



SACRED HEART PRIMARY, PENICUIK

NEWSLETTER 1 2016-17 0131 271 4665 <http://sacredheart.mgfl.net> August 2016

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Welcome to a brand new school session!

New Pupils First of all a great big welcome to our new P1s: Adrien, Archie, Bryony, Elis, Finlay, Finn, Harley, Katelyn, Lachlan, Lucy, Logan, Maisie, Millie, Mirryn, Nathan, Sienna, Toby and Tyler. We also have a new family who has joined our community... Duncan (P1), Miriam (P2) and Benjamin (P6). We also look forward to welcoming new children to the nursery over the next couple of weeks. We hope you all enjoy your learning experiences here in Sacred Heart.

Our predicted roll has fallen slightly but we remain close to our capacity with 122 pupils.

New Staff We welcome Mr Alan Smith. Mr Smith has come to us from St David's PS and will teach P2/3. We welcome Miss Chelcei Faulkner who has recently completed her Post Graduate degree at Edinburgh and who joins us this session as a Newly Qualified Teacher. Miss Faulkner will teach P3/4 most of the week with Mrs Lloyd teaching this class on Wednesdays.

We also welcome Miss Claire McDowall, who had her NQT year in Edinburgh last session and will cover Ms Wilson's maternity leave. We also welcome back Mrs Baines from maternity leave. They together will be teaching P4/5/6 with Miss McDowall teaching Monday to Wednesday and Mrs Baines Thursday to Friday.

Our nursery staff has changed too... we welcome Mrs Louise Clark, our Senior CDW, formerly Miss Harley - who got married during the summer holidays - congratulations! Mrs Julie Owenson will also be staying with us now on a permanent basis as our CDW. Both will work full time in nursery.

The new Penicuik Peripatetic Nursery Teacher Team has now been formed. Two of the Peripatetic staff have been appointed - Mrs Cheryl Nemecek is Principal Teacher and Mrs Ros McLeish, a teacher. One more appointment has yet to be made. The team are on intensive training until 2 September: this involves deciding remits. We will pass on information on which teacher will be supporting our Nursery as soon as we can. Meanwhile, our nursery children have settled well with new children now starting. Mrs Waterston is supporting at present.

Staff News Congratulations to Ms Wilson whose baby has arrived a little earlier than expected. Mum and baby boy (Oliver) are both well.

Specialists this session Mrs Browne will teach Drama/Art on Tuesdays and Mrs Sargison will teach French in all classes on Thursday mornings.

Our 2016-17 classes and teachers are:

Nursery Mrs Clark & Mrs Owenson with Teacher support
P1/2 Mrs Dickson
P2/3 Mr Smith
P3/4 Miss Faulkner (Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri) / Mrs Lloyd (Wed)
P4/5/6 Miss McDowall (Mon, Tues & Wed) / Mrs Baines (Thurs-Fri)
P6/7 Mrs Sheridan

Support for Learning will be provided by Mrs Lloyd supported by Mrs Allan, Mrs Halliday and Mrs Shaw

Eileen Waterston

P1 Our new pupils are settling in well and will start attending school full day from **Monday, 5 September**

Introduction to School Lunch Parent/carers are invited to attend one of our introduction lunches with their P1 child on Tuesday, 30 or Wednesday, 31 August at 11.45am. Lunch also available for the adults!

Curriculum Meeting All P1 parent/carers are invited to attend on **6 September** either at 2pm or 6.30pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

Penicuik Street Fair - Saturday, 27 August 10.00am-2.00pm
Stalls, playground rides, street entertainers and refreshments.

