

St-John's RC Primary School



Email :- admin@st-johns.edin.sch.uk

Tel :-0131 669 1363

6th February 2026

Nurture · Inspire · Flourish · Pray

Message from Mrs Kelly

As previously shared in the newsletter, 16th January, we look forward to welcoming families who are free to join us in school on Wednesday, 11th February from 10.45am. You will have an opportunity to walk around and see the work P1-7 have undertaken on the theme of What makes Scotland, Scotland. The choir, cellists and violinists, alongside some young musicians and poetry readers will then showcase their talents from 11.30-12.15.

Join us if you can.

Please take time to read the results of our Junior Road Safety Team's survey of parking around the school, this is a great example of pupil voice.

Please see the link for this week's Wednesday Word below.

[https://wednesday-word.paperturn-view.com/goodness?
pid=MTA101634&v=201.6](https://wednesday-word.paperturn-view.com/goodness?pid=MTA101634&v=201.6)

ST JOHN'S JRSO ROAD SAFETY TEAM OBSERVATION – WHAT WE SAW



LAST WEEK OUR JUNIOR ROAD SAFETY OFFICER (JRSO) TEAM COMPLETED A MORNING ROAD SAFETY OBSERVATION TO UNDERSTAND WHAT PUPILS EXPERIENCE DURING DROP OFF AND TO IDENTIFY WAYS WE CAN WORK TOGETHER TO KEEP EVERYONE SAFE.

AFTER CARRYING OUT OUR OBSERVATIONS ON TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, THE CHILDREN SHARED THAT THEY FELT 'SHOCKED', 'DISAPPOINTED', 'CONFUSED', 'UPSET' AND 'SAD' BY WHAT THEY SAW HAPPENING ON THE ROADS AROUND OUR SCHOOL.

ACROSS THE THREE MORNINGS, THE JRSO TEAM OBSERVED:

WE SAW



CARS PARKING ON DOUBLE YELLOW LINES A TOTAL OF 29 TIMES

WE THINK



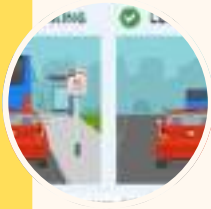
Double yellow lines are there to keep sightlines clear for drivers and pedestrians. Parking on them blocks visibility, forces children to step onto the road, and makes it harder for vehicles to pass safely.



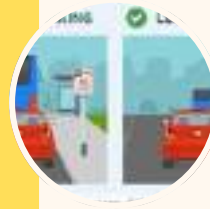
17 CARS PARKING ON THE PAVEMENT



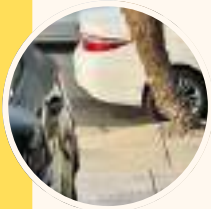
This pushed children, buggies and families onto the road and created extremely unsafe conditions.



16 CARS BLOCKING THE BUS STOP



Preventing safe access and creating further congestion.



7 CARS PARKING IN FRONT OF PEOPLE'S DRIVEWAYS



Which is not acceptable and caused frustration for local residents.

Stay Safe. Be Smart. Practice Road Safety Every Day.



WE SAW

WE THINK



14 CARS DRIVING ONTO HAMILTON TERRACE TO DROP CHILDREN OFF



This street should only be used by residents.



9 CARS PARKING IN THE SCHOOL CAR PARK



Which is strictly for staff working in the school and blue badge holders. Cars are not permitted for drop off.



A TOTAL OF 7 U-TURNS INCLUDING AN UNSAFE U-TURN



This caused a traffic jam and put other drivers at risk.



11 PARENTS AND CHILDREN GETTING OUT OF CARS ON THE ROADSIDE WHILE OTHER VEHICLES WERE DRIVING PAST.

This is extremely unsafe because the roadside is the live traffic side of the car. When doors open into moving traffic, drivers often don't have enough time or space to react. Children are especially hard to see, and stepping out directly into the road puts them at serious risk of being hit by a passing vehicle.

Stay Safe. Be Smart. Practice Food Safety Every Day.

Messages from the JRSO Team

The children wanted to share their own messages directly with families:

"YOU MIGHT NOT NOTICE, BUT YOU'RE CAUSING CHAOS ON THE ROADS."

"WE KNOW THAT YOU'RE IN A RUSH, BUT OUR SAFETY AND OUR LIVES ARE MORE IMPORTANT."

"Please stop this atrocious parking - it's making it unsafe for us to get to school."

"YOU MIGHT NOT LIKE IT, BUT EVEN YOU AS GROWN-UPS HAVE TO FOLLOW THE RULES."



The JRSO team felt strongly that these behaviours make the area around our school unsafe. We are sharing our findings to raise awareness and to encourage all families to help us improve safety at drop off and pick up times.

Thank you for supporting our ongoing work to keep our school community safe.

The JRSO Team with Miss Steele, JRSO Lead

Join the PTA!



PTA Events/ Fundraising Meeting
Everyone welcome!

We need your support to shape and run future PTA events for the kids!

Agenda

- World Book Day - 5th March
- Summer Fair (this will only go ahead if people support this)
- AOB

📅 Wed 11th Feb

🕒 7pm

📱 Microsoft Teams meeting:

Meeting ID: 933 300 363 944 77

Passcode: Uj78ub

Last year's PTA lead fundraising events: Summer Fair, Halloween Disco, Christmas Movie Night, Rainbow Raffle

Mid Term Sports PTA Challenge

Prior to the holidays, each child will receive a sports challenge sheet, encouraging them to stay active during the holidays.

We would like to encourage each child, who would like to participate, to select a challenge and invite their family/friends to sponsor them to complete it. All completed challenges can be handed in on return from the holidays.

Mid term holidays run the 16-20th Feb, 2026 (inclusive).

