



ST ANDREW'S FOX COVERT R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Clerwood Terrace  
Edinburgh  
EH12 8PG

0131 339 2383  
admin@foxcovert-rc.edin.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Rebecca Favier, BEd (*hons*), MEd.

27/08/2019

### Newsletter No. 1

A warm welcome to the first edition of our newsletter for this session! The children are enjoying working and playing together in their new classes and already we have lots of achievements and news to share with you.

You can find out all sorts of information about our work along with your child's weekly learning and homework on our **website**. Please visit regularly.

Please do not **pass on messages or information to teachers or Pupil Support Assistants at the beginning and end of the school day** in the playground. Although this seems like a sensible, quick way to share information, the teachers have a number of duties at these times and are responsible for the safety of pupils and the security of the school. There have been occasions where messages were not passed on/ overlooked and this has caused unnecessary upset. Please pop round to the school office where Miss Tweedale will be happy to help you and ensure your information is shared appropriately. Alternatively, email the school office admin@foxcovert-rc.edin.sch.uk or telephone 0131 339 2383.

We know that 1 in 5 children in our city live in poverty and we are working hard to **poverty proof** our school and **reduce the cost of the school day**. Please remember that we can offer second hand uniform and referrals to the local foodbank should you require. We know how important and valuable **educational excursions** are to our pupils; indeed your children are telling us they would like regular opportunities to learn outside of the classroom. Unfortunately, excursions and events usually incur additional costs which can place financial pressure onto families. Going forward therefore families will be asked for a voluntary contribution for all excursions (other than residential) and events to ensure we are **poverty proofing our school**. We know that families who can pay do pay! Additionally, if you would like to make a higher contribution knowing this would support another pupil, you will be able to do this via the main office.

Our building works, although not completed, look AMAZING! All of the children are in the correct classrooms and I do not anticipate any more moves/ decants. Highlights include:

- the P5 and P4 classrooms will benefit from new promethean board technology (installation 6<sup>th</sup> September)
- the Studio is now open for classes to use and for groups to access
- the Hub is fully operational within class time and will open at break from next week (and at lunchtimes after the October holidays)
- some of our new signage has arrived and will be installed shortly
- new notice boards for the playground have been ordered and will be installed shortly
- Support for Learning and Nurture has been opened at the top of the school beside P5 and P4
- P6 and P7 pupils are delighted to be in their own space up in the senior section of our school
- the changing rooms are now fully operational
- new furniture for the main foyer will be in position shortly

### Staffing Update

St Andrew's Fox Covert R.C. Primary has a fantastic team. We greet staff returning this session and also extend a special welcome to our team members.

**Head Teacher:** Mrs Rebecca Favier  
**Business Manager:** Ms Sarah Dickson

**Parish Priest:** Father Jeremy Milne

**Primary 1:** Mrs Mhairi Brannan (*Principal Teacher*) and Miss Fiona Burrows (Thursdays)  
**Primary 2:** Miss Lauren Sealy and Ms Lynne Yellowlees (Wednesdays)  
**Primary 3:** Miss Louise Monaghan  
**Primary 4:** Mr Euan Dixon  
**Primary 5:** Miss Aoibheann Kelly (*acting Numeracy Development Officer*)  
**Primary 6:** Mrs Rachael Quinn (*acting Literacy Development Officer*)  
**Primary 7:** Miss Emma Glen  
**Support for Learning Teacher:** Mrs Lynne Yellowlees

**PE Specialist:** Mrs Gill Matthews  
**Visiting Teacher:** Mrs Helen Weir  
**Outdoor Education Teacher:** Mr Stewart Atkinson (starting October 2019)  
**Visiting Teacher (English as an Additional Language)** (Miss Caroline Gordon)

**School Administrator:** Miss Mandy Tweedale

**Pupil Support Assistant:** Miss Erin Thomson  
**Pupil Support Assistant:** Mrs Michelle Finlayson  
**Pupil Support Assistant:** Mr Paul McPherson  
**Pupil Support Assistant:** Mrs Nasim Akhtar  
**Pupil Support Assistant:** Mrs Linda Boyle  
**Pupil Support Assistant:** Mrs Stephanie Bates

