Dear Parents/Carers

WELCOME It’s nice to see slightly longer daylight hours and the children starting to be able to get outside to play again. I am pleased to pass on the following for your information.

CALENDAR I am pleased to provide an updated school events calendar for March and April. Please see opposite.

P.1-7 PARENTS’ EVENINGS We hope that you find the next round of parents’ evenings informative. Appointment times have been sent home and meetings will take place in the Assembly Hall. Classrooms will be open for parents to look at children’s work and displays.

JOTTERS HOME In advance of parents’ nights, examples of the children’s work will be sent home on Fri 4 Mar and MUST be returned to school on Mon 7 Mar. If we are to continue to send home this way, children must send jotters back in on time. (P.3 class: jotters home Monday)

BOOK FAIR A Book Fair will operate during parents’ night and we hope that the children will be able to use their book tokens. School receives a commission on all books sold and this helps us keep our library stock up to date.

PLANTING FRUIT TREES, WED 9 MAR We will be planting fruit trees in the copse area on the slope running down to the playing fields and in our Edible Garden on Wed 9 Mar. This will involve representatives of all classes from across the school. We hope that the blossom in the spring and fruit in the autumn will be of great benefit to our school and community, while providing real learning opportunities. If anyone is interested in helping out on the day, please return the slip below.

EDIBLE GARDEN DROP-IN, SAT 12 MAR, 11AM-NOON, COFFEE LOUNGE (COMMUNITY CENTRE) As we near the end of this phase of the Edible Garden project we are looking at the future and how we continue. We would like to hear from you on what you would like to see from the Edible Garden this year.

- Do you have any time to be called on as a volunteer to attend community events, to support gardeners teaching young people, to help someone get started at home?
-Would you like support to set up growing at home?
- Would you like access to allotment space?
- How would you like to get involved?

Please let us know if you’re able to come or not so we can cater for you. If you cannot make it on 12 March we will also have a table at the PTA craft sale on Sat 19 Mar in school from 10am to noon. Or feel free to email us on alex@youcancook.org.uk - Your opinion matters to us and we look forward to hearing from you!

ST. RONAN’S DANCE FESTIVAL, THU 17 MAR, MEMORIAL HALL, 1PM Thank you to everyone who booked seats for this event. We will be leaving school at 12.45pm and need lots of adults to accompany the children to/from the Hall – please return slip below (no need to re-send if you’ve already volunteered). Please meet in the front playground. Please send the clothes that the children need to school by Mon 14 Mar. Please do not buy any new items for this event; let us know if you need help with any costumes. Thank you.

P.1 Coloured top, black shorts
P.1/2 White top, black shorts
P.2 Grey top, black shorts
P.3 Coloured top, black shorts
P.3/4 Grey top, black shorts
P.4 White top, black shorts
P.5 White shirt, school tie, grey trousers/skirt
P.5/6 Black top, black shorts/leggings/joggers
P.6/7 Coloured top, black shorts/leggings/joggers
P.7 Black top, black shorts/leggings/joggers

Scottish Country Dance Group - White shirt, school tie, grey trousers/skirt.

(Sport your child does not have a school tie, these are available from the office at £2.50 each, or borrow from a friend. If this is not possible for you, we have a small number which can be loaned and returned on the same day).

SPORT RELIEF BAKE SALE, FRI 18 MAR A group of P.7 girls plan to run a Bake Sale in aid of Sport Relief on Fri 18 Mar. There will be a selection of tray bakes and cakes on offer to all children. Each item will cost 30p, although ‘top hats’ and ‘cake pops’ will be two for 30p. We hope everyone will be able to support this charity event.

MARCH 2016
7-11 Travelling Book Fair
Wed 9 Orchard Planting Day
Parents’ Night, 6-8.30pm
Thu 10 School Estates Review Roadshow, Peebles High School, 3-7.30pm (see separate letter)
Parents’ Night, 5-7.30pm
Sat 12 Edible Garden Drop-in Event, 10am-noon
Mon 14 Community Centre Meeting, 7.30pm
Tue 15 Last Netball Club until next term
Thu 17 Borders School Cross Country Event
School Dance Festival, Memorial Hall, 1pm
Fri 18 Sport Relief Bake Sale
Motorsport Assembly P.3-7
Sat 19 PTA Table-Top Sale, 10-12
Mon 21 Parent Partnership Meeting, 7.30pm
Wed 23 Eco-Heroes Day
Fri 25 Holiday (Good Friday)

APRIL 2016
Fri 1 Easter Assembly, 10.35am (P.4 class leading)
2-17 Holidays
Mon 18 School re-opens
Fri 22 Farmers’ Market, 12 noon-2.30pm
Mon 25 Early Childhood Fair, Nursery, 11am-1pm
PTA Meeting, 7.30pm
Fri 29 In-service Day
Mon 2 May Day Holiday

ST. RONAN’S ROAD, INNERLEITHEN, EH44 6PB
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Website: www.st-ronans.org.uk
Session 2015/16
Newsletter No. 7
March 2016
SPORT RELIEF RUN FOR FUN, TUE 22 MAR  The Running Club will be doing a sponsored Run for Fun event during their club time on Tue 22 Mar. If you would like to sponsor the children, please leave your donation at the school office.

