



Holy Family Primary School

Hope Street, Mossend ML4 1QA Tel: 01698 274967

Email: enquiries-at-holyfamily@northlan.org.uk

Dear Parent/Carers,

It is hard to believe we are almost through May and nearing the end of this school academic session. Before we get to the Summer break we have lots still to achieve. Within this Newsletter we will try and share as much information as we have confirmed for up and coming events to allow families to plan ahead. We know life can get busy.

If you have any questions please get in touch through our various communication channels.

Kind regards

Mrs Harley (HT)

Sacraments

Congratulations to all of our children who have received Sacraments over recent months.

Thank you to Bishop Toal who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on 27th April 2023 with some of our P7 children. I am sure you will agree our young people approached this important occasion in their lives with maturity, understanding and reverence.

Also, thank you to Father Brown who celebrated First Holy Communion with some of our P4 children on Saturday 20th May. The weather was kind to us and I am hearing lots of exciting stories about the celebrations. As Father Brown said remember, Saturday was their first encounter with Jesus in this Holy Sacrament, it would be pleasing for them to be receiving weekly at Mass.

Can I personally thank all the staff who have prepared the children for these beautiful occasions. Their hard work and dedication is much appreciated. Also to the families and parish community who have supported our children along the way with kind words, direction and prayer. A particular thanks goes to Mrs Banks from our parish choir who has been coming into school to help us with the hymns for First Friday Mass and our Sacraments. A true team effort across the Holy Family faith sharing community.



School Show– Peter Pan

What a treat you are in for!!!!

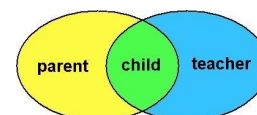
Our amazing staff and children continue to rehearse for this year's production, Peter Pan. I am super proud of the team effort going into this production and I am sure you will not be disappointed. Tickets are on sale at the school, £4 per seat so be quick as they are selling fast.

Mr Conaghan of St. Gerard's and his team have been a great help enabling us to have a proper stage for the children to perform on. So a big thank you there!

Showtime: 6th and 7th June @ 7pm in St. Gerard's Primary, Bellshill.

Diaries/ Homework

Please remember that the children's diaries can be used for enquiries or to keep your child's teacher up to date with any issues they are having, in order that we can best support your child.



P.E.

Taking part fully in P.E. is so important for the physical health of our children and their habits in developing healthy lifestyles. We ask you to ensure children have their kits on their designated gym days. Children wear full school uniform every day. They will have time to change for P.E. lessons and should bring their PE kit, a yellow t-shirt and navy or dark shorts or jogging bottoms/leggings. If you do not have a yellow t-shirt then a dark plain t-shirt would be suitable, no football tops please. Jewellery should not be worn on PE days.

Labelling

Reminder- please ensure your child's name is on their belongings so that we can try our best to reunite children with their lost property. Having names on items left helps us to get it back to you promptly.

Water bottles



Now, especially as the weather is warming up, please ensure your child has a suitable water bottle with them every day with sufficient supply to last them all through the day. Children are able to refill their bottles. NLC policy is plain water to be drunk throughout the day to help with refreshing and rehydrating our brains which improves concentration. I ask for your support on this.

IMPORTANT!!! NUT FREE ZONE

As with all schools in NLC we are a Nut Free Zone. This is to protect staff and children who have allergies. If they come into contact with or experience airborne triggers they can become extremely ill. Can I ask parents/ carers to carefully check the packaging of snacks and packed lunch items coming into school and refrain from sending anything containing nuts. We want everyone to be safe.



Communication



We have a growing number of followers on Twitter - @holyfamily_ps and would ask if you could please follow us in order to keep up to date with news and events. The school website is good source of communication also as it is regularly updated <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/holyfamily/>. I will work on my updates over the next few weeks. We will continue to communicate through the e-mail system and ask that you check this regularly to keep up to date. Can you check we have an up-to-date email contact as going forward a lot more communication will be coming out through this channel of communication.



Shorts and Shades Party!!!!

I hear this is the event of the year in Holy Family Primary!!

Our Parent Council are busy in the background organising this party for our children to attend. Children are invited to come back to school on **Tuesday 30th May**:

P1-P3: **6.30pm-7:30pm**, doors open 6.15pm

P4-P7: **7:45pm-8:45pm** doors open 7.30pm.

Again, this event would not be possible if the Parent Council were not in the background organising it. Can you help out for a few hours on the evening? If so please return the tear off slip which was issued a few weeks back or call the school office with your availability by Thursday 25th May. We are also looking for kind donations of sweets, crisps, kwenchy cups, bottled drinks and Summer/holiday decorations in order to make the school hall look and feel like summer. Children are to pay on the door at £1.00 per child.



Attendance and Late-coming

It goes without saying, the more a child attends school the better chance they have of reaching their full potential. Our staff are working extremely hard to ensure children receive good learning experiences and supports which they may require. Shortly you will receive your child's end of year report and this will note their attendance percentage. Please take time to reflect on this. The North Lanarkshire attendance target is 95% for every pupil. I have included an illustration summary of show the number of days/weeks lost against attendance percentages. We have been working on improving attendance as a school and Cluster this session and I intend to address this in more depth next session.

