



Sacred Heart Primary School

“Aspire Nurture Learn Achieve”



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Dear Parent/Carer

It has been another busy week at Sacred Heart and it has been great to see the positive relationships forming between classes and their new teachers. There have been lots of exciting and engaging lessons going on in classrooms and many of our learners were delighted to see Mrs Browne and Mrs Sargison again for some drama and French.

Our learners have also been very busy completing assessments this week to help teachers get to know their next steps to ensure that all children are given maximum opportunities to make progress this term. We will be finalising our support for learning timetable over the coming weeks; please bear with us as we identify learners and groups who may require additional support. Ms Learmonth will be in touch with you if your child would benefit from this.

School Updates

Covid Updates

Thank you for supporting our school to be a safe place by wearing face coverings at pick up and drop off and by distancing from other households.

We ask that only one adult accompanies their child to school in the morning/collects their child in the afternoon. This is to avoid overcrowding in the playground.

Labelling Clothes/Personal Items

Please ensure that your child's uniform and personal items are clearly marked with their name. This avoids items getting lost and aids the quick return of items that have been left behind.

Lunches

Pupils from P1-P4 now have the opportunity to choose whether they would like a hot option or a sandwich each day at lunchtime. Please be reminded that there is no longer any need to complete the lunch preference survey.

Free School Meals

Children from P5-P7 who are entitled to Free School Meals will continue to receive a BACs transfer until further notice.

If you have a child in P1-P7 and have not yet applied for free school meals, please do so. Pupils can also receive free milk each day and clothing grants so even if your child is in P1-4 and automatically receives a free lunch, completion of the application could support with free milk and uniform.

Further information can be found at

https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/855/school_meals/117/free_school_meals_and_clothing_grants

Milk

Letters for milk have been issued to all learners. Please note we are now operating a cashless office so payment should be made via Parentpay. Please return completed forms by Monday 30 August.

Parent's Evening

Parent's Evening will take place on Thursday 16 September after school - school pupils only (Nursery staff will be in touch with parents separately).

Consultations will be done over the phone.

A Microsoft Form 'survey' link will be issued to parent/carers soon – please look out for this in your email inbox.

Meet the Teacher

Please note that a virtual meet the teacher event will take place on Tuesday 7th September from 3.30-4.00. Links will be sent out before the event.

NHS Anxiety Workshops

NHS Lothian are running a number of workshops for parents and carers about anxiety in children and young people. There are number of possible dates and all workshops are virtual.

Further information will be sent via email.

Pantomime

We are delighted and excited to share with you that we have secured tickets to see Sleeping Beauty at King's Theatre on 30th November (oh yes we have!). Information will be sent out in the coming weeks to organise payment for tickets.

Annual Data Returns/Medication

Many thanks to those of you who have already returned your annual data form and any relevant medical information. If you have not yet returned this information, we encourage you to do so as a matter of urgency.

Medication

If your child requires any medication (including inhalers) while at school, please ensure that you have completed the relevant medication form. These are available from Mrs Howat at the school office.

As per our administration of medication policy, we cannot administer this medication without parental consent. Please also ensure all medication sent to school is in date.

PE

At this time PE changing rooms remain closed and children will not be encouraged to change for PE. **We advise that on the days children have PE, they come to school dressed in sportswear.**

Class PE days are as follows:

P1/2: Wednesday

P2/3: Tuesday

P4: Thursday

P5: Tuesday

P6: Wednesday

P7: Wednesday

Nut-Free Snacks

Due to severe nut allergies at our school, please do not send your child to school with snacks or lunch items containing nuts. This includes, but is not limited to, Kinder Buenos, Nutella, Daim bars and peanut butter. Please note that any snacks with nuts in them will be sent home with the child.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is available to all learners from Nursery to Primary 7 and will be free of charge due to our partnership with the Gregg's Foundation. Toast and cereal will be available. Please note that in order to comply with current restrictions, pupils will be required to sit in their classes.

Breakfast Club opens at 8am and children should enter via the main office door. No pre booking is required. Last entry into breakfast club is 8.35am.



Uniform

It is so lovely to see our learners back in full school uniform. Thank you to parents and carers for all your support with this.

Please be reminded that this consists of:

P1: A maroon polo shirt, school jumper, grey trousers/skirt/pinafore, black/white socks and black shoes. A white shirt and tie can be worn if preferred

P2-6 A white shirt, tie, maroon v-necked jumper/cardigan, grey trousers/skirt/pinafore, black/white socks and black shoes.

P7: A white shirt, tie, maroon v-necked jumper/cardigan/leavers' hoody, grey trousers/skirt/pinafore, black/white socks and black shoes.

Please follow the link below to buy items from our school uniform supplier:

<https://sacredheart.imagescotland.com/shop>

Primary 7s are permitted to wear their leavers hoody as their school jumper. Leavers hoodies are also available for purchase at the link above.

Please note that purchasing uniform with the sacred heart crest is completely optional, and you are welcome to purchase plain items without the school crest (at Tesco, Asda etc.) if you would prefer.

