



St Andrew's Primary School

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Acting Leader of Learning
Mrs Joanne Hunter

Midlothian



Weekly Update

11th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for your continued support as we reach the end of another busy week in school and nursery. It has been particularly nice to see the sun shining – allowing pupils to make the most of our outdoor spaces. Thank you for your cooperation in sending children in their outdoor kit on PE days. It has enabled classes to spend much more time learning outdoors – not just in PE, but in other areas of the curriculum too. Why not check our Twitter page to see what classes have been up to?

As always, we have some updates and information that we hope you will find useful.

Complex Needs Provision:

As you will be aware our Principal Teacher in the Complex Needs Provision, Amy Richmond, was successful in securing a secondment as Depute Headteacher, at Burnbrae Primary School, prior to the summer break. I am pleased to inform you that Ms Lorraine Garriock has now been appointed as Ms Richmond's replacement and will join our staff team on Monday 14th September. Ms Richmond will take up her new post, at Burnbrae, on Wednesday 16th September.

We are obviously sorry to see Ms Richmond go, but wish her well as she embarks on the exciting challenge of her new role. Her hard work and leadership have been invaluable in transforming our Provision, at St Andrew's, and I am confident that she will be a real asset to the team at Burnbrae.

Nursery:

We are also sorry to say "farewell" to Mrs McAllister, from our nursery, who is moving on to a new post closer to home in the Borders. We are sure that she will miss the cheery faces of our St Andrew's children, if not the long journey each day! Mrs McAllister will take up her new post on Monday 14th September.

Mrs Kane is also moving on to take on the challenge of a larger setting, in Midlothian. Her last day at St Andrew's will be Thursday 17th September. Mrs Kane has been invaluable in

helping last session's nursery pupils make a smooth transition in to Primary 1. Her patience and kindness have been a huge support in helping pupils adjust to the routines of "life in the big school!" We wish both staff well in their new roles.

Bike Helmets:

It has been super to see so many of our pupils taking the opportunity to use Active Travel by cycling and scooting to school each day. Can we please remind all pupils that the clear advice around safe cycling is that a cycle helmet should be worn. Teachers are happy for pupils to bring their helmets in to the classroom for safe-keeping during the school day.

From Monday 14th September - 20 House Points will be awarded to pupils who wear their cycle helmet cycling to and from school. 😊

Health and Safety:

You will be aware that the latest advice from Scottish Government, around the size of Social Gatherings, comes into effect on Monday 14th September. This limits the size of meetings indoors and outdoors to that of between 2 households – up to a maximum of 6 adults. Children under age 12 are exempt.

As you know, our school grounds and visitor car park, are small and so maintaining the 2m Social Distance can be challenging. Where possible, please continue to support us by avoiding arriving early for start and pick up times. Remember, if you have more than one child at St Andrew's we are happy for all to arrive at the time designated for the **latest child**, eg: Siblings in P3 and P1 can both arrive at the P1 time of 8:50. The P3 child will not be marked late, even though their start time is 8:40. Your cooperation in this matter is much appreciated as it reduces the number parents and pupils congregating in the school grounds. Thank you.

Communication:

As always, we are keen to keep in regular contact with you, regarding the progress and well-being of your child. Please feel free to contact the school office, either by phone or email, if there is something that you would like to discuss, and a member of staff will be in touch at the earliest opportunity.

Kind regards

Joanne Hunter (Acting Leader of Learning)