



# ST. MONICA'S Primary School

February  
2026

## NEWSLETTER

February often feels like a turning point in the school year. Confidence is growing, and pupils are beginning to see the results of their efforts. It has been wonderful to watch them set goals, celebrate achievements, and support one another. With brighter days on the horizon, we look forward to the opportunities the coming weeks will bring for learning, our creativity, and community. Children are excited as they prepare for the season of Lent and the activities throughout this time, especially our famous Talent Show!

One change that has made a difference is our move to split playtimes and lunches. Giving children more space in the playground has created a calmer, safer environment where they can play, socialise, and be active with greater freedom. Staff have seen improved interactions, more inclusive games, and a real sense of enjoyment during breaks.

We are delighted that Mrs McBride, Mrs Tennent and Miss O'Neill have successfully interviewed for temporary Principal Teacher (PEF) positions at our school. These posts will last for 3 months and will have the following responsibilities relating to our school's Improvement Priorities and in closing the attainment gap for groups of children.

- Miss O'Neill: Digital Supports
- Mrs McBride: Literacy focus- Early Level
- Mrs Tennent: Nurture and supporting Attendance



### P5 RETREAT

Our Primary 5 class attended their Eucharist Retreat on Wednesday 28th January, they attended Mass and then took part in a Eucharistic Adoration in the Parish Hall. The retreat provided a valuable opportunity for our pupils to reflect and grow in their faith.



## **PRIMARY 3 RECONCILIATION**

Congratulations to our wonderful Primary 3 children who received their Sacrament of First Reconciliation on Tuesday 3rd February 2026.



We are so proud of you.



## **PRIMARY 5 MINI VINNIES**

P5 proudly took their Mini Vinnies pledge in front of the parish, showing their commitment to kindness, service, and living out the spirit of St Vincent de Paul. Well done to every one of them.



## **P4 ATHLETICS FESTIVAL**

Primary 4 children will attend the Sportshall Athletics Competition which takes place at the Time Capsule on Friday 27th February 2026. They will travel by coach and return for 2pm. Children can wear their P.E kit coming to school and should bring a packed lunch, snacks and plenty of water for the day. Please be mindful that we are a nut free school and no items containing nuts should be in their packed lunch. A Parental Consent Form will be available on the Parents Portal for you to complete.

## **KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE AT DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP**

The safety of our pupils is our highest priority, and we need everyone's help to maintain a safe environment around the school gates.

Double yellow lines are **not** parking zones at any time. When cars stop on them—even briefly—it reduces visibility for children crossing and creates unnecessary risk during our busiest times of day.

Please use designated parking areas or leave extra time to find a safe space further away. A short walk is a small step that makes a big difference to the safety of our school community.

Thank you for supporting a safer journey for every child.



## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

**Monday 16th February**— Mid-term break

**Tuesday 17th February**—Mid-term break

**Wednesday 18th February**—In-service Day (Children not to attend)



## **Parent's Portal**

Last term, 73% of our parents signed up to Parent Portal. This is progress!! Thank you to those who have signed up. We would like to encourage parents/carers to sign up to this Portal as it is the main communication between schools and parents across North Lanarkshire Council.

To sign up, please click on the link below.

We understand some people don't have access to these facilities and it is important to let us know so we can support you.

[parentsportal.scot](http://parentsportal.scot) | The digital doorway to your child's school.

**SIGN UP  
TODAY**

## SCHOOL BLOG/COMMUNICATION

We will now be communicating through email and on our school blog website.

It is very important to make sure your email address is updated with the school office to receive important communication.

To access our School Blog website please click link below.

[St Monica's Primary School](http://stmonicasprimaryschool.blogs.northlanarkshire.sch.uk)



## HEAD LICE

It is important to check your child's hair for head lice. Unfortunately all we can do as a school is make parents/carers aware. We rely on you regularly checking and treating your child's hair. Please could you examine your child's hair as it is very important that this is done regularly. If you find head lice, you must:

- Treat appropriately: the wet combing technique eradicates the lice and eggs. This should be done every 3 to 4 days over a 2-week period to break the life cycle.
- Inform the school to prevent the spread of head lice.

