

Corpus Christi Primary Newsletter

September 2020 Newsletter



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Diary Dates

- ◆ In-service Day (School/Nursery closed to children) Thursday 24th September 2020
- ◆ September Weekend - School/Nursery closed- Friday 25th and Monday 28th September 2020
- ◆ October Break - School/Nursery closed- Monday 12th to Friday 16th October 2020
- ◆ In-service Day (School and Nursery closed to children) Monday 16th November 2020
- ◆ Christmas and New Year Holidays - School/Nursery closed - Wednesday 23rd December to Tuesday 5th January 2021



Staffing Update

I am delighted to welcome Mr Dunz back on a temporary basis to support the wonderful learning and teaching in Corpus Christi Primary and I know I can say with great confidence that Mr Dunz is delighted to be back in our school.

Unfortunately, we will shortly be saying farewell to Mrs Turpin who works in our office. Mrs Turpin has accepted senior clerical hours in Calderbank Primary. We all wish Mrs Turpin well!

Health and Safety

Once again I wish to thank all of you who continue to follow our very important health and safety measures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children and staff.

I will continue to include reminders in our monthly newsletters for as long as these measures remain in place, as we all must remain very aware of the negative impact that any potential COVID cluster could have on our community; both in terms of the impact on health and on schooling.



Reminders again include:

- ◆ **All adults must adhere to physical distancing at our school gates.**
- ◆ **Where physical distancing amongst adults is not possible then face coverings should be worn.**
- ◆ **Please stand clear of our gates at all times to allow children the space they need to enter and exit school.**
- ◆ **Park away from the school where possible.**
- ◆ **No cars should be driven directly past our school gates (with particular attention paid to the Church gate) during times when children are entering or exiting the school grounds. I cannot stress enough the dangers of not adhering to this important safety measure.**
- ◆ **Once your child has entered our school grounds they are supervised by staff, therefore parents are **not required** to wait until the school bell rings.**
- ◆ **Please do not park on yellow zig zag lines at our main entrance.**
- ◆ **Please do not park on areas marked 'keep clear' at Crown Street gate.**
- ◆ **Please be mindful of our neighbours when deciding where to park your car**

Your support in these essential matters are vital in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all. Please ensure family members involved in dropping off/collecting your child are fully aware of the above health and safety measures.



Allergies

A reminder that we continue to be a 'nut free zone'. We have children in our school with severe nut allergies therefore, to ensure the safety of all children, our school is a nut free zone. Please also note that we cannot accept birthday cakes being brought into school.

Absence/Sickness

Our August newsletter provided detailed information regarding absence/sickness. Please refer to this information if you are unsure of what to do. All our newsletters are added to our school blog:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/corpuschristi/newsletters/>

However, I ask again that you ensure you follow the guidance below in relation to coronavirus.

Anyone with symptoms, or who has had contact with someone with symptoms, should not attend school. If in school at the time they will be asked to return home and be tested or, if you do not wish to carry out a test, isolate for 10 days.

The symptomatic person should remain at home and everyone in the household should self-isolate until they receive their test results. If the test is positive, they must isolate for 10 days and those in the household for 14 days.

The most common symptoms are:

- 🛡️ New, continuous cough
- 🛡️ Fever/high temperature
- 🛡️ Loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste



Please **do not** send your child to school if showing **any** of the above symptoms.

Please phone the office to advise staff if your child is going to be absent from school and if the absence is related to any of the above symptoms. If a test takes place then please advise the office of the results, positive or negative, as soon as possible.



P.E. Kit/Personal Belongings

In line with government guidelines, your child will receive physical education in an outdoor setting. If the weather forecast is heavy rain, high winds etc then PE will take place within an indoor setting with a focus on health and wellbeing, gentle yoga and/or mindfulness techniques.

To ensure the children are comfortable during outdoor PE they should wear their outdoor PE kit to school on their allocated PE day. This should consist of dark coloured jogging trousers/leggings, t-shirt (no football tops), trainers and school jumper/cardigan. Children should also come to school with a warm, waterproof jacket.

Class	Day
Primary 1 - Mrs Callaghan	Friday
Primary 2/3 - Mrs Stewart	Tuesday
Primary 3/4 - Mrs Rennie	Friday
Primary 5 - Mrs Connolly	Thursday
Primary 6 - Miss Wallace	Tuesday
Primary 7 - Mrs Gallagher	Friday

Please remember that children should **not** bring any personal belongings such as toys, game cards, mobile phones etc to school.



