



- Committed to excellent education for all -

Newsletter 1 August 2016

25th August 2016

Welcome

Welcome to the start of another exciting busy school year. We are happy to welcome two new families to our school; we hope you settle in quickly and feel at home in our community. I also want to offer a welcome to the new staff that have joined us this session.

We are already settling in well with routines and expectations being established in classes. We work hard to do the best we can for all the children here at St Andrews and we can only do this with the support of you, our parents, and the community around the school. Only by working together in the best interests of all of our school community can we achieve our vision which is an 'Excellent Education for All.'

Class Teachers and staff update

Mrs Garson joins the Team this year teaching PE on a Monday and Tuesday, Ms Linklater joins our Early Years team in the Nursery on Thursday and Friday and in P2 we welcome Miss McFadden our probationary teacher.

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

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|------|-------------|-------|---------------|
| P1 | Mrs Aitken | P2 | Miss McFadden |
| P3 | Miss Moss | P4 | Ms Rendall |
| P5B | Mrs Miller | P5L | Mrs Dass |
| P6 | Mrs Moar | P7 | Mrs Reid |
| SFLT | Mrs Hancock | Music | Mrs Keldie |
| PE | Mrs Garson | Art | Ms Harcus |

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

We have sent home medical and consent forms with your child this week. Please can you return these to school **ASAP**.

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.

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 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.

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 monthly newsletter. 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 text, Facebook and our school web site.

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 £2.10 per day for P4-7 and free for P1-3. Payment can be made on a daily, weekly or monthly basis. Milk shakes 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: £2.10 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.

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 and 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.

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

We will be holding a short assembly each Friday after lunch when we will be recognising achievements from the previous week. We are encouraging pupils to share their achievements, (not just sporting), in and out of school. 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. On a Wednesday afternoon we will be holding a longer assembly at 2.50pm which will be the class or special assembly.

What's on

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| Mon | PE: P5L, P1, P5B, NC, P2 & P4 Music: NC, P2, P1, P7, P3 & P6 |
| Tues | PE: P7, P6 & P3 / Tag Rugby P6 and P7 this term Music: P4, P5L, P5B, NC |
| Wed | Art: P5L, P3, P6 & NC / Class Assemblies pm |
| Fri | Art: P2, P5B, P7, P4, P1 Achievement assembly pm |

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

August

Wednesday 31st Parent Council Meeting 6.30pm

September

Thursday 1st - Thursday 8th Science Festival

Wednesday 7th - Friday 9th P6 Hoy Trip

October

Tuesday 11th & Wednesday 12th Parents Night

Friday 14th Last Day of Term

Monday 17th - Friday 28th October Break

Monday 31st Start of Term

November

Wednesday 9th Flu vaccinations

Tuesday 22nd - Wednesday 23rd Nursery - P5 Fluoride Vanish

December

Thursday 1st - Friday 2nd Dental Inspection

Tuesday 13th (afternoon) P1-3 Christmas Show

Wednesday 14th (evening) P1-3 Christmas Show

Thursday 15th Christmas School Lunch.

Wednesday 21st Last day of term

Dates for netball and football are to follow.