MOTORSPORT ASSEMBLY, FRI 18 MAR  A Motorsport Rally is coming to the area on Sat 19 Mar and we are looking forward to welcoming Alison Clark from GoMotorsport who will lead an assembly for P.3-7 pupils on Scotland’s success in motor sport.

PTA UPDATE

- CRAFT SALE WITH COFFEE, SAT 19 MAR, 10AM-NOON
  Please come along and enjoy this popular event held in school 10am-noon. Donations of home baking would be gratefully received on the Friday or Saturday morning.

- ROAD TO RIO CARNIVAL, THU 9 JUN, 6-8PM
  Please note the date for our Summer event, this year with a difference. More details to follow.

ECO HEROES DAY, WED 23 MAR  The Eco Heroes Challenge is being run in conjunction with Tweed Green on Wed 23 Mar. All children from P.1 to P.7 will work in House groups to complete tasks and experiences, while the Nursery children will work with older pupils within the Nursery setting. Activities will range from making a small scarecrow to creating and making a smoothie... using a bicycle! All activities reflect five key areas of eco interest: Food, Stuff & Waste, Transport, Nature and Energy. Every child will be given a passport in which they can tick off the activities completed on the day. Inside there will be a list of other things the children can do at home to help to make our community a more environmentally conscious one. In order to undertake the challenges on the day we are asking for the following items to be sent into school: washed yoghurt pots, plastic bags and bin liners, plastic bottle tops and any old small/baby clothes (to be used for scarecrows). We would also consider adult helpers who could spend the day supporting different activities. If you are able to help, please return the slip below.

EARLY CHILDHOOD FAIR, MON 25 APR, 11AM-1PM  The Tweeddale Early Years Improvement Network wants to give families with young children a chance to see what support and activities are available for them. We will be holding an Early Childhood Fair in the Nursery on Mon 25 April between 11-1pm and all parents of young children and their families are invited along. There will be a number of stalls showing what services are available in the local area, including SBC and NHS as well as some other partners. Healthy snacks will also be demonstrated and provided. As Nursery, Playgroup and Toddlers are in school that day, we hope that lots of families will come along.

QUIZ TEAMS  Well done to the P.7 Rotary Quiz teams of who came 2nd and 4th at the Tweeddale event. The children did very well and were great ambassadors for St. Ronan’s. Well done Anna, Cerys, Dorian, Edith, Evie, Lucy, Lauren N, Robbie! The Euro Quiz Team of Elliot, Emma, Josh and Myles from P.6 represented the school with distinction at the Borders Euroquiz held recently. They were fifth out of fifteen teams and displayed a wide knowledge of Europe and the EU. Well done!

LANGUAGE NUT  LanguageNut is a fun, simple and engaging language resources available to all pupils at St. Ronan’s. It contains 21 different languages, providing games and activities for ages to promote modern language skills. Every child P.1-7 has been provided with a login to use at home and school – this is stuck in a label in Reading Record/Homework Diaries. Go to www.languagenut.com then login and away you go! The app can be downloaded and used off line too.

SAINSBURY’S ACTIVE KIDS TOKENS  We are collecting Sainsbury’s Active Kids tokens to help augment our sports equipment. The more tokens we receive, the more equipment we can get to enhance the children’s experiences in school.

TOKENS can be sent in with the children or pop them into the box in reception.

BICYCLES & SCOOTERS  A gentle reminder to all parents and carers that under the terms of the Cycle to School Contract entered into by most families pupils have committed to push my bicycle / scooter in the school grounds when others are coming to / leaving school. Please remind your children that the school playground must not be used for cycling or scootering at the start / end of the school day. This is to keep everyone safe.

PARENTPAY / SCHOOL LUNCHES  As a result of feedback from parents we are going to request that ParentPay reduce the minimum payment amount from £10 to £5. We hope this helps. Also the latest time for booking school meals on any given school day is to change from 9.30am to 8.45am. This will assist with the administration of lunches in both the school and the kitchen and ensures that children are involved in the choices being made, which is essential.

HOLIDAYS AND INSERVICE DAYS  School will be closed for Good Friday on Fri 25 Mar. School will close at the usual time on Fri 1 Apr and re-open after the April holidays on Mon 18 Apr. There is a staff inservice training day on Fri 29 Apr and Monday 2 May is the May Holiday. Both of these days the school will be closed for pupils.

Yours faithfully, K. J. Belleville, Headteacher

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