



Challenge
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Newsletter March 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome to the March Newsletter.

Here is a small snapshot of what is or is about to happen in the coming weeks and months as we head rapidly towards the end of Term 3 and the Spring break. Have a great holiday when it comes.

Easter Charity

Our Lenten Charity is SCIAF and we will be collecting using the traditional 'Wee Box' that I am sure you can remember from past years. Every Lent, schools across Scotland get involved with the WEE BOX appeal. To support this charity the pupil council have organised a Mad Hair Day on Friday 15th March. Children can come to school that day with as inventive a hair style as they like. This is a fundraiser for our Easter charity and all we ask is a small donation for our SCIAF Wee Box.

Transition to Secondary

Our Primary 7 pupils have started their transition work with Lourdes Secondary as part of the long build up of getting ready for High School.

Our P7 class are also taking part in an Anti-sectarian / Racism set of lessons during February and March along with the P7's from Riverside Primary. This will be run by GYIP and will take place over 6 weeks along at Glasgow's Caring City premises.

As always, the reports back from GYIP and Lourdes are praising the engagement and behaviour of our children. They continue to do us proud!

Sacraments

Wednesday 27th March P3 Reconciliation 10am @ St Anthony's Parish Church

P4 First Communion 10am @ St Anthony's Parish Church

Thursday 30th April P7 Confirmation 7pm @ St Constantine's Parish Church.

Sacramental Workbooks are now being worked on and should be completed at home along with your child and returned to school each week. This is an important way for you to be involved in your child's faith journey.

Some of our children are being baptised on Sunday 10th and Monday 11th of March to enable them to take part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. These Baptisms have had to be agreed with the Parish

as normally they would not be seen as infant baptism and would require many weeks preparation with the Parish Catechists. Father Bernard has made it very clear that this is the last time this special arrangement can happen. Therefore can I urge all parents who wish their children to take part in the Sacraments to make arrangements with the Parish to have the child preferably in infancy but certainly before they are 7 years old. In Cannon law this can be done immediately and will stop someone potentially missing receiving Sacraments with their classmates.

Literacy

We celebrated World Book Day on Thursday. The children took part in many fun activities including dressing as a word and holding a book swap!

Maths

Some of our P7 pupils will be travelling up to Lourdes Secondary to take part in the Learning Community Maths Challenge. Last year we achieved second place so lets see if we can go one better. Good Luck Team!

Sports & Jewellery

A reminder that children should not be taking part in P.E. lessons if they are wearing earrings that they are unable to remove. This is also the case for false nails. Both jewellery and false nails can get caught and cause hurt or injury to the wearer or to others. If your child is unable to remove these items then they will be unable to take part. The days of taping over earrings etc are long gone. This is a Glasgow City Council policy and we must adhere to it. If you are thinking of getting your child's ears pierced please consider doing it at the start of the summer break when they have 6 weeks without P.E.

Swimming

Our P6 class will be beginning their block of swimming lessons on the first day back after the Spring break (15th April). Their lessons will be at Bellahouston Sports Centre every Monday afternoon until the last week of term. This is an important life skill and part of the P.E curriculum so all children will be expected to attend

School teams

Our school football teams continue to take part in friendly matches with other local schools although recent poor weather has led to a few cancellations. Our teams are really enjoying the extra opportunities to play, develop our skills and meet new friends. My thanks to Mrs Neilson for continuing to run this in her own time.

GSFA Invitational 7's – Tuesday 12th March

Congratulations to Blake Burke in P7 who has been chosen to represent Glasgow schools in the up and coming invitational tournament. With so many boys and girls being put forward from all the primaries in Glasgow this is a great achievement. Well done Blake we are proud of you and good luck in the game.

Athletics

12 of our senior pupils will be taking part in the Glasgow Super 7's Athletics championships at the Emirates Arena on Wednesday 20th of March. They will compete as a team in a variety of events. We wish them well and I am sure they will have a great time.

Determined To Dance

Primary 3 and Primary 4 have been taking part in a block of dance lessons with the CREATE Determined2Dance teacher. This will be every Thursday until the 21st March. This block often ends with a short display to parents so I will keep you posted.