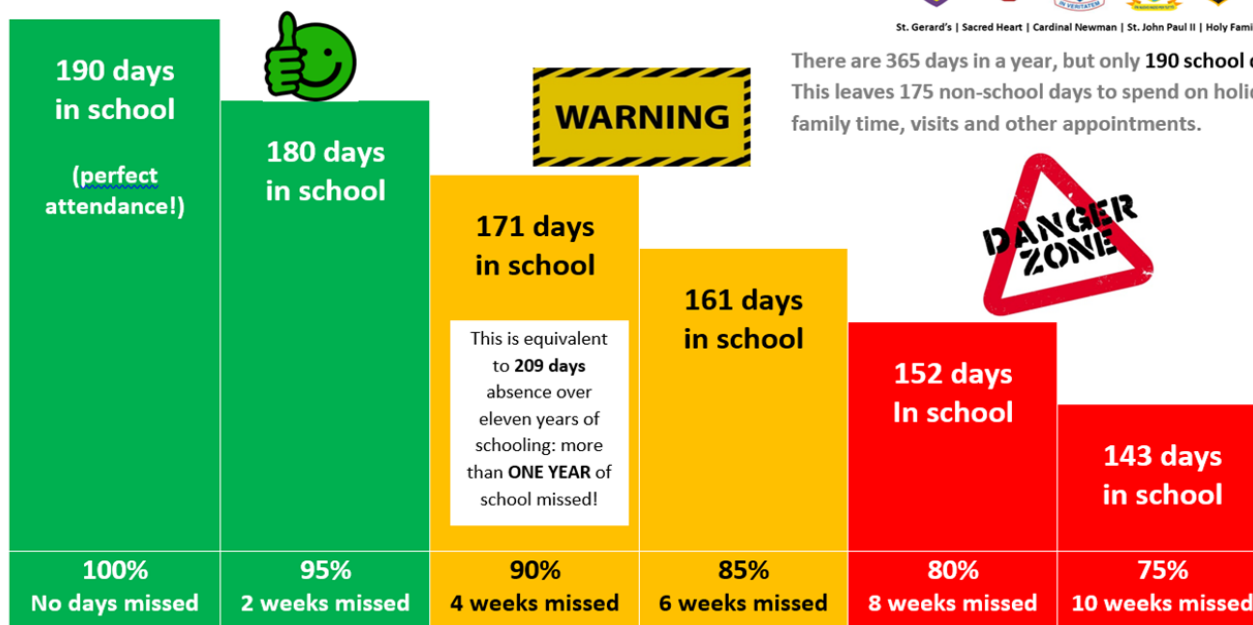
Late-coming can also be very disruptive and stressful for children. As of August 2023 I am going to be officially recording and monitoring late-coming in-line with NLC procedures. More information will be shared about this in the new term.

Understanding your child's attendance percentage

CARDINAL NEWMAN CLUSTER OF SCHOOLS



St. Gerard's | Sacred Heart | Cardinal Newman | St. John Paul II | Holy Family



This level of attendance gives your child the **best possible chance** of making good progress and having success in their learning

This level of attendance is **worrying**. It will make it harder for your child to make good progress and they are less likely to have success in their learning

This level of attendance is **extremely concerning**. It will be very difficult for your child to make good progress in their learning and there is likely to be a serious impact on their success in school



ATTENDANCE MATTERS... every school day counts!

Celebrating our P7 Leavers'

Plans are well underway to ensure our P7 children have a send off they will remember. Father Brown has kindly offered to celebrate our Leavers' Mass on Thursday 22nd June @9.30am in Holy Family Church. Families, friends and the Parish community are more than welcome to join us. The children will also present an assembly to family and friends in the school around 11am. You are welcome to stay for a cuppa afterwards. A party is also planned for later that evening.



Fun day

It is not only our P7 children we are going to celebrate!!! We are planning a whole school Fun day to celebrate the 2022-23 school session. This will be on Monday 26th June. The children will have lots of entertainment and fun activities to participate in with plenty of 'downtime' in class before they move onto their next stage.

In recognition of the current financial strains on families, we will NOT be asking for any money towards this. The School Funds which our families generously contribute to throughout the year will cover the costs.

Transition : Our P7 pupils are engaging well with their respective High school transition programmes. You can keep up to date with some of their activities on our Twitter pages and that of the school they are due to attend.

We have also had our Cluster Support Teacher, Mrs Hornell working with some children to further support their transition to Cardinal Newman High.

Now that the move is coming closer if you have any questions please approach the staff or contact the high schools directly.

P1 Transition: The transition programme for our new P1 children is well underway and it has been lovely to have them in the school building , learning all about life in the 'big school'. Again, if you have any questions please contact the school. We are happy to help.

Parent Council : We are very lucky in Holy Family to have such an active and caring Parent Council supporting the school. At Parents' Evening we had a few parents/carers responding saying they could offer some time to help in a variety of ways. Great news!

Our next meeting is planned for **Wednesday 21st June @ 6.30pm** in the Parish Centre. Please come along if you can and offer your support. Our children benefit fully from the work this small group is able to provide. A few more hands helping would be great.

Thank you to the Parent Council who funded all our P7 Leaver's with their very precious hoodies as a gift. The children are wearing these with pride. The funds are from the support all our families provide to the numerous events which run over the year.

Sun Protection

It is lovely to see the sun shining again and feeling somewhat warmer. Our staff often take the child outdoors as part of their class learning, P.E., for brain breaks or extra plays as a reward for our winning House. Please apply sunscreen before children come to school which has strong enough SPF protection to last throughout the day. A hat would also be useful if you feel this is necessary to add further protection from the sun. School staff cannot apply sun cream in school. We want to teach our children to be sun safe.