



March 2023 Newsletter



Special Events

Lent

As part of preparations for Easter during Lent we will take part in a series of fundraising activities for SCIAF.

Thursday 2nd March – World Book Day

This year to celebrate World Book Day we are offering a 'Dress As You Please Day' with a £1 cash donation for SCIAF. Children can also bring their favourite book to school on this day. Class teachers have organised some in class activities linked to World Book Day.

Wednesday 8th March – Fun Day

Primary 3 and Primary 4 have organised a SCIAF fun day. Children across the school will take part in a range of activities that they have prepared. A suggested £1 cash donation for this event.

Friday 17th March – St Patrick's Day

On this day children can wear green for St Patrick's Day – no football colours or football clothing please. A suggested £1 cash donation for this event.

Friday 24th March – PJ and Movie Day

On this day children can come to school wearing their pyjamas and during the day watch a class film. A suggested £1 cash donation for this event.

Friday 31st March – Easter Technology Challenge

Children will have the opportunity to create Easter bonnets or design an egg. There will also be a school parade. A suggested £1 cash donation for this event.

Class Easter Egg Raffle

Throughout Lent children will have the opportunity to buy raffle tickets for a class Easter Egg. All entries will then go forward for a larger whole school Easter Egg. 20p cash for each raffle ticket.



Mission to the Moon

Last week Mount Carmel Primary School launched Mission to the Moon for the whole of East Ayrshire. During this time many school across the authority are encouraging children and adults to use cars/buses less and to get more exercise instead. We hope to walk enough miles across the authority that we walk the equivalent distance to the moon.

Our Faith - Sacraments

Please continue to keep our children in your prayers as they prepare to take part in their Sacraments. Both our Primary 3 and Primary 4 children are continuing to learn about the importance of our Faith. Primary 4 are preparing to make their First Communion in May and Primary 3 will make their Sacrament of Reconciliation this month.

Primary 3 – Sacrament of Reconciliation – **Tuesday 21st March 7pm** at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Sacramental Preparation Calendar:

Sunday 19th March 2023 - Do this in Memory 7 – Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 11.00am

Tuesday 21st March 2023 - Primary 3 Sacrament of Reconciliation -Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 7.00pm

Tuesday 28 March 2023 - Joint Penance Service, St Matthew's Church, 7.00 pm

P4 children to attend for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Sunday 2nd April 2023 - Do this in Memory 8 – Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 11.00am

Thursday 6th April 2023 - Holy Thursday Mass in own parish: children involved in Washing of Feet

Sunday 9th April 2023 - Easter Sunday in own parish

Sunday 23rd April 2023 - Do this in Memory 9 – Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 11.00am

Saturday 6th May 2023 - Children's Retreat for First Communion, St Matthew's Church,

10.00 am - 2.00 pm Children to bring packed lunch

Pupil Progress Meetings

Pupil Progress Meetings have been scheduled to take place on Wednesday 22nd March from 5-8pm and Thursday 23rd March from 3-6pm. Thank you for returning your preference for this. A reminder that we will be unable to offer phone calls or additional appointments at other times.

Sharing the Learning

During this term many of our classes will be inviting parents and carers to come to school and see some of the items they have been learning about. Invitations to this will be sent in the coming weeks.

Thursday 16th March at 2:00pm – Primary 5

Wednesday 22nd March at 2:00pm – Primary 4

Monday 27th March at 2:00pm – Primary 3

Thursday 30th March at 2:00pm – Primary 7

Cost of Living - School Uniform Exchange

We have a range of quality new and nearly new school clothing available at our School Uniform Exchange. Please feel free to come to the main foyer at any point to take items that you may require. This area has recently been refreshed and also includes free sanitary products for children and adults.

Cost of Living – Free School Toast

You will be aware that toast is now available from 8:45am in our school dinner hall for any child to access. Children can come in for this through the middle playground doors and then take the toast back into the playground.

Transition - Welcome to our new Primary 1 children 2023-2024

Mrs Duff has now been to visit all of the children in their ECCs and we are very much looking forward to welcoming them into school for a series of 'Welcome Wednesday' activities. These will take place on Wednesdays during March.

Transition – Primary 7

Our Primary 7's trip to Lockerbie was an excellent opportunity for them to get know children that will also be starting St Joseph's next year. The trip was a huge success and everyone, including the staff, had an amazing experience. I know you will appreciate the amount of time that goes in to organising such a trip, thank you to all our clerical staff, Mr Bertoncini, Miss Maitland and Mrs

McGahon for their support with this. Thank you to FOMC for supporting the purchase of Leavers' hoodies for all of our children. A reminder that for the remainder of this term **hoodies should be worn on a Friday only.**

Primary 7 will also take part in a variety of further transition activities with St Joseph's from now until June. Provisional dates below:

Thursday 2nd March (please come to school in full school uniform, not Mount Carmel Leavers hoodies) – pupils will leave just after 9am and will be back in school for lunch. Pupils should take a snack for break time.

Thursday 16th March (please come to school in full school uniform, not Mount Carmel Leavers hoodies) – pupils will leave just after 9am and will be back in school for lunch. Pupils should take a snack for break time.

Monday 22nd May – full day at St Joseph's

Tuesday 30th May – full day at St Joseph's

Wednesday 7th June – full day at St Joseph's

Thursday 15th June – full day at St Joseph's

Friday 23rd June – full day at St Joseph's

Health Promoting School

A reminder that as a Health Promoting School we encourage children to drink water throughout the day. Please do not send children to school with juice in their class water bottle or fizzy juice for break/lunch times. Some children have also had energy drinks in school – again please do not send these with your child. These will be removed and given back to the child at the end of the day. Please also consider the snacks that you are providing. Children can now all access a piece of fruit daily in school so they do not require crisps and sweets for snacks. As stated earlier toast is also available for all children in the morning.

Parent Council

Our next session will take place on Tuesday 7th March, this will be a virtual session. Please contact the Parent Council directly via their Facebook page or email mcparentcouncil@gmail.com to request access details for this.

Collection of Children

A reminder that our school day finishes at 3pm. We receive a number of phone calls daily requesting to collect children earlier than this via the front door. We have limited clerical staff and this places a huge pressure on them to organise this, often with very short notice. This should be used on rare occasions if children are required to be collected early for an appointment. Thank you for your support with this matter.

School App

Our school app will soon be changing to Safer School. This is taking place for all apps in the authority. This change will take place at the end of March. Look out for more information from East Ayrshire Council soon.

In the meantime all of our school information will continue to be accessible via the school blog and app. Please follow the links for these items:

[School Blog](#)

Please use the QR code to download our school app for the most recent information as well as calendar and lunch details.



School App for Parents

Please download **School App for Parents** that lets you see news, dates and receive important messages.

A QR code is displayed on the left side of the poster. To the right of the QR code, two smartphones are shown displaying the app's interface. The app shows a green header with the title 'School App for Parents', a news section with a link to 'East Ayrshire launches new schools app', and a 'Forthcoming Events' section listing dates and activities like 'After school club' and 'Homework Club'. The bottom of the app interface shows a navigation bar with icons for Home, Calendar, Messages, and Settings.

Scan the QR Code or search for **School App for Parents** in the Google Play or Apple App Store. When you have downloaded the app please search for our school name to see our dates, news and receive messages.

GET IT ON Google Play Download on the App Store

Kind regards,

Mrs Fergusson

Head Teacher