Joy of Movement

Primary 5 and Primary 6 have been working with staff from Ibrox Study Centre to investigate health and nutrition through both in class and active lessons. They have been enjoying working with the coaches.

P1 & P2 will soon be taking part in an 8 week Get Ready For Sport block starting Thursday 28th March. This will also be run by the Ibrox Study Centre.

After School Clubs

There have been lots of children taking part in a range of after school activities this term cover areas such as Football, Dance, Construction, Keep Fit and Minnie Vinnies. These clubs have provided opportunities for every stage in the school to get involved. My thanks to all the teachers who are giving up their time to take these clubs. Our P1 after school dance club is coming to an end on Monday 11th March. This will be celebrated with a short dance demonstration at 3.45pm to which parents are invited. Entry should be through the main front door at 3.40pm

Hair Care

We have recently had to send out letters to classes about head lice having been spotted in school. Please check regularly for this and treat immediately if you discover them in your child's hair. As you know this is not a sign of dirty hair as the lice will happily attach themselves onto any type so there is no stigma in discovering your child has them. Please tie back long hair and remember to check regularly and treat as required.

Internet safety

Please continue to be aware and check frequently what your children are logging onto and what they are seeing on social media. Unfortunately, chatrooms etc are becoming one of the biggest causes of arguments in schools across Scotland and recently there have been incidents of primary children receiving unwelcome and indecent language / pictures being shared by older pupils. Lets keep our children safe by being vigilant.

Baby Strings

Our Primary 2-6 classes have continued to take part in Baby Strings on a Friday morning. They are learning to understand and play music with the help of two specialist music tutors using Violins, Violas and Cellos. This is still proving very popular and the children are progressing well. The children held a short concert for parents just before Christmas and the plan is to hold another later in this year. We hope to end the last term as we did last year with a celebration of the music being done in school. This month representatives from Glasgow Barons will be coming into observe some of the classes in action. Glasgow Barons kindly donated £1000 towards the cost of Baby Strings this year.

School Choir

The school choir continues to practice and will be taking part in another performance along with local schools at The Fairfield Halls on Wednesday 13th March at 1pm. Parents / carers are more than welcome to attend. My thanks to Mr Wilkinson for supporting this endeavour.

Parent Night

We look forward to welcoming you to our second parent's night of the school year. This will be held on **Tuesday 26th March** in the Gym hall. Please note this is a change in date (originally 27th March) Entrance should be through the Govan Road side door. Appointments will be coming out soon. If you are unable to make your given appointment please let the school office know as soon as possible.

Parent Support Group

We have been trialling a Parent Support Group offer on a Monday afternoon between 2pm and 3pm for parents with children who may display signs of or are diagnosed with a Neurodivergent condition. The idea of this group is to offer possible resources and supports but more importantly to allow parents the chance to informally chat and offer support to each other in a safe and encouraging environment. As yet no one has turned up for this group. We will continue to offer this support until the Spring break but will look at other alternatives if there continues to be little or no involvement.

If you would like more information or feel you may want to take part please contact Mrs Quigley by phone or using the following e mail gw14quigleygrace@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

Financial Inclusion Support Officer

In addition to the support offered by Mrs Quigley on a Monday, we have a Financial Inclusion support Officer called Annmarie Magill (Citizens Advice) attached to the school. Annmarie is available to give advice and direct people towards possible benefits or financial assistance that might be available. You can contact Annmarie directly on 07790544817 or through Mrs Quigley. Annmarie will then make an appointment to contact you and offer any support or advice that is available. This is an extremely useful scheme and I would urge anyone who feels they may need help to contact her. All contacts and referrals are totally confidential between Annmarie and the families.

Dates for your Diary

Here are some important dates that you might want to take a note of.

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| Tuesday 26th March | Parents Night |
| Wednesday 27th March | Reconciliation 10am in St Anthony's |
| Thursday 28th March | Early Finish 2.30pm |
| Friday 29th March | Good Friday Holiday |
| Mon 3rd April – Frid 12th April | Spring Holiday |
| Monday 15th April | School restarts |

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