Flu Vaccinations

Please note that flu vaccinations will take place for Primary 1 - Primary 7 on Wednesday 17th November. Permission forms have been sent home for completion by return. Further information can be found at www.nhsinform.scot/childflu

Class Updates:

P1/2

What a fantastic start we have had to this school year! Primary 1 have settled in wonderfully with their Primary 2 classmates who have been so helpful and supportive! We have been busy spending this time getting to know one another and exploring our classroom as well as getting to know our new teacher by playing games and doing some fun activities. We have been working on our Class Charter based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. As a class we chose three articles that we felt were important to us and then designed a 'Teddy Bear's Picnic' themed charter to display in our classroom.

P1 are excited to start learning their Set 1 Sounds next week while P2 will be revising their Set 2 Sounds and building words and sentences using them. We are also looking forward to beginning

our Maths topic of Shape where we will be exploring a range of 2D and 3D shapes. We will be reading some traditional and non-traditional fairytales over the coming weeks and a lot of our learning in class will be based on these. It is going to be a very exciting week in P1/2!

P2/3

What a lovely start we have had to Primary 2/3! We spent our week settling in and getting to know each other, our classroom and our teacher. We had a busy week doing lots of fun activities and using a book called the Journey to create our own flying machine we would make if we had a magic crayon like the girl in the story. Some of you may have heard that Mrs Hastings came to visit on Wednesday too! Mrs Hastings will work with the class every Wednesday for the next few weeks!

Next week, Primary 2/3 are going to be starting to work in their Read, Write Inc. groups. The children have been assessed and grouped according to their assessment. They will be reassessed every six weeks to monitor progress and ensure everybody is in the appropriate group. The class will also be introduced to a new book called Meerkat Mail and doing activities based around this. In Numeracy, we are going to look at missing number calculations and adding and subtracting numbers 1-20. A busy time in P2/3!

P4

This week in Primary 4 we have been working in groups to predict the next scene of Journey, working on dictionary skills and we wrote a letter to our future selves about our targets for this year. In PE, we have started to learn how to play netball, which we have really enjoyed! We worked hard on our class charter, discussing the rights we have and how we can respect the rights of others. Our class charter will be displayed in our classroom for the whole year so that children are reminded of their rights and the rights of others. We have also been busy completing our Numeracy, Spelling and Grammar assessments. It has been really great getting to know each other and learn about each other's' interests and hobbies. All of Primary 4 have agreed that it's going to be a great year and we are really looking forward to learning together and having lots of fun!

Next week, we are going to start our novel study. Primary 4 took a trip to the woods to find clues about what our novel will be all about. We have lots more exciting things planned as part of our novel study learning! In maths, we are going to be learning about patterns and we will continue with our netball learning in PE. Keep an eye on Twitter and Seesaw for updates on what we are up to!

P5

The first full week of Primary 5 is officially over! It was great to be reunited with the class after teaching them in Primary 3. We started off the week by creating a self-portrait inspired by the artist Julian Opie. Julian is most famous for creating the artwork for the Blur Greatest Hits album. The children's artwork turned out brilliantly and I was so proud of how well they did. I have posted photos of the artwork on SeeSaw and Twitter.

In Numeracy, we have also been studying the book 'Journey' Aaron Becker. It is a wordless book with some gorgeous artwork in it. We have been learning to write a descriptive piece of writing describing some of the artwork within the book. We have been focusing on how to use similes and alliteration to create descriptive detail.

In Numeracy, we have been doing problem solving and learning how to work systematically. It has been amazing to see some of the creative methods that the children have been using to help them solve problems.

We have also been doing a lot of assessment in order to identify gaps in learning, which will help shape lessons moving forward.

Next week we are going to be beginning a three week novel study based on Ann Fine's classic 'Bill's new frock', with lots of fun activities planned!

P6

It has been a busy week in P6 as we have been working through literacy and numeracy assessments to gauge where we are and what we need to focus on going forward. We have also continued with our mini novel study of the book 'Journey' which is a lovely book filled with amazing illustrations. We have really enjoyed reading it and responding to it in different ways, with a large focus on imagery, alliteration and personification. Mrs Sargison has started to teach French again to the class and they really enjoyed their session with her. Ms Learmonth will also be focusing on comprehension skills with the class each week.

Next week we are going to start another novel study on the book 'The Midnight Fox' in literacy. In numeracy we will be starting to work on addition and subtraction using the formal method of calculating. We will also be starting to look at electricity and circuits and continuing to learn how to play Kwik Cricket for PE on a Wednesday.

P7

Welcome back Primary 7! It has been a busy start to the new school year in P7 and the children have been working very hard. We have been doing some interlinked curriculum work based on a book called 'Journey' by Aaron Becker. The children have been discussing their thoughts and making predictions as well as writing setting descriptions using descriptive language and imagery techniques. They have also been considering how certain characters are feeling and relating this to their own experiences and coping mechanisms. We have looked at significant people and their life journeys and began to look at our life journeys so far and the routes we would like them to take. This will help us set learning targets next week. In maths, we have been calculating distances for different journeys. Next week we will begin looking at addition and subtraction problems and strategies. In Literacy, we will begin our novel study 'Clockwork' - thinking particularly about characterisation and writing a news report. We will also begin our mini topic of 'Democracy in Scotland' where we will learn about our rights and responsibilities.

Thank you all for helping our learners to have a smooth return to school and for being so supportive of our school during what is always a very busy time of the year! As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office.

Kind regards,



Anna Chidgey
Headteacher