



**Friday 27 September 2019**

Dear Parents/Carers & Friends

**Key Dates:**

Week Beginning:

Monday 30 September	New P5 Swimming Group Begins
Tuesday 1 October	P7A Parental Consultations 4.00-7.00pm
Wednesday 2 October	Parental Consultations 4.00-7.00pm
Thursday 3 October	National Poetry Day
Friday 4 October	Skills Groups Begin <i>Make a Difference</i> Sharing Assembly Parental Consultations 1.00-3.00pm
Friday 11 October	Half Term
Wednesday 23 October	Pupils Return

**Weekly Round-Up**

Phew! We may only be 6 weeks into a new term but we have still achieved a lot! The children have settled very well in their new classes and they are working really hard. We are looking forward to sharing their learning with you at Parent Consultations. If you have not made your appointment yet, then please do so. We are keen to see a family member for all children. If you are unable to attend, could you let us know.

- Throughout this year, we are celebrating the 30th anniversary of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Assembly focuses throughout the year will include participation in UNICEF's Out Right campaign which challenges our children to learn and speak about or take action on children's rights. Some of our pupils have already demonstrated this through the 'Make a Difference' unit of our Building Resilience programme and by attending the climate change strike last Friday. We look forward to hearing their views on both at assembly on Fri 4<sup>th</sup>. The Rights Respecting Group will be

aiming towards a Silver Award this session, to do so they must demonstrate participation with the wider school community by recruiting one or two parent members. If you are interested in finding out more/joining the group, please email with your name and name/class of your child: admin@st-johns.edin.sch.uk

- On Tuesday afternoon I attended my first Catholic Headteacher meeting of the year, up at Holy Rood. Catholic Headteachers from across primary and secondary meet 3 times per year and this year it is our cluster's turn to host and set meetings/organise events. The meeting covered a range of topics, one of the main ones was the introduction of a new resource to teach Health and Wellbeing called: Relationships, Sexual Health, Parenthood. (RSHP) This resource will complement work we do both through Building Resilience and in God's Loving Plan. It will be important to share this new resource with parents and once we have a date to begin using, I will invite families to attend a workshop to provide more info about what will be taught at each stage, Early to Second Level. A key statement from the resource:  
*Children and young people do not just learn in formal settings, they also learn at home and so the RSHP resource makes that connection by recognising the role of parents and carers as the child's first and lifelong educator. Many of the learning activities provided in the resource have information that can be shared with home*  
If you would like to have a look at some of these materials use the link below and then select 'Levels' and choose the stage your child is at: *Early (Nursery-P1), First (P2-4) or Second (P5-7)*  
<https://rshp.scot/>
- On Thursday evening eleven staff accompanied me to the Community Mass at St Catharine's Convent in town where we celebrated mass with teaching colleagues from across the city. Miss Miller led the singing and we had the opportunity to officially acknowledge Mrs Legrix's contribution to Holy Rood High. Many families may be aware that Mrs Legrix is retiring in October, after a career of over forty years – we wish her a long and happy retirement.

### **St John's Got Talent**

There was great excitement on Thursday afternoon as all classes filed into the hall to see our finalists perform – we were treated to an array of talent – *singing, dancing, karate, gymnastics, magic tricks & comedy. Violin, keyboard and guitar skills* were also on display. The votes are being counted and verified and winner/s will be announced at next Friday's assembly. A huge thanks to all who auditioned and our finalists – it was great to see such confidence and enthusiasm, with a few last minute nerves overcome, resilience too! The choir opened the show with Stand by Me, their first performance of the year. Special thanks to our House and Vice Captain teams too for their organisation, support and encouragement.

Mrs Williams shared that one of our new P1's asked her: "*will it be a real show, with GOOD EVENING ladies and gentlemen*" – safe to say we think it was a GREAT show!

Thanks everyone.

## **Some Sporting News**

Mr Burgess accompanied the P6's to Hillend Ski Slope this Wednesday and was very impressed by the progression shown by all the children in what was only their fourth week of lessons. Well done Skiers!

The PEPAS group have been busy sticking our Aldi stickers onto the Tokyo Olympic poster – a reminder we are collecting these, we need 300 to win a sports kit for the school – we hope we will make the target!

P6 pupils have a very exciting opportunity to become involved in Junior NBA basketball – please look out for further info as first game will take place next Fri, 4<sup>th</sup> Oct.

P5 footballers have the opportunity to visit Tynecastle and receive some training from official coaches from Hearts FC. This takes place at the end of October. Leo's dad also shared how well they have been playing and of the 'free flowing football' on display! Well done P5.

## **Achievements**

Christina in P7 and Genna in P4 have recently won medals as part of the Phelan school of dance in Leith. Christina also won Best Solo Tap at a competition in Musselburgh and will be auditioning for the Dance World Cup which takes place next year. Good luck!

## **AND FINALLY...Macmillan Coffee Morning**

A great BIG thank you to Mrs Moscrop who organised our annual coffee morning for staff (old and new) yesterday. There was an eye boggling selection of cakes on display. The mini bake off had a record number of entries with Mrs Williams winning for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row – ask her to share her Millionaire's Shortbread recipe! We also had a visit from 'Paul Hollywood' (a version!) who presented the prizes. Most importantly Mrs Moscrop raised over £300 for a charity very close to her heart.

*I would be grateful to have items for next week's round-up – if your child has an achievement, sporting or otherwise, please do let us know and we will endeavour to include.*

*Remember to check the website and twitter too for more updates and class blogs.*

Email [admin@st-johns.edin.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-johns.edin.sch.uk)

Website: <https://stjohnsportobello.com>

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Headteacher