



# Sacred Heart Primary School

“Aspire Nurture Learn Achieve”



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Newsletter 3

November 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Christmas preparations are now in full swing, with our P3-7 learners beginning to practice their collection of Christmas carols for our Carols by Candlelight concert on the 5th December and our P1-2 learners learning the songs and dances for the Nativity on the 17th December. It's always a magical time of year, but we will ensure to remind our learners about the true meaning of Christmas, particularly during the season of Advent.

We look forward to the Christmas Fayre on the 30th November to help us to get into the festive mood even more. The parent partnership and volunteers have been very busy organizing stalls and helping our learners to create their Christmas crafts, ready to sell on the day. We look forward to seeing all of you there!

P1 enrolment begins on the 18th November for a week and our confident Primary 7s will be giving in depth tours of the school and answering lots of questions from prospective parents and children. They have been super ambassadors for our school and we are all very proud of them - well done!

Finally, our extension works are still ticking along nicely—a reminder that we have additional closure days on 19th and 20th December, so pupils will finish up for Christmas at 3.15pm on 18th December.

Kind regards,  
Anna Chidgey  
Headteacher

## Class Masses

All classes will be going to mass more regularly this session and leading readings and hymns at the church.

Parents are invited to join us for any of these masses.

Mass will begin at 9.30am

Dates until Christmas are as follows:

22/11—Primary 4

29/11—Primary 3

6/12—Primary 2

13/12—Primary 4



## Class News

### Nursery

We held a Stay and Play on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November. Thank you to everyone for participating in Book Bags, they will be handed out every Monday by a member of staff and we have asked if parents/carers could return them on the Friday of that week. There is a box in the cloakroom to return your book bags. Please do not worry if you have forgot your book bag, just let a member of staff know.



With Christmas fast approaching we have organised our Christmas Party for our children. Parents/carers are invited to our Christmas Sing-along on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December which will be held in the nursery. Emails will be sent out with further information. I would like to remind parents/carers that the weather is getting colder and we would appreciate it if all children could come to nursery prepared with a jacket, winter clothing, wellies and a spare change of clothing in their bags. We look forward to seeing any parents/carers on Thursday for our Stay and Play.

### Primary 1

We came back refreshed from the October break and have continued to learn our Set 1 sounds in Read, Write, Inc. We are nearing the end of Set 1 and will be using those sounds we know to read short sentences. We are working hard on blending the sounds together and building the words using our magnetic boards. We are also beginning to learn some tricky/red words that we cannot sound out. We are in the middle of our short novel study 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark' and enjoyed a letter from Plop the owl. In numeracy we are focusing on recognising, writing, sequencing and ordering number to 20 and beyond as well as learning about ordinal numbers. We have also been practicing our doubles to 10 using Spiderman fingers to shoot doubles! In maths we have begun to learn about time which tied in nicely with our novel study and the differences between day and night. We use an 'Our Day' board in class to explore days of the week, months of the year, seasons and a daily visual timetable to follow. The children enjoyed creating their own days of the week caterpillars. In health and wellbeing the children are learning Scottish dance steps with Mrs Buxton and continue to explore basic moves in our other PE lesson. Again, tied to our novel study, we have been looking at emotions and exploring the vocabulary around our emotions and different ways we can express and channel our emotions. We have used mirrors to look at our expressions and used circle time games and drawings to show our understanding.



### Staffing Update

As many of you know, Mrs Hastings was successful in securing a seconded post at Burnbrae Primary School until June 2020.

We have started the recruitment process for a new teacher to take the P1 class for the rest of the session and will update you on this accordingly.

Our priority is to ensure continuity and a high quality teaching and learning experience for our P1 pupils so please be assured that the class will continue to receive this despite the imminent change in teacher.



## Primary 2

The children have really been enjoying our class novel, *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark*. We have lots of fun activities planned around this novel and have so far produced lots of work in different areas of the curriculum including drama where we have been enjoying using movement, expression and voice. We will be learning about time using 12 hour clocks in maths,



realising there is a 24 hour notation. We continue to practise ensuring that we are organised and ready for events throughout our day. P2 have been working with P1 in order to make safety posters for Bonfire Night as well as thinking about how Plop could get back up on his tree when

he fell out of it. The children came up with some fantastic suggestions so next week we will put these ideas into practice using technology. P2 have lots of other fun learning activities through our class novel to look forward to which will end with some special visitors coming to see us at school.

