St Mary's Primary School

Newsletter

February 2017

****It hardly seems any time since we started back after the holidays but we are already into February and half term is approaching. We are holding an open afternoon on Friday 8th, at 1.30pm. The afternoon will begin with an information session in the hall, followed by visits to classes. Tea and coffee will then be available. We are hoping many of you will be able to attend.

As you are all aware, a number of staff have left recently for a number of different reasons. I appreciate that many of you have concerns but unfortunately neither the school or the authority have any control over this. I am, however, delighted to inform you that we are currently advertising and once the position is filled we should be able to provide greater consistency for all classes. I appreciate your support and patience in this matter.

Hopscotch Theatre came in to entertain us with their show (gift from Santa) about Scottish Inventors and the importance of having a 'Growth Mindset'. We encourage our pupils to appreciate that mistakes help us learn and that the important thing is to keep trying. They will be returning at the end of the month to explore this in greater detail with our Primary 6 and 7 pupils who will be participating in a workshop.

We are currently involved with a Bernardo's project ‘5 to Thrive’. The project focuses on our younger pupils although parents will be able to find out all about the approach at our open day. Our Primary 5 children will shortly be beginning a project with the Edinburgh Book Festival which is taking a closer look at the town of Cumbernauld. This will involve the children working alongside artist, an author and media students from Edinburgh University. Our Primary 4 pupils will shortly be working alongside students from Glasgow College of Technology looking at the history of photography and developing photography skills. In addition to these exciting projects our Primary 7's will have visiting teachers from the high school for maths and language. A Mandarin teacher will be visiting our Primary 5's and a Spanish assistant will be visiting some of our other classes. We are delighted that we have so many rich and varied partnerships at present which will enrich the children's learning experiences.

We have a number of Sport's specialists working within the school at present. Handball continues for Primary 5 and Primary 7, Badminton is being delivered to the Primary 2/3 class, the Primary 4's and the Primary 6's. We have football, rugby, handball and dancing after school as well. It is important that children are dressed appropriately in a PE kit when taking part in physical exercise. A growing number of children are forgetting their kit so I would appreciate you ensuring that either a kit is left in school for the week or reminding your children to bring one in. Letters will be sent home if children do not have a kit on their gym days.

Sacramental preparation begins soon for our Primary 3's and 4's. The Primary 3's will be enrolling for the Sacraments during masses at both Sacred Heart and St Joseph's on Sunday 19th February. Dates for all Sacrament are listed later in newsletter.

We currently have a free trial for an online resource SUMDOG. The children have been given a login and I know that both the Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils seem to be very enthusiastic. Please let us know what you think about this or any other things going on in school. We are always keen to get your views.

Kind regards

P Brazill

Head Teacher

**Parent Council Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Monday 6th February at 5pm. If you would like to come along and join please feel free. We are currently looking for some new members to join, if interested please pass on your details to Mrs Fenton in the office. The meetings only take place once a month or if you can’t make these why not join and help out with events when you can.

**Afterschool Clubs**

The afterschool clubs start again this week. Thanks to the parents who have paid the sessions in advance. We are still experiencing payment not being made before the club starts, can we ask that you pay in advance if possible for the full weeks, if your child misses any of the sessions you will receive the money back. The payment can be sent into the school office. We cannot accept money at the main door at 4pm.

Dance – Monday’s until 27th March

Rugby – Tuesday’s until 21st March

Handball – Wednesdays – ongoing

Football – Friday’s until 24th March.

**Open Afternoon**

The school open afternoon will be on Friday 10th February from 1.30pm. All parents and carers welcome.

**School Holidays**

The school will be closed on Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th February, followed by an In service day on Wednesday 15th February. Children do not attend on the in service days.

**Mass of Enrolments – Primary 3 Children – Sunday 19th February**

St Joseph’s Parish – 11.00am

Sacred Heart Parish – 10.00am

**World Thinking Day**

The children who attend Rainbows/Guides/Brownies will be celebrating world thinking day on Wednesday 22nd February and are allowed to wear their uniforms in school.