SCHOOL CALENDAR - AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2016

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|--|---|---|----------------------------------|
| 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 |
| Parent Partnership Meeting 6.00pm in school | P1 Intro Lunch 11.45am | P4 Swimming P6/7 Cooking P1 Intro Lunch 11.45am | | 'Cook Out' in school 6.00-8.00pm |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| P1 start Full Day | P1 Curriculum Meeting 2pm & 6.30pm | P4 Swimming P6/7 Cooking | | |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| | | P4 Swimming P6/7 Cooking | P7 Transition Sports at PHS (PM) | SCHOOL CLOSED Sept Break |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| SCHOOL CLOSED Sept Break | Panto payments due Drumming for Excellence Workshop1 (all pupils) | P4 Swimming P6/7 Cooking | P6/7 Classroom visits for parents 2.00-3.15pm | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| Owen Thompson MP visit to school 1.30pm | P7 to Innerwick P1-P5 Classroom visits for parents 2.00-3.15pm | P7 Innerwick P4 Swimming P6 Cooking P1-P5 Classroom visits for parents 2.00-3.15pm | P7 Innerwick | P7 return from Innerwick |

2016/17 SESSION - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Oct - 3** Walk to School week
- 12 Rag Bag collection
- 12 Parent Consultations (4-7.30pm)
- 13 Parent Consultations (4-7.30pm)
- 14 School closes for October Break (return Monday 24 Oct)
- 24 P6/7 Rugby training starts this week - day tbc
- Nov - 16** P7 to Risk Factory
- 25 Flu Vaccination Programme (P1-P7)
- 25 P6/7 to Rugby Festival- Penicuik RFC
- tbc P1 Registration for August 2017 intake
- Dec - 3** Christmas Fayre (to be confirmed)
- 6 Drumming for Excellence (Cajon) - Whole School performance
- 7 'Jack & The Beanstalk' Pantomime at Kings Theatre (1-5.30pm)
- 14 School Christmas Lunch
- 20 Nativity Performance
- 23 School closes for Christmas Holidays (return Monday 9 Jan)

Dates (including additional events), times & costs (where applicable) will be confirmed as soon as they become available.

Parent Partnership The first meeting of the session will be held on **Monday, 29 August at 6.00pm** in school. All parents are welcome to attend these meetings.

The annual '**Cook Out**' to welcome our new P1s and families into the Sacred Heart community is being held on **Friday, 2 September** from 6.00-8.00pm in school. Come along and join in the fun!

from Mrs Waterston and staff



Food Technology (Cooking) We are very lucky in having a parent, Mrs Leigh Wood, as a Home Economics (now Food Technology) teacher. Leigh has volunteered to come & cook with one class every Wednesday morning for 5 weeks. P6/7 will have the first block of cooking. We are also hoping to work with Whitmuir Farm who will offer an after school club cooking programme in our school. There is also an opportunity to book places for a 4 week session being held at the Newlands Centre during September/October (£20 fee) if you are interested but this will be the same as what we hope will be offered in school. The booking deadline is Monday, 29 August – if interested please book direct at contact@whitmuircommuntiyfarm.org

We welcome help from our parent/carers, please let us know if you are available or have a skill you can share.

Parent Visits All parent/carers are invited to visit their child's classroom on 22 (P6/7 only), 27 & 28 September from 2.00-3.15pm. This will give parents an opportunity to "meet the teacher", see the classroom and view some activities/resources the learners will be engaged in. Class year plans will also be available for parents to collect. Do come along!

Parent Consultations will be available on 12 & 13 October to discuss your child's progress with their teacher.

Class IDL Projects Projects classes are studying this term up to the October break are:

- P1/2 Toys – how they work
- P2/3 Our Town – a local area study
- P3/4 The Romans – finding evidence from the past
- P4/5/6 Comparing lifestyles in a developing country to our lifestyles
- P6/7 Designing a classroom of the future

Music Instructors Weekly lessons in Brass, Clarsach, Violin and Woodwind instruments are available to interested pupils in P6 & P7. Permission forms to be tested for an instrument have been issued and those interested should return completed forms to school **no later than Monday, 29 August**. Please note lessons this year will be free of charge.

