



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

8th October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

The classes and corridors have been alive with activity this week – it has been great to hear the buzz when walking through the school. All classes have started their percussion workshops, run by ‘Infectious Grooves – Drumming for Excellence’, where learners have been exploring different percussion instruments and developing a sense of rhythm as they play. By the end of the workshops, the children will be able to demonstrate their new skills in a drumming and percussion performance, which we are very much looking forward to. Traditionally, we would have invited parents and carers to come in to share this performance, however this year, we may need to look at other options for this.

Our Primary 7s have also been very busy this week as they completed, rehearsed and recorded their House Captain speeches. Voting took place this morning and was a true democratic process. We look forward to hearing who our new House Captains for 2021-2022 will be.

All classes also participated in an assembly as part of ‘Anti-Bullying Week’ and had some excellent discussions around what bullying was and how we can make sure everybody feels safe and happy at our school.

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.

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>

Food Bank

If you feel your family would benefit from a food bank delivery, please contact the school office to discuss this further. Please note that all calls will be taken in confidence.

Wider Achievements

Whilst we are currently unable to have whole school assembly celebrations each week, we would still like the children to have opportunities within their classrooms to share their achievements from outside of school. If your child has something they would like to share (sporting awards, club badges, martial arts belts, or other things they are proud of), please send a small description of the achievement –with pictures attached if possible –to the school email address. These will then be sent to the appropriate class teacher who will then support your child in sharing this with your child's class.

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

P4: Thursday

P5: Tuesday

P6: Wednesday

P7: Wednesday

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

Labelling Uniform

Please ensure all items of uniform are clearly labelled with your child's name and class. There are a number of school jumpers that are yet to be reunited with their owners, particularly in P1/2/3/4. If you believe your child is missing a jumper, please get in touch with the school office.

Weather

As the weather starts to change, we ask that all children are sent to school with appropriate outer layers to ensure they keep dry and warm during times outdoors. We aim to get the children outside at playtime and lunchtime even if it is a bit wet and blustery and will only keep them indoors in inclement weather. Our outdoor space has not yet been refurbished, so it is likely that children will get muddy when playing, so an outer layer of waterproof trousers and wellies or other suitable footwear is very much encouraged. If you wish for your child to keep their outer layers at school, they can do so in an individual bag on their hook with their name clearly displayed. All outer layers should be taken home each Friday for washing.

Parent Partnership

Our Parent Partnership AGM will be held virtually online on Wednesday 13 October at 6.30pm. All parent/carers are welcome to join.

Please find link below to join the meeting on the evening.

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YWQ3N2Y3NzMtM2RiMjY0OjE0LThjYzMtMDRiMGViZTliMGZh%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%22c91025ed-4c06-4329-af7c-e7ca8df9b8c5%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%22e27df13b-35b9-49c5-828d-56d763c86551%22%7d

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.

Residentials

A reminder that the following residential trips have been planned for our primary school children. The date of the residentials and proposed venue have also been added, for your information. Please note that while these are 'pencilled in', and temporary bookings have been made, they are subject to change.

If you wish for your child to attend a residential trip this year, we encourage you to start adding money to your parent pay account as 'savings'. This can be done by clicking 'Active Payment Items', viewing your balance and adding funds using bank transfer. We understand that some of these camps are quite expensive, and we ask that if you feel you will have difficulty financing the camp for your child or children, please contact the school office.

Stage	Proposed Venue	Proposed Dates	Length of residential	Approximate cost (excluding transport)
P1	educational visits (day trips) over the course of the year – tbc			
P2	Bonaly Scout Centre	10th May	one day trip (no overnight)	£40
P3	Alison Cargill House, Haddington	1 st June	1 night residential	£60
P4	Bonaly Scout Centre	11 th -13 th May	2 night residential	£200
P5	Benmore	13 th -17 th June	4 night residential	£350
P6	Benmore	13 th -17 th June	4 night residential	£350
P7	Lockerbie	25 th -29 th April	4 night residential (Cluster Camp)	£328

Class Updates:

Nursery

This week we have been continuing to explore our Autumn 3D talking thinking tub. The children have been talking about the moon and how it is in the solar system which further consolidates previous learning about space and the children have been reflecting on this learning by sharing what they already know and what they would like to learn. One of the children talked about how there can be different coloured moons such as orange and white. The children have also been sharing what they know about nocturnal animals and could identify that nocturnal means the animals are awake at night and that they sleep through the day.

While out in the garden, the children have been joining in some circle song games such as here we go round the mulberry bush, ring a ring of roses and we have also incorporated some parachute games into our circle games. The children have been sharing their ideas while adding their own parts to the songs and have also demonstrated their good turn taking skills while waiting their turn.

The children have also been talking about Halloween coming and were using their creativity and teamwork skills to decorate their house area. They used pumpkins, string and made some Halloween pictures and put these up around the role play area. We will continue to explore Halloween over the coming weeks and are looking to find out what we can make with pumpkins, watch this space as we share our yummy creations with you over the next few weeks.

