

## School Gates

Work has started on our new perimeter fence. This means that access to the school for pupils will change. This should be in place before the October holiday period.

**Pupils will have no access to school from the service entrance at Beechgrove Road.**

**A pupil gate will open at Bevan Road for pupils to access down the path to the school playgrounds.**

A fence will be erected between the Library and Mayfield Nursery School. This will be open for pupils to arrive in the morning and will be reopened for pupils to leave in the afternoon.

**No other access gates from our school playing fields will be open to pupils.**

Our school grounds will now be secure, with no public access or right away with effect from the completion of the fence. This ensures the safety of all of our pupils.

More information will follow when we have it.

## School Uniform Orders

School uniform can now be ordered directly online from our suppliers Image Scotland. To access this please insert the following link:  
<http://stlukes.imagescotland.com>

This will bring up the dedicated St. Luke's order page. Orders are placed here and you can opt for either free delivery to school or delivery to your home, where a charge is applied.

This is an excellent new method to order school uniform for all of our families.

## Family Dogs

**Please note that dogs are not allowed on school premises.** This includes all grass areas adjacent to the school playgrounds and the school main entrance. We thank you for your support with this matter as we continue to ensure the safety of all our pupils, staff and families.

## Dates for your Diary

Please see the attached diary sheet with some dates for the coming term.

## St. Luke's R.C. Primary School

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**Caring at, Sharing at, Learning at...St. Luke's!**

**Newsletter 1  
September 2015**

## Welcome Back

On behalf our school team, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our families to our school community for the coming year. Our pupils have returned positively to school and are ready to learn. All classes have settled into their new routines and are ready for the year ahead. Our pupils look fantastic in their school uniform, so I thank you on behalf of our whole staff team, for your continued support.

Our staff team is motivated and ready for the successes of the year to come. We look forward to working with you over the coming session as we continue to develop our school community.

Mrs L Walker

## Royal Opening of the Borders Railway

Eight of our pupils were invited to attend the official opening of the new Borders Railway at Newtongrange Station on Wednesday 9th September. It was a fantastic occasion and we were fortunate to be in a reserved area, where the Queen walked directly in front of us. All pupils came back to school realising the significance of the event and the opportunity we had. Photos of the event will soon be available to view in our school corridor.

## School House Captains

Our Primary 7 pupils have been working furiously in class over the past few weeks, redesigning our school house s and preparing for their house captain speeches.

Primary 7 have renamed our houses Balmoral, Crichton and Dalhousie to represent famous Scottish castles. They have created a new, eye-catching house display in our main corridor—have a look the next time you are in school!

On Monday our Primary 7 pupils presented their house captain speeches to all pupils in their house, in the first of our house assemblies. Pupils and staff were then given the opportunity to vote for our new House Captains. I am delighted to announce that our new House Captains are:

Balmoral	Captain	Millie Rafferty	Vice	Courtney Woodward
Crichton	Captain	Lenix Miller	Vice	Bailey O'Brien
Dalhousie	Captain	Tayler Hunter	Vice	Emma Paul

Congratulations! We look forward to seeing the progress that your house makes over the coming year!

## School Improvement Plan

One area of development for our school this sessions centres round Visible Learning. More information will be provided as we develop throughout the year.

At present all pupils are looking at how they learn, and whether they have a growth or fixed mindset and what this means for them as learners. This term we will be working on our pupils developing a growth mindset.

To help families with this, I have included some information on both fixed and growth mindsets. I also aim to have an informal session for parents to provide information on how we are doing this in school.

If you have a **fixed mindset** you believe that intelligence is fixed, causing you not to reach your full potential. You are less likely to take risks and accepts challenges because you might fail. You don't want other people to see you working hard and putting in effort as this mean you are not naturally clever. You don't like making mistakes and if you can't do something straight away or first time, you think others will see you lacking in natural ability. This puts up barriers to learning.

If you have a **growth mindset**, you believe that intelligence can be developed. You see learning as fruitful because it develops your brain and putting in effort is positive as your brain is working hard. You believe that mistakes are a positive—it is through making mistakes that you learn. You take risks, face challenges and persevere, because you understand that these things move you out of your comfort zone and into your learning zone.

In classes across the school just now, we are establishing what type of mindset we currently have. We will then continue to develop our growth mind sets. Instead of saying 'I cannare dae it' we are moving to 'I cannare dae it...yet!' Ask your child for more information in the coming weeks!

## Family Holidays

Please inform the school if you have a family holiday booked during term time. A letter should be sent to school outlining the dates that your child/ren will be absent from school. This allows the school office to mark the register accordingly and not contact you during your holiday. Please note that holidays will be noted as an unauthorised absence, in line with council policy.