



Sacred Heart Primary School

“Aspire Nurture Learn Achieve”



Headteacher: Miss Anna Chidgey
<http://sacredheart.mgfl.net>
@sacredheart_ps

22a Crockett Gardens, Penicuik, EH26 9BB
0131 271 4665
sacredheart_ps@midlothian.gov.uk

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Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our virtual Meet the Teacher on Tuesday evening, despite a few technical issues, we hope you found the information about what your children are doing interesting and insightful. The powerpoints that were shared at these sessions will be emailed to all parents in case you were unable to attend. Letters have been emailed out this week regarding Parent's Evening next Thursday, so please use the link provided to book your slot. These consultations will be via telephone call, and teachers will talk about specific learning achievements and targets for your children as well as whole class learning and goals. Hopefully it won't be long before we can get you all back in the building for face-to-face meeting!

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.

During this time, we continue to encourage our whole school community to be vigilant for the symptoms of COVID-19, and understand what actions should be taken if someone develops them, either onsite or offsite

Contingency Planning

Part of our contingency planning may need to involve some classes moving to remote learning for a short period of time. This decision is never taken lightly, and would always be in consultation with Midlothian Council and the Health Protection Team.

Parent Consultations - Thursday 16 September - a wee reminder to complete the online form sent via email to select an appointment with your child's class teacher no later than Monday 13 September. Please complete the form once per child. Please click the link to request your appointment here: <https://forms.office.com/r/5jba3RNdfc>

P1-P4 Friday Packed Lunches - Thank you to those who have completed the form to opt out of Friday lunches, this has been noted accordingly and passed to the kitchen. If you do not require a packed lunch for your child on a Friday, please complete our online form by clicking the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/GJhJ3vgQC2>

Rag Bag Collection - Monday 27 September - We are pleased to confirm our first rag bag collection of the school session. Empty bags will be sent home soon (once received by our supplier) and we ask these are **returned to school on Monday 27 September only** (unfortunately we do not have anywhere to store them prior to this). Thank you for your support.

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

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: 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.



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

Class Updates:

Nursery

This week the children have been super creative making their own kites. This has followed on from our 3D talking thinking tub. The children have been choosing their own resources to make these and have been using their problem solving skills to work out how long they want their string to be, which shape of paper they wanted to use and how they wanted to decorate their kites. We have then discussed when we might use our kites and the children recognised that the wind would be the best weather for our kites.

We have been exploring mark making opportunities while having a go at writing our own names for the art display. These will be a visual for the children when they have completed some art work and want to have a go at mark making our name on our masterpieces – we also have small paper names which encourages name recognition while the children collect their own name to glue onto their work. The children have been assessing risk and challenging themselves through tree climbing opportunities up at the field. The children are able to talk about how they can keep themselves safe while climbing the trees and which trees are safe to climb and which ones are not. In the coming weeks we will be looking to visit the local woods to further challenge this and we will have discussions about how to keep ourselves safe on our walks and when we are in the woods.

P1/2

P1/2 have been so busy this week! Primary 1 started learning their first letter sounds (m, a, s & d) and have been working very hard on reading and writing them in class. Primary 2 have also been working on their reading and writing skills in their Read Write Inc. groups this week. In Numeracy, P2 have been focusing on counting to 100 and using the vocabulary of 'before, after and between'. P1 have been continuing to practise letter formation and recognising different ways that numbers can be represented.

Next week, we will continue working on Read, Write, Inc., and will be focusing on creating rhymes in our writing with the help of a book called 'When a Line Bends...A Shape Begins'. This will also help us in Maths as we continue our Shape focus and move onto exploring the 3D shapes and their properties. I have been so impressed with how well the class are engaging with their learning this week and how eager they are to learn. Well done P1/2!

