



ST ANDREW'S FOX COVERT R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL  
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Head Teacher: Mrs Rebecca Favier, BEd (*hons*), MEd.

25.02.2020

#### **Newsletter No. 6**

Spring has arrived on our campus and we have been out and about looking for signs of new life on our hill and beyond. Don't forget to email your 'signs of spring photographs to the admin account for display in our virtual gallery!

We are enjoying being outside '**whatever the weather**' (we will still have our lunch indoors). **It is essential that your child brings in wet weather gear and wellies to school each day** (or leaves a set here)! **Please name all items.** If you require support to obtain waterproofs or wellies, we have a number of donated boots and jackets here. Simply contact the school office.

The work to extend the **annex building** (currently used by Fox Covert Primary) has started and, as you know, this has resulted in two areas of our playground being fenced off and no access to the front carpark. Thank you for continuing to park away from the school and walk for a couple of minutes to drop off/ collect your child. This is essential to keep our streets congestion free and ensure our learners arrive/depart school safely.

You are most welcome to join us for our special **Ash Wednesday Service** at 11.15 in the school hall. Father Jeremy will administer ashes made from blessed palm branches taken from last year's Palm Sunday Mass.

Today we start our **P5-P7 Spring Production** 'Resurrection Rock' that retells the Easter Story! We can't wait to get started!

The **Quaich Project's** vision is to reimagine West Princes Street Gardens as a space for all to celebrate and enjoy in new ways – with improved accessibility, dynamic architectural designs and innovative facilities for every member of the community. Nine of our pupils (Harry, James, Isabella, Kyran, Aman, Daisy, Max, Liam, Stella and Benita) visited the garden's last week to share their view and shape activities and competitions- a real example of meaningful participation in our wider community! You can find out more at <https://www.thequaichproject.org/>

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.

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

**PRIMARY 5 FOOTBALL PLAYERS WANTED!** Boys and girls welcome! The Fox Covert Campus Primary 5 Football Team trains each Tuesday after school. To join up, simply come along with your child for the first week and share your details with the coaches (the team communicates via Whatsapp). After that, pupils should be collected from the pitch at 4.30pm each week. We will support your child to get changed at 3.20 each week and accompany them to the pitch for 3.30pm start.

**SCIAF Lenten Boxes** will be sent home via the school bags tomorrow for your family to fill with change and return to school. We will also be holding a pyjama day (donation optional) on Tuesday to raise money for SCIAF.

Mr Chamberlain will join our **permeant teaching staff** on Monday (P4) and I am sure you will join with me in welcoming him to our lovely school family.

Our **Primary 7 Campers** had the most amazing week and we are incredibly proud of their determination. They certainly inspired, nurtured and flourished! Find out more by visiting the school website.

#### **Message from Your House Captains**

We are delighted to announce that we have completed our task and led the school to rename the 4 houses as modern-day saints.

The winners are:

Red House: Saint Theresa of Calcutta (Mother Theresa)

Yellow House: Saint Pio (Padre Pio)