We continue to enjoy our weekly fortnightly visits to the library and sharing our books and board games with our Reading Buddies at the church. This continues to be a very popular activity for all the children who engage very well each week with their buddies.

## Primary 3

The second term is well underway and already it's been a busy term so far. In literacy we have been studying the story 'Voices in the Park.' The story is about an aloof, middle-class mother and her lonely son encounter an unemployed father and his friendly daughter as they walk their dogs in the park. Novel studies are a great opportunity for pupils to use previous learning (e.g. adjectives and nouns) within a different context. Pupils have enjoyed reading and analysing all the pictures within the story. It has been interesting to hear pupils' opinions on the meaning and symbolism within the story. To end our novel study we are going to be writing a 5<sup>th</sup> voice to the story in the form of the park keeper. We are currently reading *Matilda* as our class novel. In numeracy we have been learning how to add 1, 10, 100 and 1,000 on to any number. This has led to us learning various mental strategies for addition and subtraction. So far we have learned to use the Jump Strategy, but will also learn the Split Strategy and Compensation Strategy. We are also going to cover rounding and money this term. We are about to start our local area study of Penicuik. We are going to learn about the local area. We will learn all about the landmarks in and around Penicuik. We are going to create a 3d model of Penicuik and film a mini 'Visitors Guide to Penicuik' video. The plan is to visit landmarks around Penicuik and spending a morning at Penicuik House to help pupils with the 3d model building.



# SCHOOL UNIFORMS

The children look fantastic in their school uniform, thank you for your continued support. A wee reminder that school uniform is to be worn Monday-Friday. House hoodies and t-shirts are for P.E and sports events only.



All the pre-loved uniform from last year that was not claimed has been washed and is now hanging in the office reception. If you are in need of uniform please take a look. All pre loved uniform is free to a good home.

## Primary 4

Our novel study, "Voices in the Park" has been an exciting way for us to explore a different style of writing, incorporating drama through hot-seating and role play. We are looking forward to furthering our learning with a planned visit to Bonnyrigg Park for book-related activities and challenges. The Remembrance assembly has enabled us to explore the theme of emotions and we have written our own poems to reflect our own hopes for our world. With the winter season approaching we are focusing on the weather as our topic. Opportunities to develop our knowledge of different weather, recording temperatures with thermometers and building our own instruments to monitor the weather, will all be part of our learning. Linking in with this, through our Maths lessons, we will be learning about time and measure. We will be reading timetables, using calendars and exploring days, weeks and seasons.

## Primary 5/6

Primary 5/6 are thoroughly enjoying their class novel - *'There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom'*. They have been learning to create character descriptions of the main characters - Bradley and Jeff. In order to do this, they have carried out dictionary and thesaurus work to extend their vocabulary and up level their descriptions. Primary 5/6 has also been learning about inference and will be using this in their writing to describe how Jeff is feeling at different points in the story. In the next few weeks they will be: rewriting a chapter from the book from a different character's point of view; focusing on punctuating speech and using speech verbs, adverbs and action clauses; and learning about the key features of a discursive text in order to create their own. In maths, the children have been learning about decimal numbers and rounding these to the nearest whole number and 1, 2 and 3 decimal places. They will progress on with this as they use rounding to estimate the answers to addition and subtraction calculations. Primary 5-7 continue to work on their enterprise topic and are now beginning to advertise and plan and prepare for the event which is scheduled for Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November.



**REMINDER**



Please remember that we discourage children coming to school in football strips or with football-related colours (scarves/hats/water bottles etc) wherever possible. This is to avoid children (and staff!) getting upset or defensive over their supported team and to avoid disagreements.

## Primary 6/7

'It was a busy October for Primary 6/7 with our Maths week challenge, learning about biographies and autobiographies, having a (much needed) holiday and the Primary 7's visiting Innerwick for their camp. Some of the class even took part in a hockey tournament recently where they performed very well and represented our school admirably. A great time was had by all on camp where we were very lucky with the weather and spent a lot of time outdoors, even managing some night time walks and a bonfire on the beach. After all that fresh air, there were a lot of tired bodies at the end (including the adults)!



As we move into November, we have a busy time planned with a Basketball tournament for the P7's and two football tournaments, one for the girls and one for the boys. At the end of the month we will be visiting Findlay Irvine to watch some circuit boards being made.



