



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

14th September 2020

Newsletter No. 2

A warm welcome to Newsletter Edition 2. We are now well settled back into a routine and, although it looks a little different from previous starts to the school year, I am sure you will agree with me that it has been extremely successful. The overriding feeling is one simply of **happiness**; the joy of seeing children around the campus and hearing the buzz of learning as I pass the classrooms. We really missed it and it is clear the children did too.

Our **website** has had a significant amount of content. We are working on our new school handbook and will upload it shortly.

At St Andrew's all pupils are allocated a **House Team** with siblings staying in the same House. Each House drives forward an area of school improvement across the year so these House Teams are very active and meaningful. Details of Primary 1 allocations will follow shortly.

Visit parent pay to **order milk** for period 2. Please remember if you are **ordering a school lunch** this needs to be done by the Wednesday of the week before!

Respect Me: Scotland's Anti Bullying Service are offering free events for parents <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/respectme-scotlands-anti-bullying-service-30901669027>

A new online fire safety quiz has been launched by the **Scottish Fire and Rescue Service** to support people to stay safe at home – and potentially save lives. To use the interactive tool, visit: <https://www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-safety/online-hfsv-checker.aspx> For more information on free Home Fire Safety Visits, go to: <https://www.firescotland.gov.uk/your-safety/for-householders/home-fire-safety-visit.aspx>

If your child requires **medication** in school, whether prescribed or non-prescribed, please contact the school office. Non prescribed hand cream may be stored in pupil bags; please remind your child that in school they may use only a pea sized amount and must never share cream.

PE kits are not required at this time but outdoor trainers will be required for P4-P7 pupils. St Andrew is proudly a **Learning Beyond the Classroom** recognised school. Your child will be regularly exploring, playing and learning in **the great outdoors**, please ensure they bring wet weather gear each day. If you would like support to obtain wellies or waterproofs please contact the school office.

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 contact the school office by phone or email and Miss Tweedale will be happy to help you and ensure your information is shared appropriately admin@foxcovert-rc.edin.sch.uk or telephone 0131 339 2383.

Primary 7 Hoodies and **striped school ties** are now on order and I will write to all families as soon as they arrive Thank you for your patience.

Thank you for not bringing in toys (including cards and books) or stationery from home. We have plenty of resources in school and this is supporting our **infection control** risk assessments.

Start the Year Meeting: Connect with US

nurture, inspire, flourish

Thursday, 17th September 2020 at 7pm

<https://foxcovertrcprimary.wordpress.com>

FEATURING

Meet your child's teacher | Tours of
your child's classroom | Find out about
class routines | Have your questions
answered | Learn about our home
learning expectations and systems
| Hear about our commitment to
Learning Beyond the Classroom | Find
out about our school improvement

Got a question?

Click below and let us know

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=af6sSGo3tUKfacnke7-5xEKxFtMeQnIGl5FjuejMIPiUNjRLVlJXU0pKS0ZRTkVSUkZWm05RNktLWC4u>



Parents as Partners Virtual Event

ENTRY

Simply visit your child's class
section of the school website
at 7pm on

Thursday, 17th September
<https://foxcovertrcprimary.wordpress.com>

ALL WELCOME

Parents, Carers, Nanas,
Grandads, Aunts, Uncles...
please land on our site to
hear about our work

BENEFITS

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

INCLUSION AT ST ANDREW'S FOX COVERT RC PRIMARY

nurture inspire flourish

In Edinburgh and at St Andrew's Fox Covert RC Primary children and young people are at the heart of our vision for the future. As an inclusive community of faith and learning we work with parents, carers and, where appropriate, partner agencies to support all children and young people.

By working together, we help children and young people to develop understanding about relationships, respect, teamwork, honesty, fairness, patience, and compassion. We do this by offering interesting and relevant learning experiences, by providing our staff with the training and resources they need, and by working with the whole community to accept and care for one another. This isn't always easy, but we believe it is essential so that our children and young people understand the people they meet and learn how to work together to handle setbacks and difficult situations throughout their lives.

