



SACRED HEART PRIMARY, PENICUIK

NEWSLETTER 3 2017-18 0131 271 4665 <http://sacredheart.mgfl.net> November 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Welcome to our November newsletter! Now that we have moved into winter, we would appreciate children having **INDOOR SHOES** if wearing boots or heavy shoes to/from school. We would also appreciate children wearing warm hooded waterproof coats as we are all outside every day – at breaks and during learning – even in the rain!

Staffing Our new P3 teacher, Mr Colin Hutchinson, has settled well into Sacred Heart. You will have an opportunity to meet him on Friday 1 December. Mrs Lloyd continues to support Mr Hutchinson's induction and is now teaching P1 as Mrs Fergusson is absent due to being unwell. Please note that Mrs Lloyd has been covering these classes as there are very few supply teachers as most have been employed in schools where there are multiple absences. In the meantime, we have parent volunteers helping by supporting learners with individual reading and by photocopying/laminating. **If you are free at any time every week to help, please let us know.**

Miss Holly Brown has also now joined our team of Learning Assistants and is in school every morning.

Headteacher The Headteacher post has been advertised as an Acting Head Teacher position from January until June 2018. Applications have been sent in and interviews are taking place early next week. I will keep you informed of developments.

Eileen Waterston

First Minister Reading Challenge

P1 to P7 are taking part in the reading challenge. The aim is to foster a life-long habit of reading for enjoyment. Readers are encouraged to set their own personal challenge e.g. to read a certain number of books or to read a different genre of book. Each class will take on the challenge in their own way. See First Minister's website for ideas to support reading at home. <https://www.readingchallenge.scot/>

Scottish Book Week – Week beginning 27 November
All classes are taking part in reading activities to celebrate book week! P6 & P7 will experience a local author event with Moira Cormack 'The Witch of Land and Sea' at Penicuik Library on Wednesday 29 November. Book bags have also been provided by the Scottish Book Trust for pupils in P1 to P3. **We would like to invite P1 to P3 parents into class** to look at the bags with their child before taking home:

P1 Book Bug – Thursday 30 November 2.30pm

P2 & P3 Read Write Count – Friday 1 December 11.30am

SCHOOL CALENDAR - DECEMBER/JANUARY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4	5	6	7	8
Boyd Anderson Ski Comp (P6/P7) P4 Carol Singing	Advent Service 1 8:50am	RCWC (final session)	School Christmas Lunch	
11	12	13	14	15
P6 & P7 Carol Singing	Advent Service 2 8:50am P5/6 Carol Singing P3 Carol Singing Parent Ptosp 6.30pm	'Cinderella' Pantomime Kings Theatre (1-5.00pm) Puppet Show for Nursery 1.30pm	P6/7 Wreath Making PP Family Christmas Disco 6-8.30pm	
18	19	20	21	22
Nativity Performance 1 1.45pm	Advent Service 2 8:50am Nativity Performance 2 1.45pm	P4-P7 Christmas Party	P1 to P3 Christmas Party	Advent Service 4 11am School closes 12midday
25 December 2017 to 7 January 2018				
School Closed for Christmas and New Year				
8	9	10	11	12
INSERVICE DAY School closed to pupils	Pupils return to school			

ADDITIONAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Dec-3	P3 Liturgical Rite of The Signing with the Cross 11am SH Church
Dec-10	Family Mass 11am Sacred Heart Church
Jan -21	P4 Mass Liturgical Rite of The Presentation of the Gospels 11am
Jan -28	P3 Mass Liturgical Rite of Illumination with Baptismal Candle 11am
Jan -31	P4 First Holy Communion Parents Catchesis meeting 7pm
Feb-1	Catholic Education Month
Feb-4	P4 Liturgical Rite of The Presentation of the Creed 11am
Feb-14	Ash Wednesday - Whole School to Mass at SH Church
Feb-15	In Service Day – school closed to pupils
Feb-16	February Break
Feb-19	P4 & P5 Rugby Training sessions begin
Mar-1	World Book Day

Additional dates and information will be provided once known.

Playground Volunteers – Thursday 7 December

Our school Christmas lunch will be on 7 December. We would appreciate some parent volunteers to cover playground duty to allow the staff to have their lunch together following the children's lunch. If you would be available, please advise the office. Many many thanks.

