

Dates for your diary.

Monday 3 May- school closed, bank holiday

Thursday 6 May- school closed to pupils- election and inset day

End of May- Placing requests decided

Friday 28 May and Monday 31 May school closed- bank holiday

June- final report issued for children- report is in a new Seemis format

June- Sports Day

June- P7 Leaver's Event

24 June- School closes at 1.30pm for summer holidays

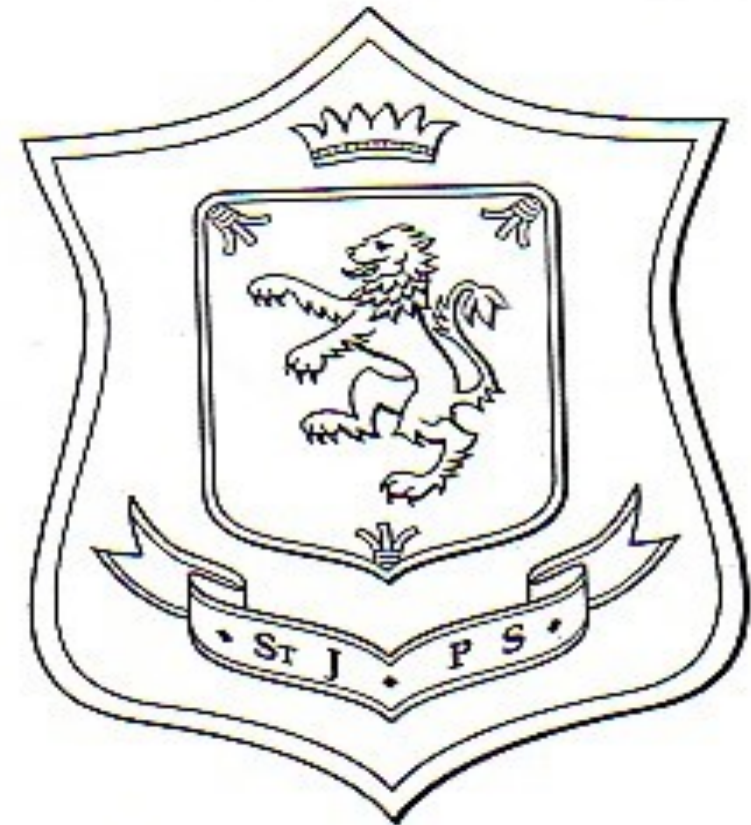
As we received the updated guidance for June, I will be able to confirm dates and events.

# St John's Primary

## April 2021

### Newsletter

St John's Website- [Google-st-johns-hamilton-pri](http://www.st-johns-hamilton-pri.org)



## Welcome to our April Newsletter.

It is wonderful to see all our children back safely to school. We have started to assess children for reading and writing to help us to identify where the gaps in learning are and then to address them.

Children are very settled in class and are working on numeracy assessments to check for understanding and again to help us plan the next steps in learning.

I want to thank all parents, carers, grandparents who valiantly learned about Google Classroom and supported our children over these last few months. I can see that the partnership developed through the live check ins and lessons has enhanced how we communicate and increased our abilities to work as team to help our children.

We plan to build on this method of communication next session as it has been so successful.

Our Parent Council at Christmas organised a fund raising event where parents and carers donated money to the school for playground toys. Each class was given £45 which was very excitedly received.

Children voted on the best equipment to buy for their class and then researched where the items could be purchased from at the best price. Much negotiation went on in each class and very careful deliberations were heard about the value, longevity and fun of each item. The orders are now starting to arrive and classes have a large crate to keep their own toys in for each break.

We have now placed a large plastic shed in the playground to house all the very kindly donated scooters, trikes and bikes. Again we used money donated from our Parent Council to purchase the container to store all these items safely.

On Friday 14 May Our Parent Council are holding a sponsored obstacle course in the playground to help raise funds to get our climbing frame in the school gym hall repaired. The frame was installed when the school was built and now is in need of repairs in order to pass our health and safety checks. The frame is much enjoyed by all our children and helps develop lots of skills in a safe and planned way. Our Primary 7 children are devising the obstacle course and will set it up. Each class

will participate in the school playground. More information will follow about how to sponsor/ donate.

Transition- All of the children who are in our catchment area for Primary 1 and children who will be joining our Supported classes have visited the school individually and had a chance to see their classroom and meet some of our staff.

The children have received book bags and a variety of letters and photographs to help them become accustomed to staff faces and names. We are very much looking forward to also meeting all our children who are waiting for Placing Request decisions and we will be in touch with parents as soon as the decisions are made.

Our Primary 7s are very excited about moving onto secondary school. We have been linking with different schools and working with children to engage virtually in tours of the buildings and discussing daily routines.

We are very pleased to welcome a Universal Connections worker, Mrs Adam, to St John's. She has been working with small groups of Primary 7s on Wednesdays thinking about hopes and fears for secondary school.

Some groups of children have been invited to visit secondary schools over the next few weeks, adhering to guidance to keep children and staff safe. Our NEC cards are being printed and will be ready for children starting secondary school.

Primary 7 are looking forward to working with Mrs Murray and Caroline from our Rainbow Room on the last 6 Wednesdays of term. They will be learning more about team work outside and try their hand at some outdoor learning, including den building. Get your wellies ready!

Our focus for April and May is Inclusion and we are learning about Article 2 from the UNCRF. Our language of the month is French.

We will hold a sports day and a Primary 7 Leaver's event following guidance for June.