



28th February 2022

Dear Parents / Families,

Covid Thank you

Over the past 24 months, throughout the Covid outbreak, you have shown me what a fantastic community St Thomas' and Neilston is. I am so grateful to all of you, for your support and understanding.

Throughout the crisis, our resolute aim has been to support the health and wellbeing of our children. We have continued to focus on being warm, welcoming and nurturing in all our interactions.

We have really missed having our open door policy, but hope you still feel a strong connection with the school. Please know how much we value your contributions. We genuinely do see our parents as key partners in the education process for our children. When school and home work together, magic happens for our learners!

I really hope our children have felt a sense of normality, safety and routine by being at school, in whatever form that has happened to take (online, hub schools), over the past couple of years.

Covid Updates

I am pleased to announce some further updates to our Risk Assessment, which we will apply from **Monday 7th March**.

- All children may now enter the school building via the infant doors from 8.50am (we will keep all doors open for the next couple of weeks until children get used to coming in the same door again)
- **School will finish at 3.05pm for all children.** P1-3 will exit via the infant doors, P4, 5 and 6 will exit via their usual doors and P7 will exit via the P7 door. Please advise your children where they should meet you after the school day.
- There is still a requirement for staff to wear masks in communal areas. You may choose to wear a mask in our playground, although this is no longer mandatory.
- Physical distance of 1metre between adults is still mandatory within the school and school grounds

Talent Show

As a result of the reduction in restrictions, we can now have face to face assemblies again! The most exciting news of all is that there will be a **WHOLE SCHOOL TALENT SHOW (A REALLY BIG FUN ASSEMBLY)** for children on Friday 11th March. Each class will vote for 2 acts to go forward. These can be singers, dancers, story tellers, magicians, individuals or groups etc. Check out our twitter page for updates.



Numeracy and Maths School Visit

We were visited last week by Local Authority Education Department, with a focus on Numeracy and Maths. During the visit, the team visited classrooms, spoke to teachers and children. The team applied scrutiny to many areas of school life. I am pleased to say that they found learning experiences in numeracy and maths, for our children, to be very strong. The children were a credit to our community and demonstrated confidence and the ability to talk well about their learning.

I would like to place on record my thanks to all our staff team for providing such excellent experiences for our children. Well done to everyone for the external endorsement from the visiting team!

Parent Feedback

Please take time to provide us with some feedback by clicking on this link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKRWhWJyRlcRGi6m8xNNxeCIUNDc0QjI0RUdYWUM2MFY2WEVXQVQxSkczQS4u>

World Book Day- Thursday 3rd March

As part of World Book Day, children will be taking part in many enjoyable activities to promote reading for pleasure. If they wish, **children are welcome to come to school dressed in Pyjamas / Onesies / Comfy Clothes!** More info to follow.

Hope to see you all soon, back in our school!

Kind regards,

Ian Gillies and all the Staff

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