



Loretto RC Primary Newsletter February 2017



Dear Parents

A few wee reminders to keep us all up to date.

World Book Day Thursday 2nd March

As we are enthusiastic readers here in Loretto, we want to have a little fun and keep encouraging everyone to read. We will be celebrating World Book Day again. Children can come dressed up as a character in a book. We will have a little fun over the day with a costume parade and SOAR-Stop and Read at unexpected times of the day. We are actively encouraging pupils and families to be creative, to be home made, to be eco-friendly and make costumes or dress up using things you have already! The House Captains will be awarding prizes to the best homemade, reused or creative character.

For ideas... <http://www.worldbookday.com/dressing-up/>



There is no money needed for this day as we are saving our money efforts for our whole school SCIAF Lenten Campaign.



SCIAF Lenten Campaign. As part of our living faith and Global Citizenship, each class will decide on a fundraiser for SCIAF to help provide clean drinking water across the world. Please ask your child what his/her class is planning between now and Easter. Parents are of course welcome to join us to begin Lent at Ash Wednesday Mass on Wed 1 March at 9am.



Art Exhibition. Congratulations to all our young artists. We received lots of lovely compliments about the quality of the children's work and the interesting choice of artists to study. The children will bring these art works home for you to enjoy later. Parents and visitors have also left us a unique Loretto School family tree which we are enjoying. Thank you to the choir who sang a medley of Scottish songs throughout the morning. Your donations of £208 to our own school fund will be used to subsidise costs to parents.

Sports Success

Well done to the basketball team and our swimming team members who have represented the school at East Lothian Competitions.

School Gardening

As spring approaches we would be delighted to receive any donations of gardening gloves for children to use and seeds and plants for each class to plant in their raised bed. If you have a green thumb or are just enthusiastic please speak to your child's teacher as each class will now be thinking about tidying up their bed and spring planting. I am hoping for some tatties!

Parents' Evenings. Parents' Evening will be held on these dates. You will receive a reminder of your appointment as requested last time. Please be aware that we are restricted by time and appointments are 10 minutes long as we try not to keep people waiting.

TUES 28 March 5-8pm and THURS 30 March 4-7pm

P7 Parent Camp Meeting Tuesday 7 March 6.30pm-7.30pm. There will be a short meeting in school for P7 parents to go over the practicalities and any questions about camp.

Achieving a Level. In line with the National improvement Framework and East Lothian Council local guidance, we will be making slight changes to the end of year pupil report. Over the year we share your children's targets and progress with you-through termly send home target sheets, writing jotters and parent consultations. The children maintain a Learning Portfolio in school which is also available at parents' nights. We will continue to do this as we feel it is important to have regular opportunities to share the children's progress and parents tell us they like this. The end of year report will now report the last level achieved. We will no longer use the terms 'developing' 'consolidating' and 'securing'. Please do not worry that this means that your child is not progressing. The three levels are Early, First and Second. It takes some time, to achieve a level and further national guidance was produced for teacher use during this academic year on the benchmarks of key learning for each level. Teacher judgement using a wide variety of assessment and evidence is still very important in this. We work together as a school and cluster to continue to moderate our shared professional judgement of a level. The teachers comments will let you know of your child's progress towards the next level.

First Confession. P3 children will make their First Confession on Tuesday 21st March in Loretto Church at 7pm. This is a quiet and reflective liturgy, children are preparing in class and of course at home too.

Reminders to all parents

School Bus. We respectfully ask parents of children who use the school bus to let a member of staff know if your child will not be taking the bus home on any day.

Lunch Money - a polite reminder that lunch money should be paid before your child has their meal. If it is more convenient, you can pay for the week in advance.

Absences - please remember to let the school office know if your child will not be at school or nursery that day. This really cuts down on admin time and is much appreciated.

Parent Focus Group. A small group of parents have already met with me several times to help with school evaluation. If you can join us to look at ideas for Parental Engagement and Family Learning please come along on Friday 10th March at 11am. We would then be finished for collecting the children.

P7 Junior Road Safety Officers are currently running a drawing competition to encourage children to cross the road safely with the 'lollipop' man or lady. Please help the children by modelling responsible crossing and considerate parking around the school.

A busy term ahead. The children are a credit to the school and their families; they are working so hard and are very keen learners. Keep up the talking homework too -you told us it helps and we think it is helping children's readiness to write. Many thanks.