



Sacred Heart Primary School

“Aspire Nurture Learn Achieve”



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Dear Parent/Carer

September already! Thank you all for helping to shape the new school session so positively and helping our learners to be prepared for school so successfully!

As we move into the unpredictable Autumnal weather, please ensure your child comes to school with appropriate clothing! You never know when the Scottish rain (or even snow) will appear!

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.

Please note that if you receive a ‘warn and inform’ letter in your email, this does not mean that your child has been identified as a close contact. It means that a case of confirmed COVID-19 has been reported in a person with links to Sacred Heart Primary School.

Trace and Protect will contact any close contacts accordingly. If you are not contacted by Trace and Protect, your child can attend school/nursery as normal.

Residentials

We are hopeful that residential visits will resume this session and are finalising some provisional bookings with centres.

Please see the table below for an indication of what we are planning for each stage. Please note that, at this time, this information is provisional but will hopefully help you in planning for the payment of the trip when required. We must highlight that prices are estimated at this point and may be slightly more or slightly less than the amount listed below.

Stage	Length of residential	Approximate cost (excluding transport)
P1	educational visits (day trips) over the course of the year - tbc	tbc
P2	one day trip (no overnight)	£40
P3	1 night residential	£60
P4	2 night residential	£200
P5	4 night residential	£350
P6	4 night residential	£350
P7	4 night residential (Cluster Camp)	£328

Labelling Clothes/Personal Items

A large number of items are getting left behind at school at the end of the school day, particularly school jumpers.

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.

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

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.

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!). Letters and PC forms have been issued to pupils this week (please also see email). Payment should be made via ParentPay.

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

Please note a change in PE day for Primary 2/3 learners

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: Monday (previously 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. Further information can be found at www.nhsinform.scot/childflu

If you have not already returned your child's form, please do so first thing Monday 6th September.

Class Updates:

Nursery

We have welcomed some new children into the nursery this week and this have given the children opportunities to form new relationships and has given them ownership of showing them round our setting and supporting them with parts of our daily routines such as modelling handwashing, emotional check in and snack/lunch. It has been so lovely welcoming in new children and meeting their families and we look forward to working in partnership with you all over the coming year.

The children have been sharing their knowledge with each other while exploring a 3D Thinking and talking tub related to our exploration of the book – 'Journey'. Journey is a book with pictures but no words which has encouraged the children to use their imagination while exploring what the story represents for them. If you want to explore this at home then you can by following this link- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kWqhNpjcSs>.

The children have been inspired by the magic crayon within the story and have found their own magic crayons within the setting to create their own magic pictures including a magic carpet and magic cape.

The children have continued to explore shapes and have been demonstrating their knowledge of shapes while using the playdough. This led on to making Gingerbread people using the playdough and the children then asked to watch the story on the smartboard. After watching this, the children showed a keen interest in making their own gingerbread people, this gave us the opportunity to discuss good hygiene, to explore measuring using the ingredients and discuss the characters within the story.

Next week we will be welcoming some more children to the setting and we will be continuing to build on children's independence skills as they wash their own dishes after meal times and are also self-serving their own snack.

P1/2

This week in P1/2 we have been continuing to familiarise ourselves with our new learning environment. We have been working on our listening skills and have played games that require us to listen carefully and follow instructions. We enjoyed our PE lesson this week and practised different ways that we are able to travel from one place to another. We have also been working on our counting skills and number formation in Numeracy. We enjoyed Drama on Tuesday with Mrs Browne and already can't wait for our next lesson!

Next week, we will be working in our Read Write Inc. groups. The children have been assessed and grouped appropriately and will be reassessed every six weeks in order to track their progress. In Numeracy, P1 will be focusing on ordering numbers while P2 will be working on solving addition problems. We will continue to explore 2D shape this week with the help of a book called 'Walter's Wonderful Web'.

P2/3

This week in Primary 2/3 we started to work on our story called Meerkat Mail and learned about Meerkats in the wild. We wrote sentences to describe Sonny the Meerkat and looked at different common nouns and proper nouns in the story. We will continue with Meerkat Mail next week to look at different postcards Sonny sends and how we can write our own one to him from Penicuik. In Maths, we solved missing number questions, practiced our counting in 2s and numbers greater than and less than. Next week in maths we will be starting our time topic using the analogue clock. Well Done P2/3!

