



April 2023 Newsletter



It was lovely to welcome our children back to school today. They all look well rested after a two week holiday. It has been so beautiful to see some sunshine and we can see that Spring is now definitely with us. We hope you all had a lovely, prayerful Easter season.

Special Events

Bikeability –Primary 7

This year our Primary 7 children will have the opportunity to take part in Bikeability training on Tuesday 25th April and Wednesday 26th April. A letter with full details was issued in March.

Wednesday 26th April and Thursday 27th April

Primary 6 Pupil Progress Meetings.

Thursday 27th April

In preparation for transitioning to St Joseph's over the coming years Primary 6 and Primary 5 will have a session at Mount Carmel Primary School with St Joseph's staff.

Friday 28th April

On Friday 28th April we will have a Non Uniform day. We kindly request a donation of £1 paid via ParentPay. This money goes towards the cost of our House Prize trips, without these donations we would be unable to have these special events for our children.

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Staffing

As you are aware Mrs Taylor has started a new post at James Hamilton. We will miss her level of expertise in our Primary 1 class and wish her every success in her new role.



School App

As you are aware our school app has now changed to Safer School Scotland. If you have yet to download this app please do so and delete our old app. This will be now be used across East Ayrshire.

Please download the Safer School Scotland App and then scan the QR code.

Break Time – Parent/Carer Consultation

Before the holidays staff and pupils were consulted on a proposed change to the time of the school break and lunch time. We would now like to consult parents and carers on this too. Please take some time to let us know your views on this.

Current Times: Break 10:30-10:45 Lunch 12:15-1:00

Proposed New Times: Break 10:40-10:55 Lunch 12:35-1:20

This change would mean that each part of the school day was 1hr and 40mins. This survey will close on Friday 21st April.

Survey link -

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKSfaq0gQBRVMIVi0OskMkHZUM1RENEFNmk1UWVI5TFFEOTJYOVU4OEtPSi4u>

SCIAF Donations

On behalf of SCIAF thank you for all your kind donations to this charity during Lent. Your generosity, especially during such difficult times, will really make a difference.

Summer Show

After the success of our wonderful Christmas performances, we will once again be showcasing the talents of all classes in our Summer Show. Primary 6 and Primary 7 will take the lead performing an exciting, new musical with P1-3 and P4 and P5 singing some fun summer songs to get us in the mood for the holidays! This will take place on **Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th June** – more information to follow in the coming weeks.

Summer Trip

We are very excited to announce that our Pupil Council has now chosen our whole school trip. We will visit Blair Drummond Safari Park on Wednesday 21st June. This will come at a cost of £13 per child and will soon be available to pay either in full or smaller amounts via ParentPay. I realise that this is a high cost for the trip – each child's tickets costs £9.50 and the cost of the buses for this is over £1900. Thank you to Friends of Mount Carmel who are providing some of the money for the bus to reduce the cost of this to our parents and carers. If you require assistance with the cost of this please contact the school directly.

Mission to the Moon

Well done to all the boys, girls, parent/carers and staff who have continued to focus on our Mission to the Moon. We have had an amazing first term travelling to the Zambezi River in Zambia, Mount Carmel in Israel and the Statue of Liberty. In total, we have covered 11, 426 miles! Please look out on our blog and new Safer School App for more details of our future missions.

Termly Information

Each class will publish curricular updates via our school website. These will be uploaded by the start of May and will give more details about activities the children will be completing this term.

Sharing the Learning

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers attending our recent 'Sharing the Learning Sessions'. This term we will be in touch with more details about the sessions for Primary 1 and Primary 2.

Sacramental Preparation

During March our Primary 3 children took the next step in their faith journey when they made the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Thank you for keeping them in your prayers.

Please continue to pray for our Primary 4 children as they make their final preparations for the First Communion.

Please remember that we have a selection of First Communion dresses available in school for anyone that may benefit from this. They are all truly beautiful items.

Sacramental Preparation Calendar:

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

Thank you to all that were able to attend our Pupil Progress Meetings at the end of term. Due to staff absence Primary 6 meetings have been scheduled to take place on Wednesday 26th April and Thursday 27th April. The original time for each meeting will stay the same. Thank you for your understanding for the change to this date.

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 – Primary 1

Our new Primary 1 children 2023-2024 have now visited the school and worked with Mrs Duff on a number of occasion for our Welcome Wednesdays. These will continue throughout our final term.

Transition – Primary 7

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.

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.

Kind regards,

Mrs Fergusson

Head Teacher