



- Committed to excellent education for all -

Newsletter 1 August 2017

31st August 2017

Welcome

A warm welcome to pupils and staff as we start another school year here at St Andrews. Now in week two, we have had a chance to settle in to new routines and we look forward to a busy year of learning.

Class Teachers and staff update

Miss Clements joins the Team this year teaching PE, Mrs Montgomery and Mrs Ewing will be teaching art and in P6B we welcome Miss Drever, our probationary teacher. Our Nursery team at present is Mrs Gilmour, Miss Hume, Mrs Rendall, Mrs Russell and Mrs Wylie.

Nursery and Pre-school - Mrs Gilmour, Mrs Rendall and Miss Hume.

P1	Mrs Aitken	P2	Miss Moss
P3	Miss Pottinger	P4	Ms Rendall
P5	Mrs Miller	P6L	Mrs Moar
P6B	Miss Drever	P7	Mrs Reid
SFLT	Mrs Hancock	Music	Mrs Keldie
PE	Miss Clements	Art	Mrs Ewing & Mrs Montgomery

To get us off to a good start at the beginning of the school year I have included some reminders of our protocols and routines.

Buses

During school assemblies and class debates we will be discussing and encouraging appropriate and safe bus behaviour. We would really appreciate your help to reinforce our efforts to promote a safe and happy journey to and from school every day. If you have concerns please let us know.

I remind you that for insurance purposes children must not go on a different bus to the one on which they have a place, so, for example if your child wants to go and play/attend a birthday party with a child who lives on a different bus route, he/she cannot get on the bus for that different route - alternative arrangements need to be made.

Medical and consent forms

Medical and consent forms were sent home with your child last week. Please can you return these to the school as soon as possible.

Absence

If your child is absent please phone to let us know. The phone line can be very busy first thing in the morning, but don't worry if you can't get through, if we haven't heard from you by 10 o'clock we will phone you. We ask, where possible, that holidays are taken within the school holiday period. However we realise that there may be circumstances that arise out with your control and we ask that you get in touch to inform us of these events as soon as possible.

Hand Hygiene / Sick bugs

We are to continue to encourage hand washing here as I am sure you do at home, and remind everyone of the 48 hour rule - that is, the child does not come back to school until 48 hours have passed since the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

School Uniform and Dress Code

The school encourages the wearing of school uniform. Our Parent Council supports the wearing of school uniform as it offers a sense of identity and belonging to the school as well as being a cost effective way of providing clothes for the children.

Wearing school uniform contributes to a positive school ethos, helps avoid discrimination and reduces the peer pressure to wear expensive designer clothing. The uniform consists of a yellow polo shirt, maroon sweat shirt/hoodie and fleece. Items bearing the school logo may be ordered at the office or from John Kemp's in Kirkwall.

Naming children's clothes

Every year we end up with a large pile of lost property in the school. We try very hard to return items to their rightful owners. Please label clothing, especially coats and school uniform with your child's name.

Communicating with parents

This year you will continue to receive a whole school newsletter at least once each term. This will contain school news, dates for your diary, achievements etc. You may receive other letters from me or the class teacher from time to time. We will also be communicating with parents via Seesaw, text, Facebook and our school website. If you currently receive printed letters from the school, then I would encourage you to opt to receive information by email instead. This way, information is delivered to you instantly and letters don't get lost in schoolbags. Please contact the school office if you would like to use email.

Homework

Homework will be given out on a weekly basis clarified at the start of term by the class teacher so that children and parents are able to pace the work over the week depending on evening activities. All work will have been explained previously at school.

School Dinners

The cost of a school dinner is £2.20 per day for P4-7 and free for P1-3. Payment can be made on a daily or weekly basis. Milk and fruit can be purchased from the kitchen at break times at a cost of 20p and item. **The packed lunch service for school trips will continue this year.** The costs are the same as above: £2.20 per day for P4-7 and free for P1-3. When you are notified of your child's trip you will also receive an order slip for a pack lunch.

PE kit, water bottles and craft aprons

Pupils should have a PE kit (shorts, tee-shirt and trainers or pumps) in school at all times. This should be clearly named and will be sent home at the end of each term to be washed. All children should also have a painting apron or overall (an old shirt is ideal) with them at school to protect their clothes when they are doing messy activities. Again, please could you ensure that these are named.

Assemblies

In a change to last year, we will be holding one assembly each week, on a Friday after lunch. We will alternate between an achievement assembly, when we will be recognising achievements from the previous week, and an assembly led by an individual class.

We encourage pupils to share their achievements, (not just sporting), in and out of school at the achievement assemblies. If your child has something to celebrate, no matter how small, let us know and we will recognise this in school.

We will also be awarding St Andrews' Super Hero certificates to reward pupil's positive behaviour, good citizenship and hard work and effort.

Car Park

As we begin a new term, and daylight hours are getting less, it is important to maintain safety in our carpark -

- The new car park, situated at the lowest point, is for parents and other visitors. There is a safe route in to the school from here via the pavement and there is no need to cross the busy car park or bus bays.
- The car park opposite the bus bay is to be used by staff.
- There should be no parking in the bus bays by other vehicles at any time.
- In order to maintain a safe space for children, parents and staff there should be no parking out with the parking bays i.e. in the entrance to the car park.
- In the mornings, the car park can be used for 'drop offs' in the same way, where the driver does not leave the car. In the evenings, the bus bays are in use and so parents should use the new car park.
- Pupils who are cycling home after school are asked to wait until the buses have departed and until it is safe for them to leave.

Parent Council

You will already have received a letter asking for volunteers to become class reps on our Parent Council. Please take time to read the letter and to consider becoming a class rep for your child's class. The Parent Council have provided important support to us here at the school in the past and we hope this can continue with a new group this year.

What's on

Mon	PE: P6L, P1, P6B, P2 & P4 Music: P5, P2, P7, Choir & Band
Tues	PE: P3, P5 & P7 Music: P4, P6L, P6B, P3, P1
Wed	Art: P2, P5, P7, P4, P1 Instrumental Tuition
Thurs	Art: P3, P6B, P6L
Friday	13.45 Assembly

Please see over the page for **Dates for Your Diary**.

If you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards
Mark Taylor
Head Teacher

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

September

Monday 7th - Friday 13th

Friday 15th

Monday 25th - Wednesday 27th

Wednesday 27th - Friday 29th

Science Festival

'Fischy Music' workshops and concert

P6B Hoy Trip

P6L Hoy Trip

October

Friday 6th

Tuesday 10th & Wednesday 11th

Friday 13th

Monday 16th - Friday 27th

Monday 30th

Flu vaccinations

Parents Night

Last Day of Term

October Break

Start of Term

November

Thursday 16th - Friday 17th

Friday 17th

Fluoride Vanish

Children in Need

December

Tuesday 12th (afternoon)

Wednesday 13th (evening)

Thursday 14th

Friday 22nd

P1-3 Christmas Show

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Christmas School Lunch.

Last day of term

P4 & 5 will have swimming lessons in term 4, beginning 20th April.

Dates for netball and football are to follow.