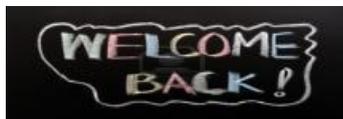




### A VERY WARM WELCOME BACK



I hope everyone had a lovely summer holiday. The children all look very smart in their school uniforms, healthy and well rested. Our pupils have returned to school ready to work hard and to enjoy learning. Everyone at St John's would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our new families joining us this year and hope that all pupils, parents and staff have an exciting and successful year ahead.

We would like to welcome Mrs Laura Birdsell to P2/1 and Mrs Rebecca Williamson to P7. In addition, we have Mrs Angus from our Nursery working with us across our Primary 1 stages.

I am sure all our new staff will be made to feel very welcome in our St John's Community.

We are very pleased and proud of our new Primary 1 children who have already settled into life at school very quickly. They have been exploring the school and learning about our new routines.

Our new Nursery children will be joining us gradually over the next few weeks and we look forward to welcoming them and their families to our school.

Everyone at St John's is looking forward to working with you to ensure a happy and successful school year ahead.



### PE

Children should come to school each week with their PE kit consisting of shorts, 'house' or white t-shirt and gym shoes. This should be kept in a gym bag in school. Earrings should be removed on PE days and no other jewellery should be worn. Long hair should be tied back for PE. It is also essential to have all items of clothing named, however old the children are!

### ABSENCE AND LATENESS



If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason, please telephone to let us know as early as possible on the first day of absence. The school office has an answering machine so if your call is not answered please leave a message and our office staff will pick it up as soon as possible. If you do not contact the school, we will text or phone home to let you know that your child has not arrived. Please make sure that we have your up-to-date contact numbers in case we need to get in touch. Please remember to return your EE2 and Update forms.

If you wish your child to go home for lunch, please inform the class teacher in writing. It is really important that your child gets to school on time as they may miss important information shared by the teacher about the day ahead, if they are late. If children are late then we ask them to report to the school office and sign the Late Book.

### SAFETY

We know that you share our concern for our children's safety. We would like to remind you to enter the school via the main entrance and report to the school office. Here, if required, you will be asked to sign our visitor's book and will be issued with a visitor's badge. This ensures that we know at all times who is in our school building.



### SCHOOL OFFICE

All correspondence should be clearly labelled and given to your child and these will be sent to the school office. Remember how busy the office can be first thing in the morning. The hours of our school office are M-Th 8.30am-3.30pm and F 8.30am-12.30.



### Early Days

Every class establishes their Class Charter, learns about the routines and expectations within their classroom and learns about their roles and responsibilities in the first few weeks. This helps set the tone for the session.



### NUT AWARE SCHOOL

We would like to remind everyone that we are a nut aware school. We have several children who have severe nut allergies so we would ask all families to be vigilant about the food products they are sending to school. We would be very grateful if children could come to school with a healthy snack. Children can also bring a water bottle to school if they wish.



### Open Doors

At St John's Primary School, we offer an open door policy. Should you wish to meet or pass information onto the class teacher please contact the school office. The class teacher, if required, will then contact you and an appointment can be made if required.

Please remember class teachers often have meetings or training courses after school so they will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible. Mrs Kelly and I are also available should you wish to speak to us , but I would ask that you contact the school office or email the school admin account to do so .email : [admin@st-johns.edin.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-johns.edin.sch.uk)

### PARENT COUNCIL



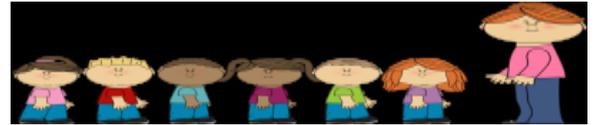
We would like to invite you to be part of our active Parent Council. They will be holding their AGM on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 6.30pm in the staffroom.

There is no requirement to be an office holder, but your support would be gratefully received. Why not come along and see if you would like to be involved?

### P1 Welcome Morning

P1 Welcome morning is 11am in the hall on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September. All P1 Parents are very welcome!

### LINING UP



We are encouraging a high standard of behaviour in our lines each day. Please support us by ensuring your child is in the playground for 8.45am and lined up ready for the bell at 8.50am.

### Playground markings

A very big thank you to the team of Parent Council members who organised the new markings over the summer holiday .It's amazing to see how much the pupils are enjoying the games .



### New School

Mrs Kelly and I attended a meeting regarding the new school . It looks as if we are on course for an August 2018 opening . There will be an Evening News Photocall next week when a group of 4 P6 pupils will be present at the official " sod cutting" .

### Positive Behaviour Strategies

You will have received a copy of our Positive Behaviour leaflet which we prepared as a whole staff during the inservice days. This clarifies the approaches which are in place in St John's.

### Standards , Quality and Improvement Plan

You will also receive a summary leaflet of last session's strengths and successes and improvement priorities for next session. We are very proud of the all our achievements . The full SQIP will be available on the school website.



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please look out for our Calendar of events. We will aim to give you as much notice as possible about events occurring in the school. Remember to check our twitter account, and the school website. We will also be sending messages via parentmail.

**Please remember that our school is closed on MONDAY 18th SEPTEMBER. School and Nursery will be open again on TUESDAY 19th SEPTEMBER.**

## CYCLING/SCOOTERS



We would really appreciate it if you could talk to your child about the importance of not riding their bikes or scooters in to the school playground at the start or the end of a day. All children should dismount from their bike or scooter at the school gate. This way we can continue to keep everyone safe.

We would also like to encourage everyone to wear a helmet when travelling on their bike to and from school.

### Portobello village show

"Portobello Open Doors Annual Portobello Village Show is on again for its 10th year on Sunday 3 September 2pm- 5pm in Rosefield Park. Great live music, local food, tea tent, sweet stall, tombola, dog show, tug-of-war, duck racing, human being racing, games, train tent, silent disco and much more. There are some great Show Competitions again this year and everyone, young and old, is encouraged to participate, follow this link for details:

<http://www.thepod.org/forthcomingevents.html> “

Our Parent Council have a stall too!

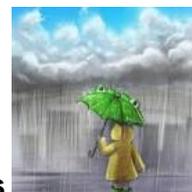
### Twende Pamoja Representatives

A group of 4 P6/7 pupils have attended a Workshop hosted by Alexander McCall Smith at the Royal High School, as part of the next steps in our relationship with Tanzania. By all accounts it was a worthwhile experience.



### Holidays during term time

Please be aware that it is Council Policy that all holidays during term time will be **unauthorised** unless there are exceptional circumstances e.g., supported by a medical certificate, solicitor's letter, bereavement circumstances or an employer's letter. Should the period of absence requested be over 3 weeks, the request will be sent on to the City of Edinburgh Council. Thank you for your support with this.



### Wet Mornings

A bell will ring at 8.40am to allow the children to enter via the hall doors, should the weather be exceptionally inclement. P1 and P2 children will be supervised in their classrooms. P3-P7 will be monitored in the hall.



ParentPay®

We have 51% of our parents/carers registered for ParentPay and we are aiming to extend this to 100%. There will be opportunities to have support from the Office team. Similarly, the Parentmail, twitter, Seemis text and the website systems are the main way we update you. Please ensure you check these for info.



### Meet the Teacher

For P2-P7 parents/carers, please keep Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September free!  
More details to follow.

**The Newsletter will now be a Monthly Newsletter and we would encourage Parents/ carers to access online.**



TWITTER.....

Our school Twitter account is updated regularly  
Please follow us for news and reports: @porty\_stjs

*Many thanks for your continued support and co-operation.*

*Ms Barbara a Service  
Head Teacher*