P2/3

This week, we have been very busy in P2/3 and everybody has been working very hard! In numeracy, we have been busy exploring the hundred square and looking for patterns within the hundred square to help us with counting, adding and subtracting. In literacy, we have continued our learning on common nouns and proper nouns and we worked really hard to retell the story of Little Red Riding hood in our writing! Our writing was so sparkly that the teacher needed to wear sunglasses! We have been delving further into our topic learning too and have been looking at the different countries in the world and have been talking about which countries are hot and which countries are cold. We also created our own comic strip versions of the Creation Story as part of our RE learning, which was lots of fun.

P4

This week in Primary 4 we have been working hard to prepare for writing our very own adventure stories. First of all we created our own woodland creature character. Then we thought of adjectives to describe each part of them and turned this into a character description paragraph. Second, we created our setting based on a place from our fantasy map from last week. As well as this, we have been busy creating a Word Wall with all the interesting vocabulary from Podkin. We have this displayed in our classroom so that we can use it when we begin writing our stories next week. Finally, we have begun reading groups again and have been enjoying reading together.

In numeracy we have been continuing to work on our number sequences and number structures. We have also been looking at number and shape patterns for topic maths. Thankfully we were able to go outside to create our own patterns on Wednesday.

In RE we learned the Our Father prayer. Some of us knew this prayer already and were able to model it to the rest of the class. We then wrote the prayer out very neatly and decorated it to make it eye-catching.

In PE we are still doing Netball. This week we went over the chest throw and bounce pass again, before learning how to do an overhead throw. We were also able to take turns to give each other feedback so that we can improve. We are hoping that soon we can start to play netball games together!

P5

In Literacy we have continued our novel study based on Anne Fine's story 'Bill's New Frock.' This week we have been writing a character description about the main character, Bill Simpson. We collected verbs, adjectives, expanded noun phrases and similes and used them to help us build our character description. We also created a life-sized painting of Bill Simpson, which includes a real life pink frock. We have it proudly displayed at the back of the classroom. Look on Twitter for a photo of our creation. We have also been busy summarising the chapter and using the main story points to write a diary entry as Bill Simpson.

In Numeracy we have begun learning about fractions. We did some basic revision and have now begun learning about equivalent fractions. Over the last few days we have been doing some fun tasks to help us understand how to find equivalent fractions.

We have also been continuing to learn about perspective drawing. This week we learned how to draw a mountain range.

In French we learned how to count to 30. We used a song and dance to help us learn, which everyone enjoyed!

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

The Primary 7 children have enjoyed writing character descriptions this week. They have begun planning their news article based on a mysterious event at the palace in our novel study and we will continue writing these next week. We will be looking at changing singular words to plural as well as reinforcing last week's spelling. In grammar, the children will be learning about statements, questions and commands. Our work on rounding calculations will continue next week as we reinforce doing this in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division word problems. Our democracy topic is well underway and next week we will be thinking about the skills and qualities we need and have to represent our school as a house captain.

French Update

Bonjour! Madame Sargison here! Primary 4-7 have come back to their French learning with a great attitude and lots of enthusiasm, so this seems like a perfect time to share what we are doing in class. We'll try and make this a monthly update- but if you have any questions or concerns about anything to do with French, please don't hesitate to get in touch via the school at any time.

We have started the term by comparing learning a language to building a wall- both need to be constructed carefully and both need to have good foundations. We have looked at our French "learning wall" (which shows everything we learn in our French classes right through the school) to see much we know and remember about what we did before. We have been able to see how the last 18 months have weakened our knowledge as well as our confidence and that we are a bit wobbly in some areas- but we know this isn't a problem and that we'll be supported as we catch up.

Over the next few weeks, we will look at these gaps and "rebuild" our knowledge so that we can move on to learning new words and phrases in French. We will take advantage of having "une salle de classe française" (a French classroom) to put up lots of displays and prompts to help us progress in the most supported and structured way possible. As several of the learners have suggested, "We need to make sure our learning wall is built properly before we add any new layers." I couldn't have put it better myself!

Once again, "merci beaucoup" for your ongoing support and interest in your child's French learning.

Kind regards,



Anna Chidgey
Headteacher