



## NEWSLETTER January 2024

**HAPPY NEW YEAR AND WELCOME BACK!**

**Xīnnián hǎo**

### SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Following on from feedback that parents/carers would like more streamlined communications from the school, please note the opposite diary dates for your information.

We will continue to use Groupcall Xpressions App for the majority of information we communicate. If you require any assistance to set this up, please contact the school office.

### LATECOMING

St Mary's Primary school attach great importance to good time keeping. We are aware that most parents share this attitude and give us their support. Regular late coming can have a significant impact on your pupil's available teaching time and causes disruption to other learners.

**5 minutes late each day equals 3 days lost each year!**

We respectfully ask that all pupils are on time, ready to start the school day at 08:45am

### LUNCHES

We encourage parents/carers to pre-select your child's chosen lunch option using iPayImpact. We respectfully request that you indicate via this app what lunch choices your child(ren) would like for the week, this includes selecting the option for packed lunch.

### HOUSE WINNERS

Well done to St Jude's who were last terms winning House. To celebrate, children in St Jude's have chosen a 'Pizza Party' to celebrate.

### BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast club is available on a Tuesday and Thursday morning from 8:20am. We will be offering a variety of cereal and a refreshment free of charge. If you would like to book a space please contact the school.

## DIARY DATES

### JANUARY 2024

- 26 – Come as You Please Day
- 29 – Parent Council Meeting
- 31 – P7 BBC Workshop

### FEBRUARY 2024

- 1 – GTOC Family Day
- 2 – Burns Assembly 1:45pm
- 3 – Sacrament of Confirmation  
6pm Mass
- 7 – P5-P7 Football Tournament
- 8 – Chinese Buffet for the Children
- 9 – HOLIDAY
- 12 – HOLIDAY
- 13 – In-Service Day (closed to pupils)
- 14 – Ash Wednesday Mass  
10am / Poetry Workshops  
(Burns Assembly)
- 23 – Come as You Please Day

### MARCH 2024

- 6 – P5-P7 Football Tournament
- 7 – Euro Quiz / World Book Day
- 19 – Sacrament of Reconciliation / Learning Conversations
- 28 – School closes at 2:30 pm for Easter Break

School Re-Opens

## **LUNCH CLUBS**

We pride ourselves on listening to our Pupil Voice and in response to our Pupil Leadership Team requesting Lunchtime sports clubs, we are delighted to be able to offer the following in partnership with our Active Schools partners;

Football (P4-P7) – Mon/Tue

Multi-sports (P3) - Wed

Athletics (P4-P7) – Thurs

Dancing (P1-P7) – Friday

## **WORLD OF WORK**

Mrs Teaz continues to work very hard organising World Of Work guests to speak to the children at our assemblies. If you are a parent/carer who would like to share a specific skill you have, please contact Mrs Teaz via the school office.

## **ADVERSE WEATHER**

A safe path will be cleared for pupils to make their way into school in the instance of adverse weather. Pupils will be directed to enter via the infant door. In extreme weather please listen to local radio for any updates. You can also follow North Ayrshire Council on Twitter. Any major updates will be communicated out through the school Groupcall/Xpressions app.

## **ST MARY'S STAR OF THE SEA**

Pope Francis has appointed a Motherwell Priest, Fr. Frank Dougan, as the new Bishop of the Diocese of Galloway. Fr. Frank Dougan will be ordained later this year at St. Peter in Chains Church, Ardrossan. We will pray for him through the coming weeks before his Ordination, and assure him of our continued prayers and support as he settles into his ministry in Galloway.

## **PARENT COUNCIL**

Our next Parent Council meeting is on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 6pm in St Mary's Primary School. All welcome to attend.

## **BBC WORKSHOP**

The BBC plan to visit St Mary's as part of their Public service remit. They will visit our P7 class on 31<sup>st</sup> January, pupils will take part in a digital workshop focused on Largs as a holiday destination.

## **GTOC**

All parents/carers are warmly invited to attend our Family session of our Growing Together Outdoors Club Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February from 3pm – 4pm. We will be preparing our growing space for the exciting new growing season ahead. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult for the duration of the session.



## **POETRY WORKSHOPS / BURNS ASSEMBLY**

Simon Lamb has been working with P6 and P7 to develop our poetry writing skills which will be showcased at our Burns Assembly.

Parents/Carers will be invited to celebrate Burns at our annual Assembly on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 1:45pm. Please enter via Largs Academy entrance, where staff will be on hand to guide you.

## **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

Children in P3 are making their Confirmation on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 6pm mass. You are warmly invited to join the children in making their sacrament. The date for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 10am. More information will follow near the time.

## **P7 TRANSITION**

We will be working in partnership with St Matthew's and Largs Academies to prepare our outgoing P7s for the transition to their chosen High School after the summer. Separate details will be issued to parent/carers of P7 pupils in due course.

## **FOOTBALL COMPETITION**

P5-7 will have the opportunity to participate in the North Coast Football Tournament ran by Active Schools on 7<sup>th</sup> February and 6<sup>th</sup> March. More information will follow near the time.

## **CHINESE NEW YEAR**

This year, we plan on celebrating Chinese New Year, The Year of the Dragon, by having a Chinese Buffet. On Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup> February, our amazing kitchen staff will prepare a variety of Chinese cuisine for the children to taste and share. Children will listen to some traditional Chinese music as they celebrate.

## **EURO QUIZ**

Following on from last years success where St Mary's made the final of the Euro Quiz, Primary 6 pupils are preparing for this years Euro Quiz which will take place in March. Four pupils will be nominated by the class to represent St. Mary's Primary. The pupils will travel to Saltcoats to compete against other North Ayrshire Primary Schools.

## **WORLD BOOK DAY**

World Book Day will be celebrated on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Children are invited to come to school on this day dressed as a character from their favourite book

## **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Children will soon start preparations for making this sacrament on 19<sup>th</sup> March.

## **YOUTH CLUB**

St Mary's Star of the Sea Youth Club will continue on the last Friday of the month from 6pm – 7:30pm all P7s are warmly welcome.

## **SCHOOL CLOSES**

School will close on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 2:30pm