Carol Singing Helpers We would appreciate parent helpers to accompany our classes to the various locations for carol singing. Please let us know if you can help.

from Mrs Waterston and staff



2017-2018 House Captains, Vice Captains and JRSOs

<u>House</u>	<u>Captain</u>	<u>Vice Captain</u>
St Francis	Holly	Beth
St Andrew	Dominic	Rory
St Maximilian	Liam	Carla
Mother Teresa	Alanna	Ben

Junior Road Safety Officers

This year's officers are Alex and Grace

Achievements

Out of School Achievements These are celebrated in school. Each class now has a large book to record these achievements in so please send in news, photographs, certificates or trophies.

School Book Again, we are now going to record school achievements in a school achievements book which will be located in school reception area.

Midlothian Learner Progress

The whole school has participated in Assemblies encouraging everyone to be Assessment Capable Learners. The following learner statements from the Midlothian Learner poster have been explored by all:

1. Collaborating i.e. working/learning with and from others
2. Talking about learning i.e. show they know where they are in learning and what next steps are.

There are photograph displays of these in school. Every class is involved in presenting these Assemblies.

RERC

Parish School Rep Mrs Jean Belda is now our Parish-School Link for Sacred Heart. She now represents the parish at the parent partnership meetings and is supporting the two sacrament programmes in school and in church.

Confirmation Archbishop Leo Cushley has decided that confirmation in our Diocese will now be held at the P7 stage which means the next class to be confirmed will be the present P4s when they are in P7 in session 2020-21.

Sacrament Programmes An Introduction Meeting for sacramental families in P3 & P4 was held on 22 November.

P3 Reconciliation The first Liturgical Rite Mass (The Signing with the Cross) for P3 will be held on Sunday 3 December at 11am in Sacred Heart Church

P4 First Holy Communion A further meeting for parents will be held on Wednesday 31 January 2018

Family Mass A Family Mass will be held on Sunday 10 December at 11am in Sacred Heart Church. We hope as many families as possible will attend on this day. Our children will be presenting the readings, bidding prayers and participating in the offertory.

Pope Francis Faith Award P6 & P7 have been introduced to this programme which will be implemented next term.

Road Safety Week

Our JRSOs have organised a **poster competition** about 'Being Safe in the Car Park' because of the following issues:

- Cars speeding over 20MPH in both the car park and Crockett Gardens at the beginning/end of the day
- Drivers double parking at the above times
- Drivers without disabled blue badges parking or blocking disabled spaces

We would appreciate **ALL** drivers driving slowly (10-15MPH) in areas around our school and parking appropriately even if this means walking further to reach the school. This will ensure that our children are safe.

Anti-Bullying

We have been re-visiting this topic as a school. Each class has indicated what they think bullying is and are now working on the following: -

P1 to P3 How we feel when we are bullied?

P4 & P5/6 How bystanders/witnesses feel when they see bullying – what can they do?

P6/7 Why do some people bully?

A summary of the above will be sent home when we have finished the topic by concluding what we as a school can do about bullying.

You may be interested to know that the Scottish Government have very recently published a national document called 'Respect for All' which will impact on all council and school anti-bullying policies. This can be downloaded at www.gov.scot

Sports

P4 & P5 Rugby Wb 19 Feb to wb 19 March (6 sessions) with a festival on Friday 16 March at Penicuik RFC.

P5/6 Discover Orienteering 6 March Penicuik Park (£1pc)

P5 Ski-ing 7 March to 25 April (6 sessions-cost £60)

iBike More sessions to be arranged - dates to be advised

'Wheelie' Fridays Every Friday (weather dependent) Bikes, scooters, skateboards, 'heelies', etc) if appropriate to do so. Pupils **must** have shoes on in school.

Events in December Please see our flyer for events taking place throughout school and nursery.

Play Therapy Base - Callout for Tesco Token Votes

Play Therapy Base is a valuable resource to Midlothian schools offering a special way for children to learn about their world through using toys. Please support this project by casting your 'Bags of Hope' vote using tokens at Tesco Hardengreen and Tesco Express in Poltonhall throughout November & December.

Breakfast Club Every week day (school term time) 8.10-8.50am £1.50 per child per day.