Homework/Reading Books

Primary 2 to Primary 7 have now been issued with reading books. Each class teacher will advise of when your child's reading book should be returned. Your child's reading book need only be brought back on the day it is due to be returned and should not be brought back and forth.

Further homework will commence week beginning Monday 14th September. The format for homework will be a grid similar to the one used online during school closure.

A paper copy of the grid will be given to each child and an electronic copy will be uploaded to your child's class team on Microsoft Teams. Children will be able to add and/or upload homework privately online. Staff are supporting all children in ensuring they can access their class team online using their Glow login and are able to add work, and will continue to provide support in school to ensure everyone is able to access this.



Please note that our younger children, particularly Primary 1, will initially be issued with homework workbooks to cover a block of homework.

A survey will be issued this week regarding access to online learning. It would be very helpful to get as many responses as possible before our online homework begins.

parentsportal.scot

Parents' Portal

In support of North Lanarkshire Council's ambition to continue improvement in parental communications and its Digital NL plans a 'Parent's Portal' has been developed. This portal will become one of the main platforms for communication between schools and parents across North Lanarkshire and is also the platform for paying for school meals therefore, if not already done so, I encourage you to sign up to this using the following link.

<https://parentsportal.scot/home/>

If you experience any difficulty in registering on the parent portal then please contact our office staff who will be more than happy to help.



School Values

During session 2019-2020, I worked with staff, pupils and parents through focus groups to develop a set of core values which constitutes our school's moral purpose and that which really matters to us as a community of learners. Through this partnership working it was agreed that we are a school community that shows **Compassion** for the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of others. We value the importance of **Honesty** in our interactions and of **Respect** for ourselves, others and our environment. We ensure everyone experiences **Inclusion** and the right to achieve their full potential in an environment which values **Safety** and wellbeing. We create a culture of **Trust** where our learners, families, staff and wider community can work together for the good of our school community; trusting in one another and trusting in God.

Those of you who were able to attend our online assemblies in June will have already been a part of our official launch of these school values. Now that the children are back at school, I am visiting each class over the coming weeks to work directly with the children in exploring how we can put these values into action in our daily lives.

Compassion **Honesty** **Respect** **Inclusion** **Safety** **Trust**



Twitter/School Blog

Our Twitter account is reaching its first birthday this month with us now at 299 followers. Twitter has been a hugely successful way of celebrating achievements, acknowledging special occasions and generally keeping our community connected, particularly during the previous term when schools were closed. It has been a valuable addition to our school profile and I wish to thank you for your contributions towards making it such a success and in raising the profile of our wonderful school! I wonder how many followers we will have in another years time!

You can follow us on: [@NLCorpusChristi](https://twitter.com/NLCorpusChristi)

Our school blog is now up and running too and contains regular updates, information regarding our school staff, our most recent school handbook and our newsletters. This continues to be a work in progress and more information will continue to be added. You can access our blog using the following link:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/corpuschristi/>



Spiritual Life of the School

It has been wonderful to catch up with Fr. Vincent over the past few weeks and see how well he is doing. As you know, the current circumstances mean that we cannot attend Mass as a school for the time being. However, arrangements are being made for Fr. Vincent to have a weekly virtual meet up with classes and monthly prayer services online. Opportunities will also be available for classes to attend Mass online just as we have all been doing over these past few months.

Our very experienced staff will continue to provide quality opportunities for prayer and Religious Education, as they always have done, and plans are under way for our Pope Francis Faith Award participation for Primary 6 and Primary 7.

I know many parents are keen to receive updates regarding Sacraments which were postponed earlier in the year. As soon as I have information I will pass this on to you.

Thank you!

Once again, I wish to thank you for your patience and support as we navigate our way through a re-opening of our school and nursery and all the many changes to our usual way of working that comes with it.

I am now approaching one full year of being Head Teacher of Corpus Christi Primary and Nursery and it has certainly been very different from anything I could have imagined. However, despite the recent challenges, I can honestly say I have thoroughly enjoyed leading and supporting our school community this past year and I look forward to many more years of doing so!

Remember, if you wish to contact me regarding any aspect of your child's learning and wellbeing or the work of our school then please do so via telephone or email.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mary McCreery
Head Teacher

Compassion Honesty Respect Inclusion Safety Trust