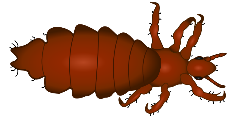
**P6 & P7 Drama Workshop**

Hopscotch Theatre will be running a workshop for our P6 and P7 pupils on Tuesday 28th February.

**School Lunches**

The ladies from the school kitchen has mentioned on a few occasions about the lack of money on some of the children’s cards for lunch. They can’t put through what they owe as the new system will not allow this. Can we ask that you check your child’s account at least once a week or send money into the school to add to their card. If you are having any problems or finding it difficult please contact the school or Head teacher who will be happy to assist.

**Head Lice**

We have been informed by parents that there is an outbreak of headlice in the school. Please check your child’s hair at least once a week, treat if necessary and comb through each night until a week later when you should then be reapplying the treatment again. To keep these pests at bay we need parents to be vigilant.

**Credit Union**

The credit union are in school every Tuesday morning. If you would like your child to start saving please pick up a form from the school office.

**Online Payment / Xpression App**

We now have a good number of parents using the Groupcall Xpressions App, thankyou. Please check that you are signed into the app so that you will receive notification through quickly. If you are having any problems with downloading the App please contact Mrs Fenton in the school office, who will be happy to assist you.

All school trips will be paid for online, please ensure you have set up your account, any problems please get in touch. Thanks for your cooperation.



February

Ashton Allison Kenzie Brindley Katy Bulpitt

Liam Fleming Myles Gallacher Sophie Gallacher

John-Paul McAteer Thomas McGougan Tyler McIntyre

Kai Molloy Thomas Moran Jack Varney

Jasmine Carruth



**Quick Glance Ahead – March 2017**

Tuesday 7th March P3 St Joseph’s Reconciliation at 7pm

Tuesday 14th March P4 Parents Meeting for First Holy Communion – 7pm

@ St Margaret of Scotland Primary School, Broomlands Road.

Tuesday 21st March P3 Sacred Heart Reconciliation at 7.30pm

Tuesday 21st March Rugby afterschool club - LAST ONE

Friday 24th March Cfe Awards Assembly – letter to follow

Friday 24th March Football afterschool club – LAST ONE

Monday 27th March Dance afterschool club – LAST ONE

Friday 31st March School Closes at 2.30pm

Mon 3rd – Mon 17th April – School Holiday

**MCj03312940000[1]**

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT WE**

**ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL**

**MCj03312940000[1]**

**REMINDERS**

**Sickness** - Can we remind parents that if your child has a Sickness Bug / Tummy Bug they have to be **48hrs clear** before returning to school. This stops the infection spreading to other children.

**Belongings -** Can we remind parents/guardians to put their child’s name on their belongings.

Can you also check on a **daily** basis that your child is wearing their own Cardigan/Jumper/Jacket.

**No jewellery** to be worn on gym days, all earrings **must** be taped up at home or removed

prior to coming to school.

**Attendance** - Please call the school office if your child is unwell or unable to attend school followed with a letter to their class teacher. If no prior notice of an absence is received a text message will be sent.

**Bus Children** must wear their seatbelts and are **NOT** allowed to **STAND** until the bus has **STOPPED**. If your child is not returning home on the school bus please send in a letter to the class teacher or call the school office.

**Cafeteria** - Please ensure your child has sufficient money if buying a lunch from the cafeteria. Any money owed must be **returned to the cafeteria.**

**PARKING AT SCHOOL** – Please be considerate of Local Residents when parking at the school. School Car Park **only** for Staff.

**\*\*\* NO PARKING ON THE ZIG ZAGS AT ANY TIME \*\*\***



Parent Council Corner

The Parent Council will meet in school on **Monday 16th February** at 6.00pm. If you are interested in joining or helping out at any future events please come along and join us.