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St Saviour's Primary School

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March Newsletter 2023

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Welcome to the March newsletter.

As usual term 3 has been a busy one for the children with lots happening and next week we will be hosting our second Parents Evening of the school year. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on Thursday.

Parent Survey

As part of our yearly audit to see how well we are serving the school community we will be holding questionnaires for parents, staff and pupils this term. There will be a digital version of the questionnaire available at Parents Night and a paper version sent out to those who were unable to take part. I would be grateful if you could find 5 minutes to complete these as your opinions help us to keep improving what we do.

Residential Trip

Our Primary 7 class took part in a hugely successful Residential week at Blairvadach in February. Despite the time of year, they were blessed with really nice weather and were able to take part in a wide range of activities. As always, the reports that came back from the Blairvadach staff were very complimentary of our children's behaviour and attitude. My thanks go to Mrs Neilson, Mr Wilkinson, Miss Johnston and Mr Mallon who gave up their time to accompany the children.

Jeely Piece Club

Our Primary 3 and 4 classes have been working with a group called the "Jeely Piece Club" who have been leading active play sessions every Tuesday. The children are really enjoying getting out and being active.

The Great Grub Club

Some of our P1 parents have just finished a 6-week course on simple cooking and hygiene run by Claire Bradley of Glasgow Family Learning and Julia from Urban Roots. The parents have been coming into school on a Monday afternoon and taking part in some cookery lessons along with their children. This has been a campus initiative and parents / pupils from both Riverside Primary and

Broomloan Nursery also took part. The project proved very successful and we will be looking at repeating this after the holiday.

I will be meeting with Claire and Julia to discuss next terms initiative so watch this space.

Traffic Safety

Parking at the front of the school building continues to be a safety concern with children and adults crossing between parked cars. This area is a no parking zone and the local Police have identified this as a hazard. They have informed the campus that they will be patrolling this area and performing routine checks on illegal parking. Please do park on the yellow lines at the front of the school.

Attendance

Since Covid lockdowns there has been a general dip in attendance across Scotland and here in St Saviour's we are no different. It has been well proven that any attendance falling below 90% has a detrimental effect on a child's attainment and although a few days here and there don't seem much at the time they do add up. To give you some perspective this list gives you an idea of how much school is missed over the course of a school year.

If attendance is 90% or less that means that 20 days have been missed (a full school month)

If attendance is 80% or less that means that 39 days have been missed (almost 2 full school months)

If attendance is 70% or less that means that 59 days have been missed (almost 3 full school months)

If attendance is 60% or less that means that 78 days have been missed (almost 4 full school months)

We currently have 71 children below 90%, 38 of whom are below 80%, with 27 of them below 70% and 9 below 60%.

There are obviously times when it is unavoidable for children to miss school and we understand that so next term there will be a big focus on attendance. The school along with the parent Council will be exploring ways we can support parents / carers to help improve their child's attendance. If you are worried about your child's attendance or need some help please talk to a member of staff or contact the Parent Council. If your child is absent for any reason please inform the absence line or our school office to avoid the absence being recorded as unauthorised.

The number for the absence line is 0141 287 0039

Transitions

As we rapidly head towards the summer term our thoughts turn to the children in P7 who will be leaving us and the new children who will be starting in Primary 1 come August.

Our P7 children have already started their transition work with Lourdes Secondary and will be continuing with this over the coming months. The dates for their Induction days in Lourdes Secondary are Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th of May. More details will follow as we get nearer the time. As yet we have not been notified of the induction days for other High schools but will inform parents as soon as we get that information. P7 also completed transition work with IntoUniversity as a preparation for leaving Primary and starting secondary education.

New Primary 1 intake

We will be directly contacting parents with information about this. There will be 4 visits for each new pupil starting in April. This was very successful last year and helped the children have a much easier start in August.

Parents Night

We will be holding our second parent's night on Thursday 30th of March. 3.30pm – 5.30pm and 6.15pm till 8.15pm. Please make every effort to attend at your allocated time. We will have some of our partnership agencies present at the first session including Members of the Parent Council, Annemarie our Financial Inclusion Support Officer, Lauren from NSPCC and a representative from Govan Help. All will be available to give out advice or assistance so please make use of them whilst waiting to see the teacher.

Easter Charity Fundraiser

It is traditional that Catholic schools do some kind of fund raising for a charitable cause during the Lenten period. This year we are raising funds for S.C.I.A.F. to support the work that they do in communities under severe hardship both home and abroad. With events in the world right now this seems a very necessary charity to support. At present we have raised @£85 and hope to make a round £100 before the holidays. Our children also raised funds and awareness by taking part in Odd Socks day for the Downs Syndrome Society (£60) and Purple Day for the Quarriers Epilepsy centre in Govan (£70). Thanks to everyone who took part and donated money for all three charities especially in these hard times. It really is appreciated.

Sacraments

Reconciliation; P3 will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday 29th of March. This will take place during the school day at 10am Mass in St Anthony's Parish. Parents may attend the service if they wish.

First Communion; The eligible children in P4 have started their preparation for their First Holy Communion. This will take place on Saturday 13th May during 10am Mass in St Anthony's Parish. With restrictions now lifted on Church numbers we will be reserving a row for each family. (This usually hold @10 people). There will be extra spaces available behind the reserved rows and these will be on a first come basis.

Dragons Den

5 of our P7 pupils attended the finals of Glasgow school Dragons Den competition at the City Chambers. Although they didn't win they were commended on their business plan and received funding of £50 to develop their idea. Congratulations and well done. A thank you to Mrs McMillan for preparing and accompanying the children.

Swimming

P6 have been taking part in swimming lessons and the first group have just finished their block at Pollok Swimming Pool. The reports back from the swimming teacher were excellent and all children made progress. Group 2 will be starting their block on Monday 15th May and this will run until the last week of term.

Term 3 & 4 Diary Dates 2023

- Wednesday 29th March - Reconciliation P3 10am
- Thursday 30th March - Parents Night 3.30-5.30 & 6.15-8.15pm
- Friday 31st March - Term Awards & 2.30pm Finish
- Mon 3rd – Friday 14th April - Mid Term Holiday (Easter)
- Friday 7th April - Good Friday
- Sunday 9th April - Easter Sunday
- Monday 17th April - School Starts Back
- Monday 1st May - Holiday
- Monday 8th May - Holiday (Pupil Holiday)
- Tuesday 23rd May -- P7 Induction Day at Lourdes
- Wednesday 24th May -- P7 Induction Day at Lourdes
- Thursday 25th May - In-Service Day (Pupils not at school)
- Friday 26th May - Holiday
- Monday 29th May - Holiday
- Tues 6th & Wed 7th June - Lourdes P7 Parents' Information Evenings
- Friday 23rd June - 1pm Finish and start of summer holidays

As always if there is anything that you wish to ask or inform me of please don't hesitate to get in touch by phone or e mail 0141 445 8904 or Headteacher@st-saviours-pri.glasgow.sch.uk

Best Regards

Brian S Tracey

Head Teacher