Pupils who received lessons last year must complete a renewal form before lessons can continue. Forms have been issued to those pupils concerned and we ask you return them ASAP direct to the music service or via the school office.

Sports

P4 Swimming Lessons will commence on **Wednesday, 31 August** until 25 November. A letter and consent form has been issued with additional information to P4 pupils.

P7 Sports A sports afternoon will be held for all P7s in the Penicuik High School area on **15 September**.

P6 & P7 Rugby Training will start after the October break and run until December with a festival planned for November

Active Schools We await issue of the new term programme but can advise that Table Tennis (Mondays) and Cycle Skills (Tuesdays) will be available after school in Sacred Heart PS.

Wheellie Fridays Every Friday (until end of November) will be a wheellie day so pupils can bring their bike or scooters to school if safe to do so. This will also be weather dependent.

Road Crossing Supervision Lollipop patrol man, Mr Shaw, who was located at the Craigiefield Crossing, has now retired from his position. We wish him a long & happy retirement. Mr Shaw's replacement has still to be appointed so please be aware if your child(ren) use this crossing on their way to and from school.

School Photographer Dates will be provided in due course when the photographer will be in school.

Building Improvements

- Protective film has been applied to the windows in the lower unit to reduce UVA & UVB rays.
- The step at the nursery gate has been painted yellow to highlight the raised area. Unfortunately, costs were too high to make this into a ramp.
- Storm damage to the surfaces of the road at the bottom of Crockett Gardens and the rear school car park has been completed.

In the next few months...

- New acoustic cushion flooring will be installed in the resource room which will complete the lower unit area.
- Architects have visited the school to start plans for our proposed extension to improve facilities which, in turn, will allow us to increase our pupil capacity. Draft plans are now being drawn up. These will be shared with the school in due course. Ideas for these plans will be shared at the Parent Partnership Meetings – the first meeting being held on Monday, 29 August.

Thank you to all who have played a part in helping with resources in school and maintaining our gardens in the school grounds, your help is very much appreciated.

BREAKFAST CLUB Due to larger numbers of children attending this club, our Kitchen Staff will provide the breakfast service in school from **5 September**. This means our Learning Assistant present will collect payment and supervise our children until the beginning of the school day. Breakfast will consist of cereal (Cornflakes, Rice Crispies or Weetabix), toast and a drink and will cost **£1.50 per day from 5 September 8:10am to 8:50am** (note slightly earlier time). If your child is attending the breakfast club, we ask that you please ensure they are in school **no later than 8.30am** to allow them to enjoy & digest their breakfast properly before class.

Flu Vaccination Programme NHS Lothian will carry out the vaccination programme in school on **Friday, 25 November**. Consent forms will be provided in due course and these will be issued to all children aged 5 and above in school.

Pantomime The school has reserved tickets for 'Jack & The Beanstalk' at the Kings Theatre on Wednesday, 7 December for all pupils in P1-P7. Unfortunately, we are required to make full payment mid-September and we thank you for your co-operation by sending payment for your child's ticket (£11) into school **no later than Tuesday, 20 September**.

Sacrament Preparation Plans are in progress with Fr Tadeusz and we hope to be able to confirm arrangements soon for parents who wish their children to be prepared to receive the Sacraments this session:

- Reconciliation (P3)
- Confirmation and Holy Communion (P4)

Fr. Tad or the school can be contacted if anyone has any queries.

Early Learning and Childcare for 2 year olds Midlothian has a range of partner nurseries who provide the above. 2yrs olds can be eligible for this if parents are in receipt of one or more particular benefits. Do contact either the nursery or the school office for more information about this.

Lifelong Learning Programme Midlothian Council offer various adult learning day & evening classes. Copies of the programme are now available from the school office.

RAG BAG COLLECTION Bags will be distributed once received for our next collection on **12 October**.

Midlothian's 'Midfest 2016' Family Fun Day will take place on Sunday, 4 September in Dalkeith Country Park from 11.30am to 7.00pm.