**St Blane’s Primary**

**18th June 2021**

**Parent Update**

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to my final newsletter of session 2020/2021. I can’t believe we are here already. In what has been another difficult year, we have lots to celebrate and be thankful for. Every child in our school should be extremely proud of their contribution to their class and the school as a whole this year. From my recent meetings with each teacher it is clear that the children in our school have shown resilience, increased confidence and progression in all areas of their learning. I am delighted by our continued high standards and expectations for all learners in St Blane’s Primary. Next session we have some exciting, new focussed learning across the school and the whole curriculum including:

Literacy, Numeracy, Health & Wellbeing

Learning for sustainability – CoP 26

STEM/Outdoor learning/PLAY for P4-P7

UNCRC Children’s Rights

Interdisciplinary learning – relevant, innovative projects across the school.

These areas are all part of our School Improvement Plan this session where we have a really pro-active, exciting plan in place for the coming session (More info in August).

Our Covid restrictions have to remain in place for August with the hope of this easing as the summer progresses (easier to remove restrictions in August than have to re-instate them). So we will continue with hand washing, adults wearing masks, class bubbles… with the hope that this will be reduced as soon as possible. School bags will not be required to start with in P1-P6 (P7 will require a school bag to carry their Ipad). Lunch bags can come to school as usual. I am very hopeful this will change quickly in August.

I would like to thank all our staff here at St Blane’s for their commitment to each and every child and their professional handling of all the challenges that have faced them this year. I am very lucky to have such a wonderful team and school family.

We have sadly to say goodbye to three members of staff this session. Mr Iles, Miss Boyle and Miss Mitchell – we wish them every success in their future career. They have been a joy to work with in St Blane’s and I would like to thank them for their wonderful professionalism and commitment to our children. Good luck as you move on.

We will be welcoming three new teachers in August – Miss Broadley, Miss Cumberford (to become Mrs Reardon over the summer) and Mr O’Brien. I am sure you will join me in welcoming them to our school community. The classes for the year ahead are now confirmed and are as follows:

P1 – Miss Burke (Soon to be Mrs Wilson over the summer)

P2/1 – Miss Devine

P2 – Mr O’Brien (Mrs McGreechin 1.5 days)

P3 – Miss Broadley

P4/3 – Mr McNulty

P4 – Miss Valliday

P5 – Mrs Owens

P6 – Mrs Elliott

P7/6 – Miss Cumberford (Mrs Moore 1.5 days)

P7 – Miss Burke (previously named Mrs Gallanagh)

Mrs Gallanagh has been appointed as a Principal Teacher for session 2021/2022 from our PEF budget. She will have 2 days out of class to carry out a remit specific to P4-P7 pupils. Mrs MacCuish will cover those two days in class (Monday /Tuesday).

For Pastoral support throughout the school Myself and Mrs Heaney will continue to support all pupils and staff with additional day to day support offered by Mrs McGreechin P1-P3, Mrs McComish P4/3-P5 and Mrs Moore P6-P7.

I am really looking forward to welcoming you as parents back into our school as soon as is allowed.

I hope this clarifies everything before the summer break. After the school closes on Thursday 24th June at 1pm, the next communication will not be until Friday 13th August. Please do not hesitate to email if you have anything urgent to discuss and I will endeavour to pick up emails as and when I can in the holidays.

To all our wonderful parents and carers – thank you for your continued support throughout this year. I really can’t express enough my appreciation and gratitude to you all for your loyalty to our school, kindness to our staff and determination to keep our children learning. Well done to you all. Have a lovely summer together, do your best to relax, stay safe and I look forward to welcoming our children back on Monday 16th August 2021. God bless,

kindest regards,



Lara McVey

Head Teacher