



ST FERGUS' RC

Primary School, Dundee

September 2019

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers and community of St Fergus' RC Primary School,

I cannot believe we are into the final week of term 1 already! It has been a very busy and exciting term so far and we are all looking forward to a relaxing two week break. Thank you for coming along to our MacMillan Coffee morning—we raised almost £400!!

As always, we welcome your calls and your queries so please do not hesitate to get in touch if we can be of help.

Many thanks, once again, for your support of our school.

Mr D Bald, Head Teacher

BEHAVIOUR CONCERNS

Please remember if you have any concerns regarding your child's behaviour or how they have been treated by another pupil please come and speak to their class teacher or member of the Senior Leadership Team. Please do not approach other parents regarding their child's behaviour as this can cause unnecessary arguments and distress for both parents and pupils. If we have any concerns regarding your child's behaviour we will be in contact with you to address these.

STAFFING UPDATE

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Mitchell has recently given birth to a beautiful baby girl. Both mummy and baby are doing well. Mrs MacRitchie will be covering Mrs Mitchell until Mrs Low returns from her secondment as DHT at St Francis.



Safe
Teamwork

Faith
Excellence
Responsible
Growth
Unique
Successful

Love, Respect

Happiness & Friendship

**In St Fergus RC
Primary School we aim:-**

To create an inclusive community of Faith and Learning through nurture, love and care where all children feel safe, happy and develop their God Given Talents.

To provide a motivating and engaging learning environment which ensures high-quality learning experiences to allow each individual to maximise their successes and achievements.

To work in partnership with our whole school community to improve outcomes for all our children based on relationships of mutual trust and respect.

SNAPSHOT WEEKS



Using some of our Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) money, we have recently purchased new Learning Log Jotters which will be used across all classes within the school. From our parental questionnaire early on in the year parents wished for more information about where their child was in their learning and what their next steps are. We hope these jotters will support this and give parents/carers regular updates throughout the year.

In 1 week every term, children will complete their work in their learning log jotters. Jotters will be sent home for you to talk to your child about their learning and what they enjoy in school. We hope you find the talking prompts within the back cover helpful in discussing your child's learning with them.

WELLBEING WEBS

Every term, every child in the school completes a wellbeing web against the wellbeing indicators:

- SAFE
- HEALTHY
- ACHIEVING
- NURTURED
- ACTIVE
- RESPECTED
- RESPONSIBLE
- INCLUDED



Children give themselves a rating from 1 to 10 in P4-7 and a Sad, straight or happy face in P1-3. Staff talk about the different wellbeing indicators to ensure all children have a good understanding of what it means to be nurtured or included.

We would encourage you to talk to your child about their wellbeing and if you have any concerns please do not hesitate to come and talk to their class teacher.

If we had any concerns regarding your child's wellbeing we would be in touch with you.

SCHOOL OF FOOTBALL

Hampden Park Trip

On the 9th September 2019 we got the opportunity to attend the Euro 2020 Qualifier between Scotland and Belgium at Hampden Park in Glasgow. We arrived in plenty time to see the teams warming up and we had great seats behind the goal. Just before kick off we got to our feet and sang the national anthem "Flower Of Scotland" to try and cheer Scotland on to a victory. Scotland were up against Belgium who are ranked number 1 in the world and they had world class players playing such as Kevin De Bruyne, Romelo Lukaku, Dries Mertens, Thibaut Courtois and Moussa Dembele. This was a really tough game for Scotland and unfortunately we got beat 4-0. This was an amazing experience as this was the first time some members of the group had attended a Scotland game and visited Hampden Park. It was also great to see so many world class players playing in real life. We would like to thank Liam, our School of football coach for organising the tickets and to Mr Munro and Keith for taking us to the game. Report by Oscar and Evan—P6



PARENT COUNCIL BINGO

The Parent Council will be hosting their annual bingo night on Wednesday 13 November 2019. This is a great night and an opportunity to meet other parents and raise money for the school. Please come along and support this great event.



In order to collect prizes for this event we ask that pupils can wear their own clothes on Thursday 3 October and donate a prize.

PARENT CONTACT MEETINGS

There will be an opportunity for class teachers to share your child's progress on Monday 11 November and Tuesday 12 November between 3.30-6.00pm. More information regarding your appointment time will be sent out early next term.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES 2019-2020



From our self-evaluation process we have identified the following School Improvement Priorities for this session:

- All pupils, staff, families and partners will be leaders of learning and change
- Our learning provision will meet the needs of all learners
- Successes and Achievements for all will be raised and the poverty related gap will reduce.

Throughout the year we will give updates on our progress and seek your views and comments to ensure we achieve our priorities.



PUPIL EQUITY FUNDING (PEF)

The Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

For this financial year we have been allocated £51 600 plus a carry forward of £12 847 from last year. We have spent money on the following:

- School of Football
 - Loose Part Play Initiative
 - Staff training and development
 - Numeracy resources across the school
 - Subsidy for school educational trips
 - Monthly attendance award
- More updates throughout the year.

