



# St Matthew's RC Primary



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Dear Parent/Carer

Another school week has flown by! Everyone has enjoyed an exciting start to their novel studies this week – there are lots of exciting and challenging learning opportunities planned across literacy and other areas of the curriculum.

We made it through our assessment week and everyone has done a fantastic job of showing their teachers where they are in their learning. We will be spending some time planning for next steps and learning across the term and this year and look forward to sharing what we will be doing next week with you all during Meet the Teacher. Mrs Syme will also be in touch with those whose children would benefit from additional support by the end of next week.

## **School Updates**

### **Covid Updates**

Thank you for supporting our school to be a safe place by wearing face coverings at pick up and drop off and by distancing from other households.

Pupils are now permitted to mix with each other in the classrooms and will have more opportunities to participate in group learning activities.

### **Meet the Teacher**

Please note that a virtual meet the teacher event will take place this Tuesday, the 7<sup>th</sup> September from 3.30-4.00. Links will be sent out before the event.

### **Labelling Clothes/Personal Items**

Please ensure that your child's uniform and personal items are clearly marked with their name. This avoids items getting lost and aids the quick return of items that have been left behind.

### **PE**

At this time PE changing rooms remain closed and children will not be encouraged to change for PE. **We advise that on the days children have PE, they come to school dressed in sportswear. All children will have P.E with Mrs Tait every Tuesday.**

### **Nut-Free Snacks**

Due to severe nut allergies at our school, please do not send your child to school with snacks or lunch items containing nuts. This includes, but is not limited to, Kinder Buenos, Nutella, Daim bars and peanut butter. Please note that any snacks with nuts in them will be sent home with the child.

## **NHS Anxiety Workshops**

NHS Lothian are running a number of workshops for parents and carers about anxiety in children and young people. There are number of possible dates and all workshops are virtual. Further information will be sent via email.

## **Medication**

If your child requires any medication (including inhalers) while at school, please ensure that you have completed the relevant medication form. These are available from Mrs Golder at the school office.

As per our administration of medication policy, we cannot administer this medication without parental consent. Please also ensure all medication sent to school is in date.

## **Breakfast Club**

Breakfast club is available to all learners from Primary 1 to Primary 7, at the cost of 50p per child per morning. Breakfast club will open from 8.30am and children should enter via the top door in the playground. Toast and cereal will be available. Please note that in order to comply with current restrictions, pupils will be required to sit in their classes.

## **Clothing**

As the days and weeks become colder and we get nearer to winter, please ensure your child always brings a jacket to school with them. Whilst the weather might start off reasonable, Scottish weather can be very unpredictable, as we all know! Now that we have forms returned for permission for local outings, we may take a trip around the village or go for a class walk. There may also be a chance for an afternoon Maisie walk, so having a jacket is very important!

## **Class Updates**

### **P1-3**

#### **This week..**

We have spent lots of time this week practising our number formation because Miss Mac noticed lots of backwards 7s and 3s in our maths work last week! We've enjoyed some maths games too. We have also had lots of discussion about the seasons and started making some beautiful seasons posters in groups. On Thursday, we practised our literacy stations and the P1s learned their first sound! Miss Mac could see just how well the P2s and P3s have remembered their sounds from last year. Mrs Tait taught us a new game on Tuesday which we loved and hope we can play again next week. We also had a visit from Mrs Syme to learn about how Jesus cared for others and reflected on how we can show care and love for others. We put our cutting skills to the test on Wednesday as we made potato people – we gave them funny names and stories too. The P1s also really enjoyed some 'finger gym' and working on their fine motor skills.



## Next week..

Next week we will start to get our reading books and sounds to practise at home. We hope to spend some more time in the garden but as it is getting colder, Miss Mac recommends jumpers and a spare pair of cosy socks for muddy fun! We will start to look at 2D and 3D shapes in maths and link our learning to some lovely stories about shapes.

## P4-5

We have had a very busy week in P4/5 this week! We started off on Monday with a trip to the Whitehill Golf Course woods, where we looked for clues about our new Novel Study. We worked in partners and made predictions using what we had found, before seeing and hearing the first chapter of the novel. The Legend of Podkin One-Ear (Podkin for short!), is a story set in a magical land of rabbits.

In numeracy we have recapped and continued to develop our understanding of telling the time. We have been learning about o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past, and we will be using this to learn about telling the time in 5 minute increments.

In Health and Wellbeing we have been thinking about our Growth Mindset, focusing on building a positive attitude to our learning, especially when we find things difficult.

Next week, we will be continuing our journey through Podkin, building our comprehension, evaluating and questioning skills. We will be continuing with Growth Mindset learning, and will be exploring new themes in drama. We will also be starting our new topic - watch this space!



## P6/7

This week in P6/7 we started our novel study on *The Midnight Fox*. We have been using the book to improve our understanding of grammar and punctuation, and we have written a newspaper article based on what we have read. We will continue to read the book over the next two weeks and we will be carrying out related activities in Literacy and in other curricular areas.

In Maths we have been continuing to work on time. We have been consolidating our understanding of digital and analogue time, as well as switching between 12 and 24 hour times. Next week we will be learning about schedules and timetables, and how to organise journeys and events.

I am delighted to announce that this year's house captains will be Cairo Hamilton-Scott (Carnethie) and Ellis Brown (Whitehill). There were a lot of strong applications and it was not an easy choice to make. Cairo and Ellis will be supported by their vice captains, Mairi Reid (Carnethie) and Tomas Silva (Whitehill). The following pupils have been selected as prefects for this year: Lacey Hillhouse, Sonia Kowalska, Sarah Laidlaw, Jade Laursen, Amelia Luckyn-Malone, Karlie Scott Lunn, Kenny Myers, Kacper Rapala, Tiago Silva and Holly Thomson. Congratulations to all of our school leaders!

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A Chidgey". The signature is written in a light grey or blue ink.

Anna Chidgey  
Headteacher