Our enterprise project continues to take shape with the children working very hard to prepare for an event on the 22nd of November. More details on that to follow. As if that all wasn't enough we will also be starting to practice for the numerous carol concerts we will be attending over the festive period so be prepared to hear Christmas carols where ever you go!' We are very much looking forward to our 'Carols by Candlelight' performance in the church on the 5th of December and hope to see lots of you there!



### Christmas Festivities

The Christmas term is always a busy one here at Sacred Heart. Please see the dates detailed below for any events that may affect your child/ren

Carols by Candlelight: -  
5/12—6pm in Sacred Heart Church

Nativity:  
17/12—1.30pm & 6pm in school hall

Carol Singing in the Local Community—  
**Parent Volunteers welcome:**  
10/12 - Nursery & P1 - Broomhill Care Centre  
12/12 - P4 - Baldwin Court  
16/12 - P2 - Navaar House Hotel—Monday Club  
17/12 - P5/6/7 - Tesco  
17/12 - P3 - Heinsberg House

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

Many thanks to all those who supported our Coffee Morning in support of Macmillan Cancer Research. We raised a whopping £486.02!

A extra special thank you to all the parents who helped make it happen!

### Healthy Learners—Birthday Celebrations

Thank you for all the feedback following our change in policy on birthday celebrations in class. We very much appreciate your support with this.

For those of you that missed the letter, we ask that cakes and birthday treats are no longer brought to school; birthdays will still be celebrated in classes and at assembly



Parent/Carers are invited to come along to our Coffee & Chat sessions which will be held on the last Friday of each month from 9.30-10.30am. Our final coffee & chat for 2019 will be on 29 November 2019



## Dates for your Diary

November 2019

### 2019

- Nov-18-22** P1 Registration Week for August 2020 intake  
**Nov-18-22** Book Week Scotland  
**Nov-18-22** UK Road Safety Week 2019  
**Nov-20** Flu Vaccination Programme in school for pupils  
**Nov-21** Football Festival (girls) at Beeslack HS  
**Nov-22** Primary 4 to Mass at Sacred Heart Church 9.30am Service  
**Nov-22** P5/6/7 Enterprise  
**Nov-27** Swimming—final session for P3 and P4  
**Nov-28** Football Festival (boys) at Beeslack HS  
**Nov-29** Primary 3 to Mass at Sacred Heart Church 9.30am Service  
**Nov-29** Coffee & Chat (9.30-10.30am)  
**Nov-30** Christmas Fayre organised by Parent Partnership in school (10.00am-12.30pm)
- Dec-05** Carols by Candlelight (P3-P7 pupils)  
**Dec-06** Primary 2 to Mass at Sacred Heart Church 9.30am Service  
**Dec-08** Family Mass at Sacred Heart Church (11.00am) *Held every second Sunday of the month*  
**Dec-10** Nursery & P1 Carol Singing at Broomhill Care Centre (pm)  
**Dec-12** P4 Carol Singing at Baldwin Court (am)  
**Dec-12** Whole school to Goldilocks Panto at Kings Theatre (late return 5.15pm approx)  
**Dec-16** P2 Carol Singing at Navaar House Hotel—Monday Club (pm)  
**Dec-17** P5/6/7 Carol Singing at Tesco (am)  
**Dec-17** P3 Carol Singing at Heinsberg House (pm)  
**Dec-17** Nativity in school (1.30pm)  
**Dec-17** Nativity in school (6.00pm)  
**Dec-18** Christmas Sing-along in nursery  
**Dec-18** School Christmas Lunch & Party  
**Dec-19-20** Exceptional School Closure– school closed to pupils

