

St Mary's Primary School

October 2021



Bulletin

My goodness the time has flown in this term and we can't believe we are now heading off for our October break.

COVID

As you will know we have had a number of positive cases among our pupils. Fortunately everyone has recovered well. Can we remind everyone that if your child is well and not at school, they can access work on our Blended Learning team, which is accessed through Glow. Your child will need their login details.

If your child is experiencing symptoms please get a PCR test just to be sure and keep everyone safe. We are very grateful that our parents have been very vigilant in following all procedures. Thank you.

It is important however, that if your child has a negative result they should return to school.

Please ensure if your child is able to come to school that they do and that they attend on time. Literacy and Numeracy usually are taught early in the school day and it is difficult to catch up on missed learning.

Parent's Evening

Our telephone parent's evening is on this Thursday 7th October. There is still time to sign up for an appointment. The online booking will close on Thursday morning, if you are having any difficulty in accessing the site please call the school office and an appointment can be arranged for you.

If you are unable to make it please give us a call so we can organise something which suits. We have been carrying out a number of assessments to identify where your child is and identify the correct next steps for their learning. We welcome the opportunity to share this with you and discuss how best to support your child/ren.

Dates for your Diary

Mon 11th – Fri 15th Oct

Mon 8th Nov

Mon 15th Nov

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School Holiday

P7 Confirmation @ Sacred Heart Parish

In Service Day – Pupils do not attend

Awards

We are moving closer to resuming normal school life and are delighted that we can hold small assemblies for our Curriculum for Excellence Awards. P1-3 will meet in the hall and celebrate the success of some of their classmates, followed by P4-7. It is always difficult to choose pupils as everyone is working so well and given all we have been through in the last couple of years we are extremely proud of all of them.

Class Masses

We are delighted that Father McKay is able to come in and hold class masses again in school. These will take place in P4/5, P5/6 and P7. Each class will have one Mass and one opportunity for Confession. We are planning and hoping for a whole school Mass on the 8th December, Feast of the Immaculate Conception and are very excited at the chance to celebrate and worship together as a school community.

Literacy

We have adopted a new phonics programme this year following a successful pilot in Primary 1 last year. I have visited all classes to see the children at work and have been very impressed at how engaged they all are in their tasks. We are hoping to have a workshop at some point later this session so that you can see exactly how it works and how it benefits children when learning to read, write and spell.

COP26

Many of our classes are involved in producing a workshop presentation as part of the planned COP26 gathering in Glasgow later this year. P4/5 are looking at the impact of plastic on our environment, P5/6 will be looking at deforestation and P7 are investigating climate change and the increasing number of natural disasters. All classes will work together to produce a presentation entitled See Our World – the impact of humans on Nature. This will be shared with our wider school community when finished.

Numeracy

Our infant classes are being supported by a Numeracy coach from North Lanarkshire Council in integrating a SEAL approach to number development. SEAL stands for Stages of Early Arithmetical Learning. This involves using concrete materials and hands on resources to ensure children have a firm understanding of number which helps them with more complicated number concepts later in school.



Mobile Numbers/ Email

If you are not receiving any of our messages either by text or the Xpression App please call the school office. We also send out the monthly Newsletters/ Bulletins by email, if you are no longer using the one we have on file please contact the office. You can also check the school website for information from the classes and all our Bulletins too.

Thanks

Halloween

Friday 29th October – As we are still not allowed any discos in school we have arranged the following for Halloween.

P1-3 – Can dress up, NO Accessories please, i.e swords, guns, wands etc...A snack will also be provided.

P4-7 – We will have a movie afternoon for the older children along with a snack – No dressing up.

REMINDERS

Absence - Please remember if your child is absent from school to call the office on the first day. Please do not email any member of staff as this may be missed if out of the building.

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 at 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.