P4

This week in Primary 4 we have started our class novel called 'The Legend of Podkin One-Ear' by Kieran Larwood. We have been using our novel to show how we can share our understanding of what is going on within the story. Also we have been using it to revise some elements of grammar, such as inverted commas. On Wednesday we took part in Kieran Larwood's map drawing tutorial online. He showed us how to draw our very own fantasy world maps. We added loads of details, including names of countries and towns. Soon we will be using these to write our own Podkin inspired adventure stories.

In numeracy and maths we have started to look at patterns. So far this has included patterns in shape sequences and numbers. We have also been working in our numeracy groups to revise some numeracy strategies, such as counting in 2s, jumps on a number line, sequencing to 100 and inverse operations. In RE, we have focused on the idea that God created us, body mind and soul. We used this idea to draw and write about what our body, mind and soul looks like. Following on from this, we discussed how even though God created us all, He made sure that we were all unique. We used this idea to draw our own self-portraits using oil pastels.

Although we haven't been able to visit the Edinburgh Book Festival this year, we were able to get the Edinburgh Book Festival to visit our classroom remotely! We joined David MacPhail and his discussion on his new book 'Velda the Awesomest Viking.' The book sounded really fun and we're looking forward to getting it for our classroom. He even showed us how to draw and name our very own Viking longboats.

Finally, we are continuing to work on our Netball skills in PE. This week we focused on different ways to throw the ball. In order to practice it was important for us to work in teams and give each other feedback on how we could improve.

P5

Another week is over in Primary 5. In Literacy we began a 3 week novel study of Anne Fine's 'Bill's New Frock.' So far we have read the first two chapters. We have identified key vocabulary, used a dictionary to find its meaning and then used a thesaurus to find synonyms. The pupils enjoyed using the thesaurus to find synonyms and enjoyed being creative with their work choices. Next week we look forward to learning how to write a diary entry as Bill Simpson.

In numeracy, we have been completing a lot of assessment to identify where the gaps are in our learning. We have finally finished and found that we are going to be focusing on Fractions this term. We had a brief introduction to simplifying and finding equivalent fractions. We will begin our unit on fractions next week.

We have also been learning how to draw using perspective. We have drawn a street, the countryside and a forest.

P6

This week in P6 we have been working through assessments to make sure we know the next steps for our learning. On top of that, we have carried on with learning about descriptive language and used what we have learned to create a setting description. In numeracy we also carried out an investigation about combinations of numbers which was very interesting. Next week in numeracy we will be starting to work on sums using the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) as well as working with Time. In literacy we will be starting our novel study of the book 'The Midnight Fox' and using that as context for our writing and grammar. We are also going to start a short topic on electricity for science and we will be learning about circuits and how to draw them. We will be carrying on learning about Kwik cricket during PE on a Wednesday as well as gymnastics with Miss Hardie. On a Thursday we will be working with Mrs Sargison for French and Miss Learmonth for reading comprehension.

P7

Primary 7 have thoroughly enjoyed doing learning linked to the book 'Journey' and have written some fabulous descriptions about the magical forest, well done everyone. This past week we started our novel study 'Clockwork' by Philip Pullman, and have been looking at characterisation and setting as well as extending our vocabulary. Next week, we will be learning about the features of a news article and using this to write our own examples of one. Our grammar focus next week is on word types including: nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. In maths, we have started work on rounding numbers to the nearest 1, 2 and 3 decimal places and the nearest 10, 100, 1000 and 10000. We have also started rounding addition and subtraction calculations. This will be consolidated next week and then rounding multiplication and division calculations will be introduced as well as rounding word problems. This week we have successfully started our 'Democracy' topic by learning about our rights in Scotland and our responsibilities at home and school. Next week we will be learning about features of a democratic society and comparing these with dictatorship. In P.E we will continue with gymnastics looking at different types of rolls and introducing handstands and cartwheels.

Kind regards,



Anna Chidgey
Headteacher