Nursery and school at the end of the day. Please be on time. Staff have additional planning, preparation and training to do after the children are dismissed. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.

Please take time this weekend to check that all school uniform, bags, lunch boxes etc are clearly **NAMED**. **Our lost property boxes are already overflowing with unnamed items!**

Please try to support us as a Health Promoting School by only sending in a bottle of water each day and a healthy snack such as fruit/yogurt tubes etc. Items containing nuts are not permitted for snack or packed lunch – this includes peanut butter spread and hazelnut spread. We have a number of pupils with nut allergies in school.

**REMEMBER
SCHOOL HOLIDAY
FRIDAY 15th AND MONDAY
18th
SEPTEMBER**