PLAY NETWORK

In our school we have had lots of new, exciting opportunities to play outside using loose parts play with input from the Smart Play Network. The pupils and staff have been really engaged in this with lots of positive feedback after sessions.



Here Bella Brady, P4, tells us more about what it has been like and why she has enjoyed it.



"I really like how you don't have to play by any rules. If you see something and you want to play with it, you can just work with others and do what you want. For example, we made a car using lots of rugs and some tyres, some seats that we found and a small tyre for a steering wheel. Then my friend Stephanie was holding little sticks as the indicators. After that we decided to extend it to make a bus so that everyone could come in. Then more people came over as we started to extend it. This made me feel much happier because it gave us all opportunities to play with others. I then went and played with some things they had created as well. Next time, instead of making something and then inviting people to use it, we thought it would be good if we all made it together from the beginning. It's great to get fresh air instead of sitting inside doing stuff and I can't wait until next time to see if he has brought more stuff along."

LEARNING TOGETHER

Thank you to all our families who made it along to our first Learning Together session, it is always wonderful for the children to share their learning with those at home. The next Learning Together Session takes place on **Tuesday 26th November at 2:15pm.**



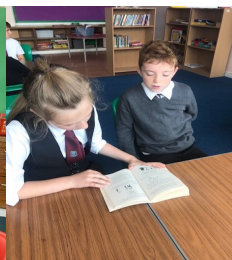
PARENT COUNCIL

Your next Parent Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 23 October 2019 at 6.00pm in the Staffroom. Please come along and make a difference to your child's learning experiences in school.



PAIRED READING

All pupils from P4-7 have been taking part in Paired Reading. The children have been working together to enjoy reading with each other as well as supporting each other to develop their reading skills. This has been very successful with children across the classes making improvements in their reading.



SFDW DROP IN

Please come along on a Thursday morning to our Drop In with Keith each week from 9am—9:30am. This is an opportunity to get a cup of tea and chat about what is going on in school.



Pupil Council—Little Leaders 2019

Our newly appointed Pupil Council have had their first meeting of the year where they voted to be called the Little Leaders. They will be working with Miss Hendry throughout the year to discuss our school and improvements we can make.



SCHOOL TWITTER

Please follow us on Twitter for regular updates on the learning across all classes in our school.

@StFergusPrimary



Please take note of the following dates. We will keep you informed of any changes.

Date	Day	Event
02-Oct-19	Wednesday	Families Connect Session 5
02-Oct-19	Wednesday	September Attendance Meeting
04-Oct-19	Friday	Additional In-service Day—SCHOOL CLOSED
07-Oct-19	Monday	October Holidays—School Closed for 2 weeks
21-Oct-19	Monday	Term 2 begins. 9am
23-Oct-19	Wednesday	Families Connect Session 6 6.00pm—Parent Council Meeting
29-Oct-19	Tuesday	P3 Pause Prompt Praise
30-Oct-19	Wednesday	Families Connect Session 7
31-Oct-19	Thursday	Halloween Parties in class
01-Nov-19	Friday	All Saints Mass in the Church
05-Nov-19	Tuesday	P3 Pause Prompt Praise Flu Immunisations
06-Nov-19	Wednesday	Families Connect Session 8
11-Nov-19	Monday	Parent Contact Meetings
12-Nov-19	Tuesday	Parent Contact Meetings P3 Pause Prompt Praise
13-Nov-19	Wednesday	Parent Council Bingo
14-Nov-19	Thursday	Inservice Day—SCHOOL CLOSEED
15-Nov-19	Friday	Inservice Day—SCHOOL CLOSEED
18-Nov-19	Monday	Catholic Education Week begins
19-Nov-19	Tuesday	P3 Pause Prompt Praise
20-Nov-19	Wednesday	P2 & P3 Read, Write, Count Launch
21-Nov-19	Thursday	P7 Transition Day

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2019-2020

School Holidays

Monday 7 October 2019—Friday 18 October 2019

Friday 14 February 2020

Monday 23 December 2019—Monday 6 January 2020

Monday 17 February 2020

Monday 30 March 2020—Friday 10 April 2020

Monday 4 May 2020

Monday 29 June 2020—Friday 16 August 2020

PARENTAL COMMUNICATION


We aim to continue to improve our ways of communication with parents and carers. Key information and dates will be shared on the school app and twitter feed as early as possible. As we embark on our ECO School journey we will send letters and newsletters on email. Please ensure we have the most up-to-date email contact and mobile number.

We will continue to use our text message service but this will be for emergencies only.

How to contact us...

St Fergus' RC Primary School
Scotsraig Lane
Dundee
DD2 3TP



 01382 436495

 st-fergus.primary@dundee.gov.uk

 @StFergusPrimary