Newsletter 1.3.24


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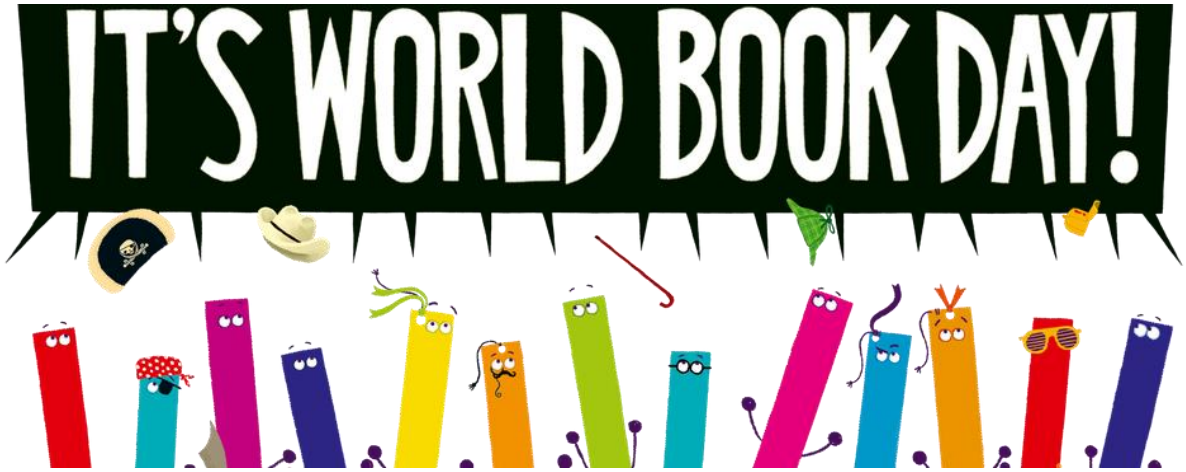
The nursery and school are welcoming visitors from the City of Edinburgh Council on Wednesday 6th March, who will observe children in class and speak to a group of learners from P4 & P7. They will also meet with staff and the senior leadership team. This is in relation to the two recommendations from our inspection report from 2020. The children have been reminded to wear school uniform and I feel certain the team will be impressed by how articulate they can talk about their learning. I look forward to sharing their feedback.

Staffing Update: Mrs Kelly

I have some planned surgery and will be off school from Monday 11th March for approximately of 4-6 weeks. I know the school will be well looked after by Mr Burgess, Mrs Kinsella and Mrs Hawthorne, ably assisted by our office angels and wonderful, whole staff team. Please contact the office in the first instance with any queries you may have.

I wish you all a wonderful Easter and blessed Eid to our families who observe. I look forward to returning as soon as I can.

World Book Day: 7th March



You will have received information from the office about this event. Children will receive their £1 book tokens and can dress up as a favourite book character or wear comfy clothes for reading. Please do not spend lots of money on commercial costumes. We have a small selection for borrowing and these will be on display early this week. If you are feeling creative here are some easy ideas for (allegedly) stress free costumes:

https://www.madeformums.com/toddler-and-preschool/last-minute-easy-world-book-day-costumes/

Parental Consultations

Our teachers look forward to meeting with you on ***Wednesday 20th and Friday 22nd March,*** *and just like October's they will take place in person, in school.*

Any difficulties with this booking , please contact the school office.

Please let us know in advance of any special arrangements, including whether an interpreter is required.

P2 Journey to Space



What a wonderful assembly P2 delivered on Friday - full of fun and fascinating facts about space exploration and the planets in our solar system. It was great to see all the children fully involved through their drama, reading, writing, singing and film making. Well done to all the P2 team of staff and children - it was out of this world!

You can read all about it here: https://stjohnsportobello.com/category/news/primary-2-learning/









Lent 2024



All classes have been provided with a SCIAF wee box to collect spare change. Please can you send in any amount, no matter how small between now and the end of the term. This year SCIAF's appeal is called 'Wee Box, Big Change' and is all about supporting communities in Rwanda.