If you require further information please have a look at the following website: [Head lice and nits - NHS](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/lice-and-nits)





## Lenten FUNdraising Fridays



Saint Monica's Primary School will be raising funds for MISSIO throughout the period of Lent. We will be hosting FUNdraising Fridays to raise some money in an enjoyable way. The children are welcome to wear comfortable clothes each Friday to participate in the activities. Please note that we have two additional activities this year that fall on different days, namely, world book day on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March and our Eco 'Go Green' day on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March. **The children are permitted to wear comfortable clothes to all events listed below.**

	<b>Whole School Activity</b>	<b>Whole School Weekly Raffle</b>
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb 	<b>Movie Afternoon</b> – the whole school will have the chance to watch a movie in the afternoon. They will also have an opportunity to visit a tuck shop organised by the Mini Vinnies.	No raffle as it is such a short week.
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb 	<b>Crazy Hair and Silver Spiral Day</b> – children are invited to come to school with crazy hair and take part in some class activities to support MISSIO. Children will be invited along to the hall to create a large silver spiral of money to be donated to MISSIO led by our children's MISSIO Group. Please bring some small silver change into school if possible to add to the spiral.	Primary 6 will be selling raffle tickets all week for 20p and the winner of the raffle will be announced on Friday.
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 	<b>Whole School Celebration of World Book Day</b> - £1 per family where possible to donate to MISSIO. Children are invited to dress as a character from a book or wear comfortable clothes to take part in the fun activities.	Primary 5 will be selling raffle tickets all week for 20p and the winner of the raffle will be announced on Friday
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March 	<b>Bring and Buy Sale</b> – items will be collected by the MISSIO Champions throughout the course of the week to be sold at a low cost. Children in the upper school undertaking the Pope Francis Faith award will support and organise this event on the day.	As above - Primary 5 will be selling raffle tickets all week for 20p and the winner of the raffle will be announced on Friday.
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 	<b>P4-7 Karate Sessions, P1-3 Archery and Talent Show Auditions</b> £1 per family where possible to donate to MISSIO.	Primary 4 will be selling raffle tickets all week for 20p and the winner of the raffle will be announced on Friday. Bought Disco tickets will become a raffle ticket which will be drawn on Friday 13th March.
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 	<b>It's Good to be Green Day</b> – Children are invited to wear something green. This can be an item of clothing or a ribbon, hair band, scarf etc to support the work of Primary 4 who will be running some Eco themed tasks throughout the day.	Primary 3 will be collecting items for the foodbank all week and they will be donated on Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> March.
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 	<b>Dance-a-thon</b> – The children will be invited to a party in the hall, and they will have the opportunity to purchase some accessories for the party with all profit going to MISSIO.	Mini Vinnies will be collecting items for the foodbank during this week. Items can be donated to our Mini Vinnies at the school gate in the morning or sent in to the class teacher with your child.
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 	<b>Friday Café</b> – the MISSIO champions will run a café throughout the day serving hot drinks, hot dogs and other snacks. There will be fun activities for the children to complete when they visit the café.	Primary 7 & 2 will be selling raffle tickets all week for 20p and the winner of the raffle will be announced on Friday.
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 	<b>Saint Monica's Talent Show</b> – class auditions will be taking place soon and two acts from each class will be selected to perform to the whole school on this day. Who will be crowned winner in 2026?	Primary 7 & 1 will be selling raffle tickets all week for 20p and the winner of the raffle will be announced on Friday.

## A GENTLE REMINDER ABOUT CONDUCT AT THE SCHOOL GATES

The school gates are often the first point of contact each day, and the atmosphere there sets the tone for our children. To support a positive start and end to the school day,

To help keep drop-off and pick-up times safe and positive for everyone, we kindly ask all parents and carers to keep the following in mind:

- **Use warm, calm language** — Little ears are always listening, and children take their cues from the adults around them. Calm, respectful interactions help everyone feel at ease.
- **Leave space at the gates** Please avoid blocking entrances and pathways so children can enter and exit safely.
- **Park thoughtfully** and avoid stopping on yellow lines or pavements. Safety must come first.
- **Model patience.** Drop-off and pick-up times can be busy, but a few extra moments of courtesy go a long way.

Follow any guidance from staff who are there to help.

We really appreciate your support in keeping our school community safe, calm, and welcoming for all families.

