October 2016 Newsletter

24 October 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

We are delighted to report that the first term of the school year was calm and purposeful and all children came to school ready to learn. We have been focusing on improving behaviour in the playground and helping children to build respect for themselves and others so that we can have positive relationships throughout the school.

**Peer Mediation**

Mrs Davidson, working with a group of very talented and committed Primary 7 pupils has developed this important initiative in the school. Our Primary 7 pupils offer younger children the opportunity to solve any playground or relationship issues using their skills as mediators. The pupils were trained over a period of several months and this initiative allows children to be part of any solution to an issue or problem that is troubling or of concern. We hope to build resilience and self-awareness so that our learners become more able to resolve their own problems and over time avoid situations which lead to difficulty.

**Key Diary Dates – Term 2**

25 October – Parent Council Meeting in school at 18:30

27 October – Primary 6 Assembly at 11:00 and 13:45

31 October – Halloween Parties

31 October-4 November – Science Week

7 November - Tempest Photography

8 November – Parents’ Evening 15:45 start

9 November – Parents’ Evening 18:00 start

10 November – Inset Day school closed to pupils

11 November – Inset Day school closed to pupils

17 November – P5/6 Assembly

22 November – Parent Council Meeting

24 November – Fit Thursday

23 November – Open Afternoon 13:30-14:45 you may take your child/children home when you leave

25 November – Flu Vaccinations whole school

29 November – Ceilidh

30 November – St Andrew’s Day Mass 13:45 in church

1 December – P5A Assembly

3 December – School Christmas Fayre (more information to follow)

14 December – P1 Nativity at 09:30 and 18:00

21 December – Christmas Parties in class

22 December – Carol Service at 1.45pm

23 December – **school closes for Christmas break at 12:00 noon**

**Fundraising**

As advised by letter the children and families of the school raised over £500 to support one of our pupils following a serious car accident in the summer holiday. We are delighted that she is now back in school having made an amazing recovery. Her continuing recovery can now take place at home and in school with the people who have supported her through this difficult time. I would like to thank you once again for your generosity.

Our **Macmillan Coffee** **Morning** run annually by our Primary 6 pupils raised over £1000.

Once again this was achieved through the kindness and generosity of the children and you, their parents and carers. Thank you.

**School Orchestra**

Our Primary 5 pupils have had an exciting and challenging start to the school year learning to play a musical instrument. They have met this challenge with great enthusiasm and we hope to invite parents into the school to hear the children play later in the session.

**Live Literature**

St Andrew’s PS was one of six out of one hundred schools to successfully received funding to work with an author in school. The author now working with our learners is Matthew Fitt who is Dundee born and bred. He will be focusing on Scots language and we are delighted that once again our Primary 5 classes will benefit from his involvement in this project. We hope to link the music and the literature for our learners to bring a rich experience in learning.

**Contacting the school**

Due to Mrs Leary’s secondment to Dundee House please note the changes to management team remiits outlined below. We will get to know each class in detail and therefore the person listed below is the most appropriate person to deal with any enquiry.

* Miss Kennedy – Principal Teacher (Acting)
  + P7A, P7B, P6, P5/6
* Mrs Flynn – Head Teacher (Acting)
  + Early Years’ Class, P1A, P1B, P1/2, P2, P2/3
* Mrs Davidson – Depute Head Teacher (Acting)
  + P3, P4A, P4B, P5A, P5B

Yours sincerely

Annamarie Flynn

Head Teacher (Acting)