**Service Support Officer:** Mr Kenny Orr

# Meet the Teacher and Parent Council AGM

*NURTURE, INSPIRE, FLOURISH*

Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup>  
September 2019  
6.30-8.30pm

## FEATURING

Meet your child's  
teacher | Tours of your child's  
classroom | Find about class  
routines | Meet other parents  
and families | Find out about  
our school development  
priorities | Hear all about the  
learning planned for your  
child | Drinks and nibbles

This year school and Parent Council have teamed up to combine the annual Meet the Teacher Event and the Parent Council AGM. We have spent a great deal of time planning the evening to make it fun and engaging! We hope that by offering a fun pupil movie night to take away the pressure of childcare families will find it easier to attend and support our work.



## Pupil Movie Night

### ENTRY

Simply drop your child in our beautiful new Studio where they will be supervised by our PSA team and given a small snack. Then, parents/carers can head off to the main hall for the Meet the Teacher Event and Parent Council AGM

## ALL WELCOME

Parents, Carers, Nanas, Grandads, Aunts, Uncles... please come along hear about our work

## BENEFITS

By working closely with the school you play an important role in helping your child to achieve their potential!

If your child feels unwell within the school day they will always be seen by a qualified first aider. Often they will be offered a water or some fresh air and then closely monitored in class to ensure they are well enough for school. At other times, we will contact you because we believe your child is not fit for school and you will be asked to collect them. As we are not medical professionals we are unable to undertake any sort of medical assessments; this includes taking your child's temperature. We will ask you to collect them and seek medical advice.

All medication, whether prescribed or non prescribed, must be given/collected via the school office at the start and end of each day. All medication (creams, ointments, anti-biotics, short term medication etc.) requires a form to be completed. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND IN ANY MEDICATION INTO SCHOOL VIA YOUR CHILD.**

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The start and end of the school day are busy times on the streets surrounding the school. May I ask that you continue to park as far away as possible and walk in to drop/collect your child; thank you to those that park responsibly. Please do not park on grass verges around the school as this is damaging the local environment. If you do happen to witness **dangerous driving or parking**, please contact Police Scotland on 101 or if urgent 999.

Please remember to telephone (0131 339 2383) or email (admin@foxcovert-rc.edin.sch.uk) the school office if your child is going to be **late/ absent**. This information should be given to the school office rather than the class teacher, head teacher or a Pupil Support Assistant.

We all have a duty to protect children, whether we are professionals or private individuals. If you think a child is being or is at risk of being abused or neglected, speak to:

- Social Care Direct by calling 0131 200 2324
- the Police by calling 101 or in an emergency 999;
- a member of staff at school;
- any Health Professional

Exciting News: we have been invited to sing at a huge fundraising event this Christmas. The P4-P7 choir will perform 4 songs of their choice along with set readings and the production of art work. This is a huge honour for our school; we are delighted to have been asked and are confident that we will produce a high quality, polished performance. Watch this space!

### **PLEASE RETURN YOUR PINK KICANNUAL FORM. WITHOUT THIS YOUR CHILD CAN'T ATTEND EDUCATIONAL EXCURSIONS!**

Our Standards and Quality Report for Session 2018/2019 is available to read, together with this year's School Improvement Plan, on our website. Thank you to all of those who contributed in various ways to the formation of our plan. The pupil poster version is included for you to keep and discuss at home.

We offer a warm welcome to our new pupils across the school and to our **Primary 1** learners. They have all settled well into school life and are enjoying exploring the space and resources on offer. Mrs Brannan and Miss Burrows, supported by Mrs Finlayson, are having a wonderful time getting to know them along with their Primary 7 buddies.

**Primary 2** have already been out on an Educational Excursion to the Edinburgh Festival. The trip, including travel by private coach, was paid for by the Pleasance Theatre Trust. We thank them for offering our learners this amazing opportunity.

**Primary 3** are enjoying the longer day in school. Many of them will be making the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year- watch out for Father Jeremy's letter coming shortly so you can enrol.

**Primary 4** have shared so much on Twitter already! From PE to movie making it's wonderful to see your learning!

**Primary 5 and Primary 6** are off on an excursion to Games at the High School this week. Its great to build upon our links with St Augustine's and mix with our cluster schools. Keep an eye on twitter for updates.