If you have any concerns or suggestions, please feel free to speak with us — we're always happy to listen.

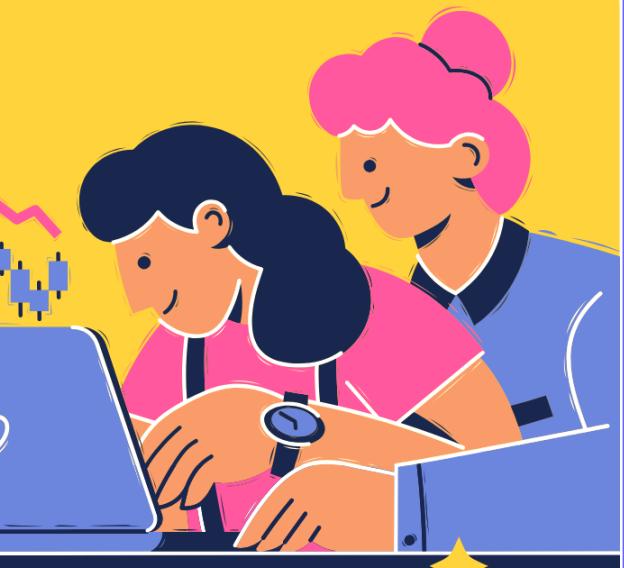
#### School Term & Holiday Dates (subject to change)

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Parents' Evening		Wednesday 1st April 2026																																							
Talent Show		Thursday 2nd April 2026																																							
School closes 2.30pm		Thursday 2nd April 2026																																							
April Holiday		Friday 3rd April—Friday 17 April 2026 inclusive (Spring break)																																							

# PARENTING IN A DIGITAL AGE

5 WEEKS OF WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS & CARERS

◆ BEGINS TUESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY  
9.30AM – 11.30AM  
ST MONICA'S PRIMARY  
CRAIGEND DRIVE, COATBRIDGE.



## GROUP CHATS AND GAMING

Be more aware of the online gaming platforms children use and how to make sure they are safe.

## SOCIAL MEDIA AND ALGORITHMS

Understanding social media platforms and how their algorithms work.

## WHAT CHILDREN WATCH AND ONLINE SOCIAL PRESSURES

Exploring risks of inappropriate content and social pressures children face.

To book please contact: Kathleen MacInnes/Jamie Dungavell  
[macinnesk@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:macinnesk@northlan.gov.uk)/[dungavellj@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:dungavellj@northlan.gov.uk)

07812501901/07812501867

Or scan QR code.



COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT | **LEARN HERE**



## *St Monica's Cake & Candy*

Dear Parents/Carers

Our Primary 7 are hosting a cake and candy event on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February for their fellow pupils. All monies raised will be put towards our P7 leavers fund.

If you feel able, we would appreciate any contribution of home baked or shop bought cakes to sell at this event. We would be grateful if you please ensure that any cakes supplied **do not contain nuts.**

Please bring any donations to the school office on the morning of the event.

Thank you for your support.

St Monica's PS





# St Monica's Primary

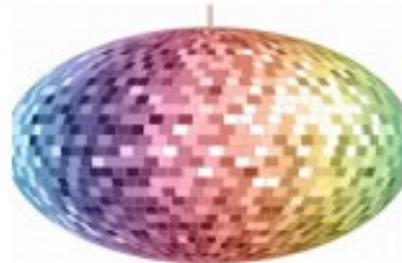
## Spring Disco

**12 March 2026**

**P1-P4 – 6pm- 7.15pm**

**P5-P7 – 7.30pm – 8.45pm**

**Tickets cost £2.50, tickets available Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at the school office.**



The whole school performed in front of their peers and learned all about Robert Burns on Burns Day. All children were treated to some shortbread and Irn Bru. Well Deserved!!



Our P1 and P2/3 children learned all about Saint Michael's Statue by Father G.



Our P5 children are thriving in the Block Play After School club, throwing themselves into hands on activities that build confidence, teamwork, and real world skills.



Well done to all the boys and girls who took part in the football afterschool club. Your energy, teamwork, and enthusiasm shone through every session, and you were all excellent.

It was brilliant to see everyone improving, supporting each other, and having fun along the way.