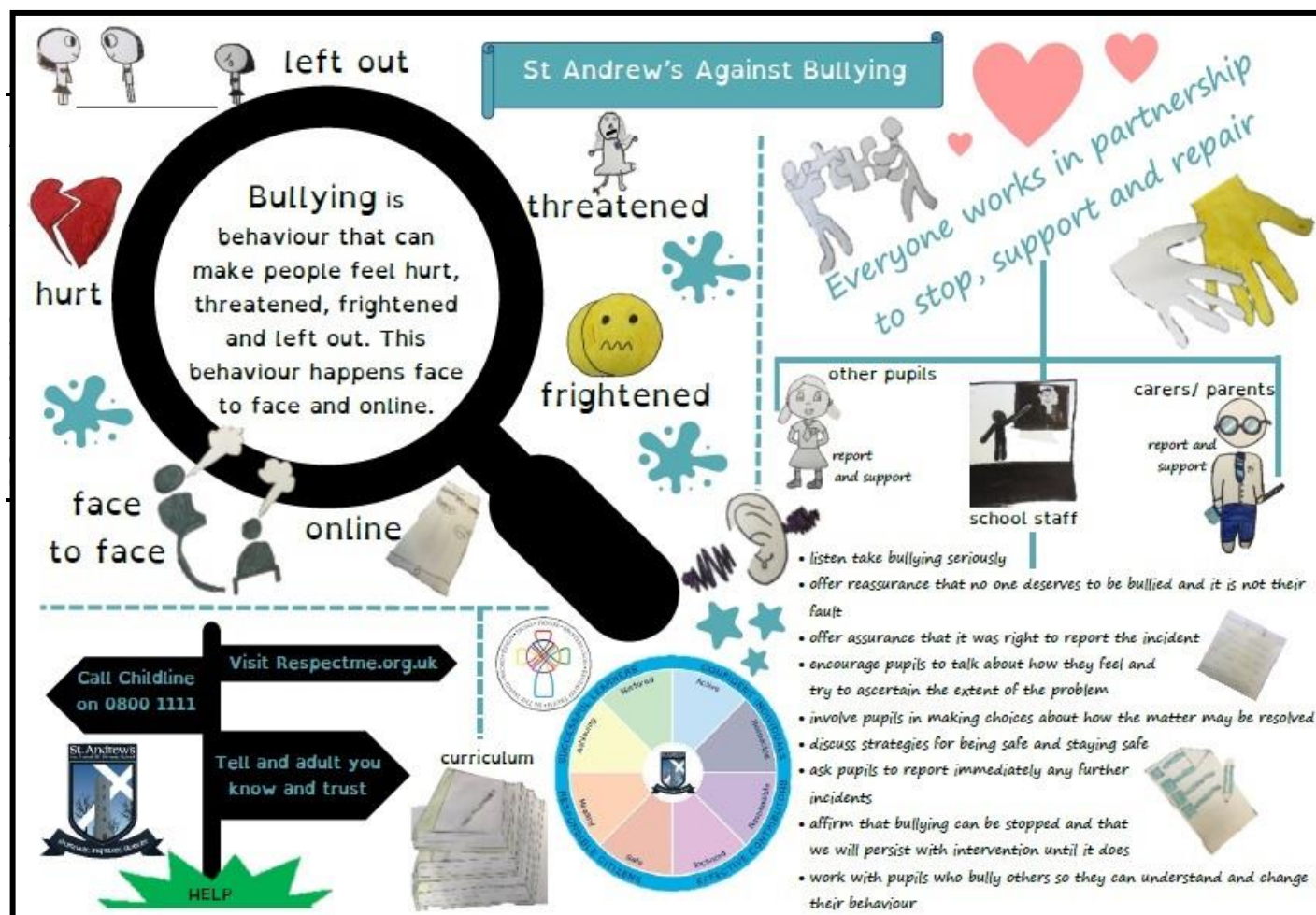
Blue House: Saint Gemma Galgani

Green House: Saint Raphael Kalinowski

You can read a biography of their lives and how they help us in our mission to nurture, inspire and flourish in the next newsletter.

Milosz, Matilda, Tara, Grace

Our New **Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure** is now live on the school website. Thank you to all who contributed and fed back on the draft. Primary 6 have illustrated the pupil version (below) and are delighted with their work. Each child will receive a copy to take home once they have explored the content with their class teacher.



The start and end of the school day are busy times on the streets surrounding the school. We have had some reports of poor parking/ congestion (and the associated frustration this brings) at the Rannoch Road/Alan Breck Gardens junction. 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](mailto: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 will be working with our partners at St John the Baptist to grow seeds for a **Mary Garden**. Watch out for further details as we will be joining with the Parish for a May Day Celebration!

We will shortly be starting our annual **Scottish National Standardised Assessments**. P1, P4 and P7 pupils complete the assessments online and they are marked automatically, giving teachers immediate feedback to help children progress in literacy and numeracy. Children do not have to revise or prepare for assessments. The assessments are used as part of routine teaching and learning to help teachers understand how well your child is progressing and to plan next steps. The assessments are just another aspect of daily learning. Your child does not have to revise or prepare for assessments. There is no additional workload for your child and the assessments do not distract from daily learning. Find out more at <https://standardisedassessment.gov.scot/parents-and-carers/>

Congratulations to Indiana, Lexie and Billy who will all be in this year's **Royal Gala Court for 2020**. The Gala will take place over the weekend of 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020. The Parade will start at 12 noon from the playground and the crowning ceremony will be at 1pm in Drumbrae Leisure Centre on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup>. The interschool sports event will be on Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> May.

We continue to work closely with the Children and Young Person's Commissioner around areas including Rights and Participation. We enjoyed a photoshoot with a team of professional photographers and will be starring in their new website <https://www.cypcs.org.uk/> How exciting!

Our 'Thinking Day' was a huge success! On Friday, 21st February our Rainbows, Guides, Brownies, Scouts, Clubs and Beavers came to school in their club uniforms. Different clubs (judo, dance, karate, gymnastics, football) were also represented. Wonderful!

### Message from Your Parent Council

Scurry Events have organised an amazing 1K Family Fun Run on Corstorphine Hill, 8th March. All the details are on the poster. This is a well organised event with a clearly marked route with marshals to ensure everyone's safety.

For all the adult runners amongst you, there is 5K and 10K races earlier on the same morning.

Getsigned up today at <https://www.entrycentral.com/festival/2016> (Cheaper if you enter in advance).

Your Parent Council is a charity and if you are taking part in any events, you can ask for sponsorship with all funds going towards the day out for the whole school. Contact us for a sponsorship form.

Good luck to everyone taking part.



**Scurry Around Corstorphine Hill**

**Sunday, 8 March, 2020**

**10 km and 5 km Trail runs, 1 km Family Fun Run**  
Clearly signed and marshalled mixed-terrain paths around Corstorphine Hill

**Registration from 8.30 am**  
in Leonardo Hotel, Adam Suite

**9.40 am:**  
Trail races  
**11.30 am:**  
Badger-signed Fun Run

**Enter online:**  
[entrycentral.com/festival/2016](https://www.entrycentral.com/festival/2016)  
**For more information:**  
[scottishrunningguide.com/races/03/2020](https://www.scottishrunningguide.com/races/03/2020)

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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

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.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Favier

## **Provisional Dates**

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| 26th February           | Ash Wednesday Service (11.15 in school hall all welcome) |
| 2nd- 6th                | March Book Week (separate programme published)           |
| Friday 6th              | March World Book Day Assembly                            |
| 27th March              | Primary 3 Led Assembly (P3 parents welcome)              |
| 27th March              | DRESS DOWN FOR SCIAF (donation optional)                 |
| 2nd April Learn Along 2 | 3.30-4pm in classrooms                                   |
| Friday 3rd April        | Easter Service (10.45 in the school hall)                |

| <b>SACRAMENT</b>      | <b>St Kentigern's</b>                   | <b>St John the Baptist's</b>              |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| <b>HOLY COMMUNION</b> |   |   |
| Rehearsal             | Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup><br>June, 6pm  | Thursday<br>18 <sup>th</sup> June,<br>6pm |
| Sacrament             | Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup><br>June, 11am | Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup><br>June, 11am   |