**2020****2020**

- Jan-06** InService Day – school closed to pupils  
**Jan-07** Pupils return to school (8.00am Breakfast Club; 8.50am school starts)  
**Jan-12** Family Mass at Sacred Heart Church (11.00am)  
**Jan-17** Primary 1 to Mass at Sacred Heart Church 9.30am Service  
**Jan-24** Primary 5/6 to Mass at Sacred Heart Church 9.30am Service  
**Jan-26** P4 Mass: Rite of Presentation of the Creed (11.00am SH Church)  
**Jan-29** Whole school trip to Lion King, Edinburgh Playhouse (late return 6.00pm approx.)  
**Jan-31** Primary 6/7 to Mass at Sacred Heart Church 9.30am Service  
**Jan-31** Coffee & Chat in school (9.30-10.30am)
- Feb-04** P3 Reconciliation Parents Meeting 7.00pm in St Margaret's Church  
**Feb-06** Penicuik Rotary Primary School Quiz, Penicuik HS  
**Feb-07** Primary 1 to Mass at Sacred Heart Church 9.30am Service  
**Feb-09** Family Mass at Sacred Heart Church (11.00am)  
**Feb-10-14** February Break – school closed  
**Feb-17** School reopens (8.00am Breakfast Club; 8.50am school starts)  
**Feb-18** P4 First Holy Communion Parents Meeting in St Margaret's Church  
**Feb-23** P3 Mass: Rite Presentation of Illumination 11.00am SH Church  
**Feb-25** Scholastic Book Fair (until 3 March)  
**Feb-26** Whole school to Ash Wednesday Mass at Sacred Heart Church (11am)  
**Feb-27** Parents Consultations (3.30-8.30pm)  
**Feb-28** Coffee & Chat in school (9.30-10.30am)
- Mar-08** Family Mass at Sacred Heart Church (11.00am)  
**Mar-11** P5/6 Swimming (13wk block 11 Mar-24 June)  
**Mar-11** P6/7 Swimming (13wk block 11 Mar-24 June)  
**Mar-15** P4 Mass: Rite of Presentation of the Our Father 11am SH Church  
**Mar-18** P3 Reconciliation Rehearsal 10.30am St Margaret's Church  
**Mar-18** Ski Programme (6wk block 18Mar-6 May)  
**Mar-21** Stations of the Cross – Mass in school (11am)  
**Mar-26** P3 Reconciliation Service 7pm St Margaret's Church
- Apr-03** Exceptional School Closure - school closed to pupils  
**Apr-06-17** Easter Holiday – school closed to pupils  
**Apr-12** Family Mass at Sacred Heart Church (11.00am)  
**Apr-20** Exceptional School Closure - school closed to pupils  
**Apr-21** Pupils return to school (8.00am Breakfast Club; 8.50am school starts)  
**Apr-24** Coffee & Chat in school (9.30-10.30am)  
**Apr-28** P2 Day Camp - Bonaly  
**Apr-29** P4 Class Residential - Bonaly (return 1 May)

**2020**

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|---------------|---|
| <b>May-07</b> | Sacred Hearts Got Talent  |
| May-08        | May Day Holiday – school closed                                 |
| May-10        | Family Mass at Sacred Heart Church (11.00am)                    |
| May-11-15     | Walk to School Week including Inter School Walk                 |
| May-13-15     | P7 ASG Residential—Netherurd                                    |
| May-13        | P1 Induction 1  |
| May-14-15     | P3 Class Residential - Innerwick                                |
| May-18        | InService Day – school closed to pupils                         |
| May-20        | Scholastic Book Fair (until 27 May)                             |
| May-21        | Whole School to Feast of the Ascension Mass (11.00am SH Church) |
| May-21        | P1 Induction 2  |
| May-21        | Parent Consultations (3.30-8.30pm)                              |
| May-26        | P4 FHC Rehearsal (10.30am <u>St Margaret's Church</u> )         |
| May-27        | Sports Day (back up 17 June)                                    |
| May-28        | P1 Induction 3  |
| May-31        | P4 First Holy Communion 9.30am <u>St Margaret's Church</u>      |
| <b>Jun-02</b> | P5-P7 Show  |
| Jun-03        | P4 to Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration 9.30am SH Church   |
| Jun-03        | P5-P7 Show  |
| Jun-04        | P1 Induction 4  |
| Jun-08        | Bike to School Week   |
| Jun-08-12     | P5 & P6 Class Residential—Benmore                               |
| Jun-10-12     | P7 Transition Days to High School                               |
| Jun-11        | P1 Induction 5  |
| Jun-17        | Sports Day—back up  |
| Jun-19        | Whole school to Feast of Sacred Heart Mass (9.30am SH Church)   |
| Jun-24        | Leavers Mass in school (11.00am)                                |
| Jun-26        | P7 Leavers Assembly 9.30am                                      |
| Jun-28        | School closes for summer (reopen to pupils 19 August)           |

All dates and times are subject to change.