When children and young people experience adverse events or as a response to their additional support need, they let us know by reacting in different ways. This presents difficulties for those around them. By working together, by understanding the cause and working out solutions, we can find a way to solve or deal with a problem. If it takes time to get over a problem we will work with a child, young person, and their family to work out the best way forward. This may involve making adaptations and providing additional support or in exceptional circumstances identifying a change of environment.

We recognise that we all experience difficult times, and that everyone deserves the best possible care and support. In Edinburgh we support children and young people to learn in different ways according to their needs. As children and young people learn to read, write, and count some require more support than others do. This need for support arises for a variety of reasons learning difficulties, challenges with emotional regulation and social communication issues. We must meet the needs of all our students in a fair, compassionate, and proportionate way.

In considering how to support all children and young people reach their full potential it may not always be possible to arrive at a resolution all parties agree. However, we will listen to any parent, young person, child or member of staff and work together to resolve difficulties. **Please share your concerns with us** directly rather than parent to parent in the playground or using technology; this enables us to care for, understand and meet the needs of all concerned.

We are committed to do all we can to make Edinburgh an inclusive place to live and learn. Our school community is made up of parents, staff, pupils, our parish and local residents; let's ensure that everyone- adult or child- is nurtured, inspired and can flourish.

The start and end of the school day are busy times on the streets surrounding the campus. 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 (particularly at the Falkland Gardens/ Clermiston Road grassy area) as this is damaging the local environment. Parking on the double yellow lines is of course prohibited and cars should not park on the dropped kerbs. Please ask yourself **'Will a small child be able to see the traffic and cross safely if I park here?'** If you do happen to witness dangerous driving or parking, please contact Police Scotland on 101 or if urgent 999.

Scooter and bike parking: we are exploring options for getting a new bike store near the top gate. For now, our PSA team will support your child to bring their bike into school and we will store it safely. Thank you for scooting and cycling (and walking) to school whenever possible.

Everyone loves a birthday and we like to hear about how you and your family celebrate. Unfortunately we are unable to **accept any cakes or treats** (whether homemade or shop bought) to give out to pupils.

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.

There is much evidence to suggest that **drinking plenty water** throughout the day helps you think! The children are welcome to bring in water (not juice) to school each day to drink in the classroom. Bottles must be taken home at the end of each day and must be clearly labelled. Please note that if an unlabelled bottle comes in, a staff member will take a sharpie to it so it can be identified! Please note that our COVID risk assessments make it difficult to refill water bottles; please ensure your child has enough water for the school day. If they run out of water we will of course ensure they can refill their bottles.

As a Catholic school we understand the necessity of **prayer** in sustaining a growing relationship with God. All classes participate in daily prayer and you can find the prayers to be learned and used in each class by viewing <https://foxcovertprimary.wordpress.com/class-prayers/> Due to current COVID-19 restrictions the pupils are currently unable to sing/ chant/ recite in unison and for this reason prayers in the lower school are said aloud by the class teacher with the pupils participating silently (this is similar to the arrangements for communal prayer within our Parish at the moment). In the upper school, individual pupils may lead the prayers for their class. Even in the busiest of times we are committed to praying at least 4 times a day (at beginning/ end of the day and before/ after lunch) with additional time for prayer and reflection being an important aspect of curricular RE.

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.

Virtual Parent Council Meeting Dates For Your Diary (Teams links to follow)	
AGM 23 rd of September	24 th of March
25 th of November	26 th of May
20 th of January	22 nd of June

Primary 7 are very much looking forward to the opportunity to be **virtual buddies** to their new Primary 1 peers. They have been busy writing their house captain speeches but as soon as these have been delivered Primary 7 pupils will be writing to introduce themselves to their new buddy!

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

Monday, 21st September 2020 is a school holiday!

Rebecca Favier
Head Teacher

ST ANDREW'S FOX COVERT RC PRIMARY: A COMMUNITY OF LOVE



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