

St Mary's RC Primary

Newsletter 7

April 2021



We are delighted to welcome everyone back after the Easter Break, and I hope that you all enjoyed the good weather (after the snow)!! Hopefully Covid restrictions continue to be relaxed and we can enjoy a summer term in school with some of our fun activities – and maybe even a sports day in our own field for the first time!!! In the meantime, the Scottish Government and Midlothian Council are still asking that parents and carers stick to the **FACTS** guidance at drop off and pick up times in particular.

Thank you to our Parent Council who have paid for our P7 “Class of 21” Hoodies which were delivered last Tuesday. We are currently planning a range of events for the summer term including those special times for P7 and we will let you know the details when we have them.

Please, please, please complete the P1-P3 lunch orders and send in to school on time. Office staff will no longer be chasing these up and you will have to provide a lunch for your child if you have not sent in your lunch order. This is now a survey link sent to your phone. Any problems contact the School Office.

P4 and P7 pupils are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Holy Communion on June 5th and Confirmation on June 12th this term. Please return the books on or before the day they are needed back in school.

Mrs Liz Laird – Head Teacher

SUNCREAM – please check the weather forecast and apply suncream to your child before sending them in to school. If you think your child will need more cream during the day please provide a bottle with your child’s name on it. We will give your child more to apply themselves if required. On particularly sunny days your child can wear a baseball cap/sun hat for playtimes. Please also still send a waterproof jacket – this is Scotland after all!!!!

PARKING – we have now had four cars damaged in the School Car Park. If the car park is full please do not double park – find another space near the school. The car park at Poltonhall pitches is often empty and is only a short walk from the school. Please use the pavement and discourage your child from walking behind parked cars.

DISABLED PARKING – the electric charging spaces in the car park are our designated disabled spaces for use during the school day. Please do not park here without prior agreement with the HT – we can issue a card to display or you should display your blue badge. Please “drop off and pop off” as our school banner says, as there is often a queue forming for these spaces.

“DROP OFF AND POP OFF” – this banner displays the winning design by Julia Glaner in P5/6 during our Parksmart campaign. Please use the drop off bay for this purpose and not the zigzag zone at the school gates.

PELICAN CROSSING – please use the crossing to cross Rosewell Road – this is an extremely busy road and this week I have witnessed at least 10 parents crossing with their child between stationary vehicles on the road. I am concerned for the safety of the children and the bad habits this is developing with our youngsters.

Current guidance from Scottish Government advises that no one should attend our school building without prior arrangement. Should parents and carers require to make contact with staff, we ask that they contact the school office, in the first instance, either by phone on 0131 271 4690 or by email at: stmarys_ps@midlothian.gov.uk

A FEW REMINDERS

| | |
|--|---|
| Please drop your child off as close to 9am as possible using the entrances at Rosewell Road and Chesters Court. | Our Learning Assistants are in the playground to supervise the children lining up. No parents are permitted in the playground at morning drop off. |
| P1 & P2 will be dismissed at 3.25pm and 12.10pm on Friday, and one adult is permitted into the playground to collect at the end of the day. Please vacate the playground promptly with your child to ease congestion as other classes are dismissed. | Classes P3-P7 will be dismissed at their usual time of 3.30pm and 12.15pm. If you are collecting your child, please arrange a suitable place to meet up outside the school grounds and help us to minimise congestion at the gates. |
| All pupils should wear their school jumper on their return to school. Warm joggers or suitable bottoms should also be worn as the children will be outside every day. NO JEANS PLEASE. | Please ensure your child has a waterproof jacket and shoes each day. Wellies can be kept in school. PE will continue to be outside for the time being. |
| P1-P3 will continue to have lunches provided by school – PLEASE RETURN YOUR ORDER FORM ON TIME OR WE WILL ASSUME NO LUNCHES ARE REQUIRED THE FOLLOWING WEEK. | Children in P4-P7 should bring a packed lunch to school. BACS payments will continue to June. |
| HEAD LICE - this is always a problem when children return to school. Please check your child's hair prior to return and treat the whole family if necessary. | We currently have cases of Head Lice in school – please check your child's hair each night this week and treat accordingly. |
| HEALTHY SNACKS Please provide a small, healthy snack for your child for playtime – this is only 15 minutes so one item is really enough. Please also provide your child with a reusable water bottle to have in the class. This will come home each day to be washed. Please label the bottle with your child's name. WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL – NO NUTS/NUTTY CEREAL BARS/ NUTTY BREAD ETC. | 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. |
| SCHOOL UNIFORM Our uniform is a burgundy jumper with the school badge on it and white or pale blue shirt or polo shirt. This can be purchased via www.borders-embroideries.co.uk PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD'S NAME IS ON ALL UNIFORM, LUNCH BAGS, WATER BOTTLES, ETC | Please return all permission slips etc by the due date on the information sent home. The Office staff have even more duties to complete on a daily basis due to Covid restrictions and would appreciate your help with timeous returns. |
| Please do not send in cake or treats for your child's birthday. We are unable to share these in class and have to be mindful of children with allergies. | Make up and jewellery should not be worn to school. All mobile phones should be handed in to the teacher in the morning and not witted on until out of the school grounds. Please check your child's phone regularly as we have had some worrying content on chat forums recently. |

REMEMBER

F – Face Covering

A – Avoid crowds

C – Clean hands

T - Two metre distance

S – Self Isolate