**Primary 7** have been up to so much already: planning a visit to the Scottish Parliament, buddying, getting to know their teacher and showing off their P7 Hoodies to list just a few. Everyone is extremely impressed with their attitude and standards of behaviour; they are fantastic role models for our younger pupils.

Thank you to Mrs Wilson who has donated to our school the most amazing **fridge freezer**! This will make a real difference to the Hub and allow us to prepare food more easily with the pupils. We are still on the hunt for a modern microwave!

The first parent council meeting of the session was great fun. Please join us if you can for the AGM and all other meetings. Visit <https://foxcovertprimary.wordpress.com/parent-council/> for dates and info.

We understand that, particularly as our pupils get older, **mobile devices are an essential means of communication**. Mobile devices must be switched off during the school day. If, for example in an emergency, a mobile device needed to be used in the playground before or after school this should be done discreetly and photographs should not be taken. Pupils should hand their device to their Class Teacher upon arrival/ at the start of the school day. All devices will be locked away for safe keeping and will be returned to pupils at the end of the school day. Pupils will not be permitted to carry mobile devices on school trips. The security of mobile devices is the responsibility of the pupil. The school is not insured for personal belongings and mobile devices are brought into school at owner's risk.

#### **PARENT WORKSHOP**

Managing Anxiety: How to Help  
my Anxious Child  
THE HUB, 9am-10:30am  
Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> September

*Join us for an interactive  
workshop facilitated by  
Michelle Keith School Nurse*

#### **PARENT WORKSHOP**

Atunement:  
THE HUB, 9.30am-10:30am  
Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> November

*Join us for a fun session  
facilitated by Carmel Jacob-  
Thomson Educational  
Psychologist*

At assembly a pupil from each class will be awarded a **Nurture, Inspire, Flourish certificate** to recognise the contribution they have made to our school community. These certificates will be displayed in the main foyer before being sent home the following week for keeping as a treasure. Although usually nominated by their class teacher, any pupil or staff member can suggest a nomination. Staff members may also be awarded these certificates.

I am keen to **speak with you** about any matter- big or small- and will always seek to offer you an appointment quickly. Please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Rebecca Favier  
Head Teacher

### Provisional Dates

Monday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	P1-P7 Individual Photographs (and family groups) taken by Tempest Photography
Thursday, 12 <sup>th</sup> September 6.30-8.30pm	Pupil Movie Night: Meet the teacher and Parent Council AGM
Monday, 16 <sup>th</sup> September	September Holiday: School Closed
Friday, 20 <sup>th</sup> September 9-10.30am	Managing Anxiety: How to Help my Anxious Child <i>Join us for an interactive workshop facilitated by Michelle Keith School Nurse</i>
Thursday, 26 <sup>th</sup> September 9am-10am	P1 Parent Literacy Learn Along
Friday, 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Dress Down for the Society of St Vincent De Paul (donation requested)
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October 4pm	St Augustine's High school Open Evening
Friday, 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Wear Red to School Day (no donation required): challenge racism in our society
Friday, 11 <sup>th</sup> October 9am	Parent Council Catch Up: Coffee and Croissants in the Hub
14-18 October	October Holiday: School Closed
Monday, 21 <sup>st</sup> October	School Closed to Pupils
Tuesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> October 3.30-4pm	Learn Along 1
Wednesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Council Hallowe'en Event (details to follow)
Friday, 1 <sup>st</sup> November 10am	All Saint Mass (St John the Baptist)
Thursday, 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Parental Consultations (5.30-8pm)
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Parental Consultations (1pm-4pm)
Wednesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent Council Meeting (details to follow)
Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> November 9.30am-10:30am	Atunement: <i>Join us for a fun session facilitated by Carmel Jacob-Thomson Educational Psychologist</i>
18-29 November	Catholic Education Weeks
Friday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Dress Down Day for Canine Concern (donation requested)
Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup> November 10am	Feast Day Mass (St Kentigern's)
Friday, 29 <sup>th</sup> November	School Fast Day Celebration
Thursday, 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Primary 1 and 2 Nativity (ticketed event)
Wednesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> December 1.15pm	Community Carols
Thursday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Evening Christmas Concert at St Augustine's High School
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 10.45am	Christmas Concert

# NURTURE, INSPIRE, FLOURISH