Good luck to all participating children!

PARENT AND CARERS PROGRAMME

SEASONS FOR GROWTH

Do you need help to support a child or young person through family change and loss?

Who is it for?

Parents and carers looking to support their children through family change and loss.

What does it do?

Helps parents and carers to better understand the experience of death, separation and divorce and bereavement from a child's perspective.

The programme allows parents and carers to learn about:

- How children react to change and loss.
- What parents can do to help their child.
- Communicating with their child
- The Seasons for Growth approach to understanding and managing, change, loss and grief.
- Caring for themselves as a parent/carer and a person.

Date and Time

1pm-2pm:

- Info Session: Mon 2nd March

12.30pm-2.30pm:

- Mon 9th March
- Mon 16th March
- Mon 23rd March

Venue: Craigentenny Community Centre, 9 Loaning Road, EH7 6JE

Sign Up Here

Follow the links or scan the QR code

<https://forms.office.com/e/YNgrifNuAP>



Sign up by

Friday 6th March 2026

For more information contact
jillian.hart@edinburgh.gov.uk

or

claire.mcgeary@ea.edin.sch.uk

Outcomes

Learn about how children respond to change, loss and grief.

Understand that it is normal to have a range of grief reactions.

Explore new approaches to change, loss and grief in the lives of their children.

Build communication, decision making and problem solving skills.

Participate in a supportive network of adults.

Integrate their new learning into their relationships with their family

Support for families



Support for families – The City of Edinburgh Council

We often hear from both parents and staff that they are unsure where to find support and services.

Please tap on links for further information

The Umbrella Hub - Information



Become a volunteer with Active Schools

Want to become an Active Schools volunteer? Find out more from our volunteers themselves - YouTube

**Want to become a
volunteer with
Active Schools?**



Lauren Gibson | Active Schools Co-ordinator – Holy Rood Learning Community | Sports and Outdoor Learning Unit | Schools and Lifelong Learning | Communities and Families | Holy Rood RC High School, 55 Duddingston Road West, Edinburgh EH15 3ST | Mobile 07799 868 054 | lauren.gibson@ea.edin.sch.uk | @ActiveSchoolsED |

Communication

If you are contacting the school with a non-urgent enquiry, then please email admin@st-johns.edin.sch.uk. This is a tracked mailbox and you will receive a response within 2 working days. For urgent enquiries please phone the school office on 0131-669-1363 and leave message if unanswered to allow us to return your call. Our office foyer is very busy first thing in the morning and ask If you have any questions or concerns for the class teacher please email admin@st-johns.edin.sch.uk (Use FAO.....) to help us direct your email to the correct person.

Absence and Request for absence

If your child is unwell and will not be able to attend school, you must phone the Office on 0131- 669-1363, by 8:30am, to let us know otherwise you will receive an absent text. The school has a rigorous policy of checking that all children are in school and will contact you directly should they fail to attend.

If your child is going to be absent for any medical appointments, please use the link to notify the school office giving at least 48hours notice where possible.

[Pupil Appointment Notification \(office.com\) link](#)

Holiday requests during term time should be put in writing at least 2 weeks prior to Mrs Kelly and sent to our admin address.
admin@st-johns.edin.sch.uk

Lateness - Gates open at 0840 and close at 0850



EVERY MINUTE COUNTS – check your emails for more information from the Holy Rood Learning Community about our school attendance focus for this term. Important learning and socialising happen from the start of every school day! #Article28 #Article29 #EveryMinuteCounts

School gates are opened from 0840 each morning for parents to drop their children off. At 0850 children are brought into school, they get organised for their learning and look at the plan for the day ahead. This is also a good time for your child to build up relationships with staff and friends in class.

If there is a reason why your child cannot get to school on time or you miss the gate closing, please bring your child through the main office where they will be recorded as late on the register or contact the school on 0131-669-1363.

Otherwise, we look forward to seeing all our children at 0850 each day.

Mrs Kelly
Headteacher

February 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Cross Country Saughton Park Mr Devine and selected pupil's		1045 P1-P7 families invited to view work on What makes Scotland, Scotland. Followed by Strings Music Showcase P4-P7 1130-1215 in school hall PTA meeting details in Newsletter				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Holiday Ramadan	Holiday Lunar New Year	Holiday Ash Wednesday	Holiday	Holiday		
23	24	25	26	27	28	1 March
	International Mother language Day P7 and selected children attending St Mary's Cathedral for P7 Transition Mass 1100	Great Athlete Visit to school				P3 Children's Mass @ St-John's Church 0930-1100 P4 DTIM Mass at St- Mary Magdalene's 1115-1230

March 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
P2 Trip to Stirling Castle	P7b visit to Waterstones 1000-1100		World Book Day	P7a visit to Waterstones 1000-1100		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
P3 Sacrament of Reconciliation, 7pm						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			Eid al Fitr P6 Shared Learning 1430	Eid al Fitr P2 Shared Learning 1100-1145		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
God's Loving Plan Fortnight		Parents Evening 1600-1900		Parents Evening 1300-1500		
30	31					

April 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
		Stations of the Cross		Good Friday		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Holiday						
27	28	29	30			
Cross Country Inverleith Mr Devine and selected pupil's						

May 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
Holiday	Inservice Day	All resume				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
			Ascension Mass P3, St MM	P7 Sacrament of Confirmation		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	Eid al Adha	Eid al Adha				1 st Holy Communion St MM

June 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sports Day	Back up Sports Day			Mini Marathons		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		P7 Assembly and Mass	P7 Leavers Event			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	P7 Transition Day	P7 Transition Day Meet New Teacher	P7 Transition Day	Reports		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
				Last day of term		
29	30					
Holiday	Holiday					