

# St Mary's Primary School

November 2017

Bulletin

## Theatre Production

The children enjoyed their visit from M & M productions and their performance of Jack and the Beanstalk. This was an extra treat funded by the school as we had been offered it at a bargain price. Our school trip to the Pantomime at MacRobert Centre is on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November. Apologies for any confusion.

## Pupil Voice

Our pupils took part in a vote this week to find out their favourite school meal.

The children chose from Steak Pie, Burger, Fish and Chips, Chicken Curry, Macaroni Cheese and Pizza. The results were pretty much as we expected and were as follows:

In 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Fish and Chips

In 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Chicken Curry

And in 1<sup>st</sup> place - Pizza

## Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Congratulations to our pupils who were chosen by teachers for best demonstrating 'Joy' in class and in school. Our focus for November is 'Peace'.



## Playroom

We have been asked to provide a space for the Learning Support team who work in our area. As a result our playroom is being relocated upstairs. This will give us an opportunity to have a good clear out and refresh this excellent resource. I am sure the children will love the new room when it is completed.

## Cooking Kitchen

Our new kitchen is fully installed and we are now waiting on some new furniture. Our nursery pupils used it for their Halloween party and Primary 3 made some cakes for Halloween. We are delighted to be hosting a workshop on Love Food Hate Waste later this month courtesy of one of our parents. This will involve some of our P1 – P3 pupils. We will also be having a workshop for our Nursery Parents on supporting our 'fussy eaters'.

## Dates for your Diary

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**Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> November – Halloween Disco**

**P1 – P3 6.15pm – 7.15pm**

**P4 – P7 7.30pm – 8.45pm**

**Weds 29<sup>th</sup> November – Whole School Outing to Panto – MacRobert Centre. Payment to be made online.**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November - P1 and P2 – Fluoride Varnish in school**

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November – P6 visit to OLHS, Full Uniform to be worn.**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November – P1 Health Checks**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November – In Service Day**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Last Football**

**Afterschool Club**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Last Junior Jog**

**Afterschool Club**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December – Last Handball**

**Afterschool Club until Jan 2018**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Last Dance**

**Afterschool Club**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Whole School**

**Christmas Lunch**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Last Athletics**

**Afterschool Club**

## Talking to teachers

We encourage all parents/carers to share information which will support our children in school. It's important for our little ones to have a successful start to the day and we would ask that if a message needs passed on to a teacher you speak to one of our office staff. This helps ensure a smooth transition from the playground to the classroom for our children. If you need to speak to teachers at the end of the day please wait until all the children have been collected before approaching the teacher.

## Parental Feedback

Many thanks to those of you who completed our questionnaire at our October Parent's Evening.

We had 52 responses in total. 81% of responses said that you preferred/enjoyed the online sign up system for Parent's evening. We are aware of some glitches and would like to remind everyone that it is very important that we have the correct contact information. This should be checked on your annual data return and the system relies on up to date e mail information. We have passed on concerns to North Lanarkshire Council around split parent appointments. 19 Parents said they would be interested in being involved in a short life working party however for many of you it would depend on the day/time. A letter will be issued next week with the details so please look out for it.

20 parents said they would be interested in Make, Move Munch club. I will be contacting the organisers and hope to run this at some point in the New Year.

Suggestions for improvements varied and we will look closely to see how we can take on board your feedback. Suggestions included;

- Homework – include a space for parental communication.
- *Access to Expressions App for separated parents (have passed this onto NLC)*
- Parental Workshop on managing behaviour.
- Regular updates on teacher absence/changes.
- *Provision of class cover which ensures consistent teaching.*
- *Opportunities to try new foods.*
- *Increased play supervision in yard*
- More regular feedback on learning/behaviour

The comments in Italics are out with school control however I have passed them on to NLC and Catering.

In addition we had a number of very positive, lovely comments about our staff and our school. Thank you.

### REMINDERS

**Absence** - Please remember if your child is absent from school to call the office on the first day.

**Sickness/Tummy Bugs** – Children should not return until 48hours clear due to passing on the infection.

**Gym Days** – No jewellery to be worn on gym days, all earrings must be taped up are home or removed prior to coming to school.

**School Ties** – Available from the school office - £4 each.

**New Contact Details** – If you have changed any contact details – Address/home/ mobile number or email, please pass this onto the school office. It is very important that we have up to date information in case of an emergency.

**Afterschool Clubs** – If your child attends a club and no longer wishes to attend or is missing a session please contact the school office, a register is taken for all the clubs run in school.

**Bus children** – If your child is not returning home on the school bus please inform the office or teacher by sending in a letter or phone call.

## 100 years of Catholic Education 50 years of St Mary's

2018 marks 100 years of the Education Scotland Act (Catholic Schools) and 50 years of St Mary's and Our Lady's High School. The Church has always been involved in education and learning, well before the Act was passed and indeed Jesus was a great teacher. We will be marking the year with a series of different events in conjunction with the Archdiocese, parish and other local primaries. If you have any ideas which you feel would help us celebrate please get in touch.

If you or any family /friends have attended St Mary's can you please start looking out some old photos if you have them. Thank you.

## Attendance, Holidays and Late coming.

Poor attendance is proven to affect children's performance and attainment at school. Please ensure that where possible all holidays are booked out with term time. The excitement and build up to a holiday can unsettle children and the week or so following their return can also have an unsettling effect. Please take this into consideration before booking.

Persistent late coming can be very disruptive to the start of the day in class. If you need any support to get your child to school on time please contact us.

We do understand that there can be exceptional circumstances.

As part of the Mid-term report we will also give you a copy of your child's attendance record from August-December for your information.

## Junior Jog

Our latest after school club has started on a Monday after school and is targeted at our younger pupils from P2-4. Feedback so far is very good.