

Mrs Smith is continuing to be our treasurer.

The Parent Council fundraise to support activities across the school. This year they have already paid for our Sumdog

subscription and our Primary 7 Leavers Hoodies.- Thank you.

We will not be able to host our Halloween Disco this year and are planning classroom events for book week in November

instead.

Our next meeting is 9.11.20 at 7pm.

Our Rainbow Room is up and running this year. So far Primary 2 children have had a chance to visit and we will work our way through P2-P6 by Christmas.

In the Rainbow Room children work with a teacher and an

early years worker who are trained in nurturing approaches. The children come in small groups for about 40 minutes and get a small healthy snack. We encourage children think about how they are feeling and work with them to develop

strategies to help them over come any anxieties they may have. At this particular time it is a valuable opportunity for children to reflect on how they are feeling and how they can help themselves.

Mrs Prentice organised our Junior Librarian application and would like to thank so many P4-P7 children for applying. It was very difficult to select children from the high standard of applicants. The successful candidates are:

Room 9- Yahya, Aryana,

Room 10- Jamie

Room 11- Zoey, Brandon, Alexis

Room 12- Benjamin, Holly

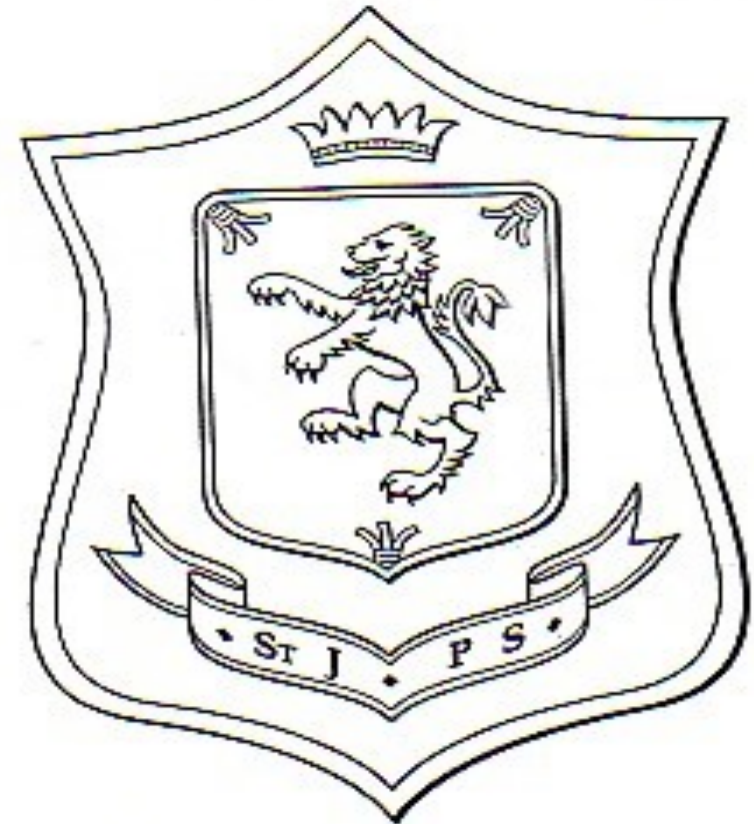
Room 14- Lucie, Luke

Room 15- Emma

Well done!

St John's Primary September 2020 Newsletter

St John's Website-[Google-st-johns-hamilton-pri](https://www.google.com/search?q=st-johns-hamilton-pri)



Welcome to our **September Newsletter**.

It has been a very different start to the school term. Our children have coped admirably with all of the changes and new rules to keep us safe and stop the spread of infections.

We are keeping children in the same groups at breaks and lunch as well as in classes to limit the number of people that they come into contact with on a regular basis. Staff are also maintaining social distancing and are wearing masks when moving about corridors and dining rooms. We have set up a rigorous handwashing and sanitising routine on entering the school and during transition times across the day.

We have started holding weekly remote assemblies where children can see other children showing good work and receive awards for their continued hard work. The children are very much enjoying this change and have been keen to participate.

Mr O'Donnelly has been working hard to ensure that all children can access their glow accounts and from the glow account get into their google classroom. Home work and a weekly overview will be posted on google classroom. Any child who is absent from school can look at the weekly overview to see what the main focus for the week is and will be able to keep up to date with activities going on in school. If you are having any difficulties we have posted instruction sheets on our website for a variety of devices to support parents. The school has a small number of chrome books which can be lent out to families who have no access to a laptop, tablet or computer. On the inset day on Tuesday 29 September staff will be working on developing their skills using google classroom.

Although visitors cannot come into the school building under current guidelines we are trying to keep parents updated by a variety of different methods:

- Introductory phone calls, September- October
- Interim written report, issued week beginning 30 September
- Parent phone consultations instead of parent's night, November
- ASN classes having weekly diary
- Phone chats with SMT dependant on need

We are hosting a virtual vote for our House and Vice Captain speeches this year. Each applicant will record their speech in class and then in their own classes children from each house can watch and vote for their House Vice Captain and Captain.

We hosted our very first virtual Parent Council meeting on September 14 and after some technical hitches managed to hold a productive meeting.

Mrs Baxter and Dr Smith, our secretary and chair respectively, have resigned from their post as their children have moved onto secondary school. We would like to extend our thanks and best wishes to both for all their hard work and support over the years. Both of these posts were filled and we also have a vice chair person .

Chair of the Parent Council- Mrs Carroll

Vice Chair- Mrs Scott

Secretary- Mrs Connolly