



St Palladius Primary

February/March Newsletter



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I hope that all of our families had a lovely February break. We are looking forward to all the exciting learning that will take place this term during Lent. As always, if you wish to speak to us about any aspect of your child's education please do not hesitate to get in touch. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. Fleeting

Vision, Values and Aims

Please continue to speak with your child regarding the new values of our school, Compassion, Ambition, Respect and Equity. The values of our school permeate through every aspect of school life and children are encouraged to follow these values at all times. Discussing ways in which your child can demonstrate these values would greatly contribute to the ethos of our school.

Staffing

We are delighted to welcome two student teachers to our school this term. Miss McGarry will be supporting Primary 1/2 this term and then will join us again after Easter to support Primary 6/7.

Miss Gills is continuing her placement with us until 23rd February in Primary 6/7. It has been a pleasure to welcome both teaching students into our school to enhance their training.

Lent

We came together to celebrate Ash Wednesday as a community and this signals the beginning of Lent. During Lent, we are encouraged by the Church to fast, pray and give alms. Each class will have a 'Wee Box' and all the donations will go towards SCIAF. Please encourage your child to donate what they can.

Scots Language Week

A huge well done to all of our children for learning their Scots poetry and songs. The children presented their poems and songs to the rest of the school at an Assembly. Primary 7 did an amazing job hosting our Annual Burns Supper. They led the whole school and invited guests in song, poem recital and dance. They were a credit to our school and to their families.

On 2nd February, John Hodgart of the Burns Club came into school to judge the poetry. He was blown away with how well the children were able to recite the poetry and judging was very difficult to do. On Friday 16th February, the children will be presented with their certificates and 1st, 2nd and 3rd places for each year group will be presented with medals and prizes. On 20th March there will be the Garnock Valley Burns Competition. Children involved will be receiving a letter with more information in due course.

After School Clubs

We are delighted to offer a range of free after school clubs this term. A range of volunteers, coaches and staff members run these clubs. If your child has signed up for an after school club and cannot attend for whatever reason, please text or phone the school to let us know. Unfortunately, at times we have to cancel after school clubs at short notice. We know this is not ideal but we will endeavour to keep you informed via text and twitter if this happens. Clubs this Term are as follows:

Monday – Girls/boys Football P5-7

Tuesday – Dance P1-7

Friday –Football P5-7 (Please note that Brian Ross has been absent and we will keep you posted on his return.)

Health Promoting Schools

Please be reminded that at St. Palladius we want to promote healthy bodies and healthy minds. Please encourage your child to eat fruit at break time or another healthy snack of their choice. A snack should be provided from home. Children who bring fruit for snack will be issued with 'House Points' and these contribute to an end of term treat. We do have spare fruit for the odd occasion your child forgets their snack but this should not be a regular occurrence. **Sugary snacks are not permitted.**

All children should bring a water bottle to school every day. This should be filled with plain water as we encourage children to drink water throughout the day.

PE Kit

We still have a number of children who do not have PE kit with them to school each day. It is essential that the children are prepared for physical activity. Not having appropriate kit can result in a health and safety hazard, not just for your child but for the rest of the children in their class. PE kit consists of t-shirt/polo shirt, shorts, gym shoes/indoor trainers. If providing kit for your child is proving difficult for any reason, including financial, please contact the school. This will not be a barrier in your child being taught PE.

PE kit can be kept in school and sent home to be washed as needed or kept inside their school bag as it may be needed on a daily basis. Classes do have set gym days but these are subject to change at short notice.

It is a **North Ayrshire policy that all jewellery must be removed for PE for health and safety reasons.** If your child cannot remove their own jewellery, please refrain from sending them to school wearing it.

Sports Events

14th February - Garnock Valley Girls' Football League

21st February – Garnock Valley Mixed Football League

7th March – P1 Football Fun Fours (4 a-side)

Garnock Valley Corey Cup – date to be confirmed

EV5 forms will be sent out in due course.

Trips

On the 6th and 7th February P3/4 and P5/6 were lucky enough to go to St Aloysius College in Glasgow to take part in some drama workshops. They learnt so much and had great fun! P3/4 explored mime, body drama and hot seating where they met Rabbin Burns. P5/6 explored Improvisation and Tableau. We are hoping to continue to use drama in class to

support our learning and creativity. After being at the workshops, the children visited Kelvingrove Art Gallery. All of the children had a great day out.

P6/7 are planning a trip to Dalgarn Mill on Wednesday 21st February to learn about local fashion and textiles. Thank you to Dalry Parish Boundary Trust for funding the trip.

Rights Respecting Schools

Articles	Dates	Notable dates
24	2 Feb – 16 Feb	Children’s Mental Health Week (5-11 Feb)
2, 13, 17	16 Feb – 23 Feb	LGBT+ History Week
7, 8	23 Feb – 1 March	World Book Day (2 nd March)
17, 29, 31	1 Mar – 8 March	International Women’s Day (8 th March)
2	8 Mar – 15 March	
11, 36	15 Mar - 22 Mar	
24, 27	22 Mar – 28 Mar	World Water Day (22 March)



Parking Safely

I kindly ask that parents/carers refrain from entering the staff car park. We have sadly seen an increase in some parents occasionally using the car park to drop off or pick up children. This policy is to ensure the safety of all children within the school. The car park is reserved for staff use, disabled badge holders and parents/carers who have arranged use of the car park with the Headteacher. You are encouraged to park in the car park at St. Margaret’s Church, at the top of the hill and use Mary, our lovely Crossing Patrol Person, to safely cross the road to school. Law does not permit parking in the bus bay.



Cost of the School Day

North Ayrshire Council are committed to reducing the cost of the school day and ensuring that money is not a barrier to education. With this in mind, I would like to consult parents/carers on the best use of funds to enable the cost of the school day to be minimised. A simple forms survey will be sent out with this newsletter for you to share your views. Please take the time to complete this as we want to get it right for your child. <https://forms.office.com/e/V5RQVpuzq6>

World Book Day

Miss Mitchell is busy planning World Book Day activities for our school on **Thursday 7th March**. As always we are keen to avoid any additional cost to the school day. Further information will follow.

Parents/Carers' Evening

Parents/carers are invited to discuss their child's progress with their class teacher on **Wednesday 27th March 2024**. Letters will be issued confirming times. The book fair will be available during this week and there will be the opportunity to purchase books on the night.

Easter Holiday

Schools stop on **Thursday 28th March at 2.30pm** for the Easter break and return on **Monday 15th April 2024**.