Teachers have resources to use with classes and the campaign links well with our Laudato Si work and P6/7 Pope Francis Faith Award.



Talent Show

The House and Vice Captains have organised a talent show - the final will take place on Monday 25th March and we would welcome donations of £1 for classes to watch the show and contribute to the our Lenten SCIAF fundraising request.

God's Loving Plan

Our Health and Relationships programme, God's Loving Plan, is due to be introduced after Easter. The lessons will be delivered across two weeks. God's Loving Plan works alongside our RE programme and supplements learning in the same key areas:

GOD GIVES ME LIFE – The beauty of God's creation is seen in me and in all living things

GOD DELIGHTS IN ME – God has gifted me with life and with talents which he wishes me to develop fully for my happiness and the good of others

GOD CALLS ME TO LOVE – God invites me to reflect his love for me in my loving actions towards others

GOD'S LOVING PLAN GUIDES MY CHOICES – God's loving plan informs my conscience and helps me to make good choices in life and, when I don't, to seek his forgiveness for my sins.

An outline of the content of the programme for learners in P1-7 will be emailed along with a list of key vocabulary which will be introduced.

As with every aspect of your child's education we value your help in supporting this programme. Please do not hesitate to contact the school for further information, particularly families at P6/7 - we welcome your comments and questions.

P5 hosted a football local football tournament during the recent 'close season' - P5 teams from the local area (Brunstane, Holy Cross and Royal High)were invited to compete with our 2 teams (Team Ronaldo & Team Messi) in a tournament on Astro. It was well attended with around 50 parents present to watch a very competitive series of games. St John's, Team Ronaldo emerged as the winners on goal difference. Their photo and trophy takes pride of place in the cabinet in the school reception. Our thanks to Mr Pettigrew and all who helped to make this such a successful event.

P4 have played their first few matches of the season and have represented the school so well. Great to see how many put themselves forward. We look forward to hearing future updates.

St John's Parent Council

Please see details of the Class Reps below - these are your first point of contact for any parent council related information and it is intended that the reps will share ways in which you can become involved/made aware of events:

P1 Laura Lowden (Callan's mum)

P2 Kerry Minty (Lucy's mum)

P3 Nicola Roarty (Seth's mum)

P4 Gillian Ramage (Archie's mum)

P5 Susan Ward (Michael P's mum)

P6 Felicity Robertson (Mhairi's mum)

P7 Claire Barrett (Helena's mum)

Dates for your diary



Every newsletter we will update the diary dates .

- **Wednesday 6th March:** P3 Egyptian Adventure @ Museum, CEC Team visiting
- **Thursday 7th March:** World Book Day
- **Monday 11th March:** Ramadan Begins
- **Wednesday 13th March -** P5 @ Mass, 10am St John's - all welcome
- **Thursday 19th** (p7a) and **20th March** (P7b) to "The art of Listening' at the Hub, Castlehill
- **Wednesday 20th March:** P3 @ Mass, 10am St John's - all welcome; Parental Consultations: 4.00-7.00pm
- **Thursday 21st March:** P7 attending Edinburgh P7 Schools Mass @ St Mary's Cathedral
- **Friday 22nd March:** 1300-1500 Parental Consultations; Nursery Sponsored Obstacle Race
- **Monday 25th March:** P6/7 Cross Country - Inverleith Park (morning); Talent Show Finals (pm) - bring £1 to support SCIAF Lenten charity
- **Tuesday 26th March:** P5A Pizza Express; P7B Science Trip, Easter Bush
- **Wednesday 27th March:** Group of P6&7 swimmers at Gala, Royal Commonwealth Pool; P7A Science Trip, Easter Bush
- **Thursday 28th March - end of term - finish at usual times**
- **Monday 15th April:** Edinburgh Bank Holiday
- **Tuesday 16th April: New Term - all return**