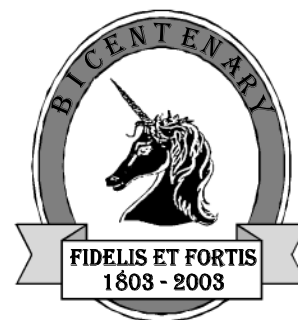


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ANTHEA GRIERSON, HEAD TEACHER



20th August 2008

Dear Parent

A warm welcome back to school to all children and families. The weather hasn't been great for us today but everyone seems happy to be back. I do hope you have all had a relaxing break. Newsletters from me will continue to come home every Wednesday so please look out for them in schoolbags. Last session many parents opted to have newsletters sent by email which saved considerably on paper. We will be sending a note about this next week so please sign up if you can.

Staffing News

We welcome to the school new teachers Miss Karina Forster and Miss Amy Lumsden who will be teaching 3B and 2A along with Mrs Kirsten Johnston. Mrs Johnston will teach 2A every Wednesday and 3B every Thursday and Friday. We also welcome Miss Amy Fisher who will be teaching 5B until the return of Mrs Hopkins. Mrs Hopkins had an operation on her shoulder last week and is now at home recovering. We expect her to return around December but I will keep 5B parents informed of her progress. Congratulations to Mr David Fox and Miss Rebecca Vaughan who were appointed as full time class teachers at JGPS at the end of last term. Mr Jonathan Milne has been appointed as clerical assistant in the office and he and Mrs Atkinson will do all they can to assist parents with enquiries in the Reception Area. This is open to parents from 8.30 - 9.15 and from 2.45 - 3.30.

Class visits and outings

Classes will be going out of school on educational visits and activities starting with the Book festival this week. An EE2 form needs to be completed by parents in order for us to take pupils out of school which contains medical information and personal details. One form which covers the whole year will be coming home on Friday. Parents will always be informed about an outing by either the class teacher or one of the management team and your permission in the form of a signature is needed for each activity.

School Lunches

Due to the industrial action JGPS has no cleaning or catering staff today. Thank you to parents who sent a packed lunch in with their child. Normal service will resume tomorrow. We managed to make a packed lunch today for the 20 pupils who didn't have one but if a school lunch was paid for and you provided your child with a packed lunch we will credit you with a lunch next week. School lunches are now **£1.75 per day- £7.00** for Monday - Thursday. Cold lunches are available on a Friday. Lunch money is collected every **Thursday for the next week**. Parents who wish to pay for the whole term can send in **£54.25** tomorrow which will provide their child with a school lunch Monday - Thursday from **Monday 25th August -**

Friday 17th October. Cheques should be made payable to ‘The City of Edinburgh Council’.

Indoor Shoes and Gym Kit

At JGPS we like the children to change into indoor shoes when they arrive at school. These can be gym shoes, sandals or any comfortable shoe which parents are happy to stay in school with their child. It is important that children have a gym bag in school with shorts, t-shirt and gym shoes in it. Class teachers or Mr Briggs will send kit home regularly to be washed. Please ensure your child has **indoor shoes** and a **gym kit** for school.

Building Work- Phase 3

Work has been going on over the summer in the gym hall to build two new storage facilities for the school and the after school club. This work is due to be completed by the September holiday week. Until then the Gym Hall is not in use for the school or the After School Club, “Skool is Out”. Sheila Fox the manager of the club has communicated with parents about alternative arrangements but for the next 3 ½ weeks after school care will be either in the main school or at Barclay Church.

PTA and School Council

The first PTA meeting of the new session is next **Tuesday 26th August 7.30 at JGHS**. The first School Council meeting is **Monday 25th August 6.30 in JGPS**. All parents are welcome to attend the PTA meeting or to observe the school council meeting.

P7 Abernethy Meeting

Ms McGrath will be having a meeting for P7 parents about the Abernethy Experience next Thursday 28th August 6.00-7.00 in the school. Ms McGrath will show a video and answer any questions parents may have.

JGPS Open Session for parents

I would like to invite parents into the school next **Wednesday 27th August from 3.30-4.30** to have a look around the school and meet teachers. Parents are welcome to visit their own child’s classroom as well as have a look at other classes and rooms in the school. I do hope parents will be able to come along and meet staff.

Yours sincerely

Anthea Grierson

Anthea Grierson
Head Teacher