P1/2

Primary 1/2 have been very busy this week! P1 learned 4 new sounds (f, e, l & h) and have been working very hard on building words using the sounds that they have been learning. P2 have really impressed both Miss Maxwell and Mrs Halliday with their reading and writing this week and have enjoyed using the iPads to play some fun spelling games! The class has also been learning all about recycling and the different items we can recycle in order to look after the environment and having some excellent discussions about why it is so important! We really enjoyed our first drumming workshop on Thursday too! There are some photos of this on Seesaw.

Primary 1 will continue to practise their number formation of the numbers 11-20 next week, as well as counting items in collections and using the language of 'before, after and between'. Primary 2 have done some fantastic work on doubling and halving these last few weeks and will be moving onto looking at number bonds next week while continuing to practise addition strategies. We will be further exploring Measure in maths with a focus on measuring height, looking at our own heights and comparing them to others while using the language of 'tall, taller and tallest'..

P2/3

It has been another great week in P2/3. This week we have continued to focus on the 'Quackling' story. We have been focusing on setting and character and using adjectives to up level our descriptions of these. We got to draw our own setting for Quackling and adapt it with our own ideas. This was really fun as we got to use our imagination to make it our own. In Maths, we have been focussing on place value and reading and writing numbers. We have also been exploring some Math language. We have been using words like before, after, more, less, increase and decrease. For our topic this week we have been looking at extreme environments and what/who can live there. We have focused on Death Valley. You can ask us to tell you facts about this to see what we remember. We had our first drumming lesson this week, it was so much fun and we can't wait for our next lesson. Next week we will be using what we have been learning while studying 'Quackling' to create our own stories. Have a fantastic weekend everyone!

P4

This week in P4 we have been busy working on innovating our Red Riding Hood story as part of the 'Talk for Writing' process, which means we have been putting our own spin on the story. We thought about how we could change the characters and setting to make it a fun story. This week we planned this using story maps and are looking forward to writing them next week. We have also started reading groups with P4-P7 classes. We have really enjoyed getting to work with other learners and working on our fluency and understanding in reading.

In numeracy we have been focusing on counting up and down in different multiples. We have also been exploring the topic of shape in maths, including identifying the names and properties of 3D shapes, finding 3D shape nets and creating our own 3D shapes.

Our topic work this week has involved reading to find information about Edinburgh Castle and using this to create a leaflet for visitors. We spent this week finding our facts and beginning the leaflet and can't wait to finish them next week.

In PE this week we started dance. We had a go at learning the Gay Gordon's. We found it tricky to coordinate with our partners so we will be practising this again next week.

P5

In literacy we have been continuing our 'Talk for Writing' unit based on 'Little Red Riding Hood.' We have fully learned to retell and recite the story off by heart. I have posted a video of our performance of the story on SeeSaw for you to take a look at. I'm very proud of how amazing the class have done. We have also been continuing to learn about fronted adverbials. The highlight of the week was the class deciding that Mr. Smith was going to be the subject of their sentences. The class made him laugh with all their funny sentences. We also began to change the story as part of the 'Innovation' stage of 'Talk for Writing'. As mentioned last week we discussed that we were going to rewrite the story, but as a modern day version set in Penicuik. We began writing our new version and are looking forward to finishing it next week.

This week in numeracy we have been continuing to learn about fractions. Last week we learned how to find a fraction of an amount. This week we have taken it one step further and have been learning how to answer worded number problems. We have also been continuing to take part in our class weekly times table competition. The top three winners in the class get a certificate.

This week we had the pleasure of taking part in a drumming session with Colin from Infectious Grooves. We were reunited with the Cajon for the first time since pre Covid. We were split into groups and learned how to play polyrhythms with various instruments.

P6

P6 have loved finishing off our story maps for The Canal and have also enjoyed reciting them. The class has put a lot of hard work into the story and the results have been great. This week we have been working on changing elements of the story to make it our own so watch out for new story maps. We will use the new story maps to write the story using everything we have learned these last two weeks. In numeracy, we have carried on with the four operations as well as challenging ourselves each day with Times Tables Rock Stars. The class have made great progress with their times tables and their speed of recall has improved as well. This week, we continued learning about the story of creation in RE and in PE we were lucky to get another beautiful day for some cricket (apart from the swarm of flies, which was slightly off-putting!) The class were lucky enough to be given a drumming lesson this week too, which is the first in a series of lessons which will end in a performance which we look forward to sharing with you all.

P7

Primary 7 have had a busy week preparing for the house captain election. They have written and recorded persuasive speeches as well as making posters about themselves. Well done to you all and I look forward to sharing the outcome of the election. Next week, we will be continuing with our talk for writing and the children will plan and write their own journey story based on what they have learned. We will continue to focus on fronted adverbials, inference and dramatic verbs. Our daily reading groups have also begun and will continue next week as the children enjoy reading and discussing their text. In maths, the children will continue working on subtraction strategies - particularly within word problems and where there are missing digits in the calculation. P7 enjoyed drumming this week and will continue to work on their rhythm skills next week as they have a go at playing the drums as well as other instruments.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A Chidgey". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Anna Chidgey
Headteacher