

 St Aidan’s Primary School & Nursery Class

August/September 2017

School telephone number – 01698 522702

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 **NEWSLETTER**

**Welcome to our August/September Newsletter!**

Welcome back to our new school year. I hope you have had a wonderful summer break.

It is lovely to see the children back in school, looking very smart in their school uniforms – they are a credit to you and your commitment to our school. Can I remind you to mark your child’s name on jumpers, skirts, trousers etc.… When clothing gets mixed up it can be extremely difficult to track down if it is not labelled.

I’d like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to all new members of the school community, pupils, staff and parents/carers.

**Staff Update**

**Mrs Duffy**

Mrs Duffy will begin her Maternity Leave on 21st September. We wish her the very best of luck and look forward to seeing baby Duffy very soon.

**Mrs Jankauskiene (P5), Miss Sherlock (P2) and Miss Collins (P6/7)**

A warm welcome to our new teaching members of staff – Joining a very special team.

**Miss Goldie (Classroom Assistant)**

Miss Goldie has now taken up her new post and we wish her every happiness and success. She will be missed by us all.

**Breakfast Club**

The very popular Breakfast Club has started already from **8.20am – 9am every morning**.

![MC900021588[1]]()Thanks to all the staff who help run this every day. If you would like your child to attend, please contact the school office for more information.

**St Aidan’s Feast Day Mass**

We will be celebrating the feast of St Aidan and the opening of our school year with Mass in St Aidan’s Church **at 10:00** on **Thursday 31st August**. I would like to extend an invitation to all parents and family to join us at this special Mass.

****As detailed in our June newsletter, Mrs Liz Thomson worked in St Aidan’s for many years as a valued member of the support staff team. We would like to honour her memory by holding a special talent show named ‘Mrs Thomson Talent Show’ during St Aidan’s Feast Day. The children are very excited to showcase their talents.

**Meet the Teacher/ Curriculum Evening**

We look forward to welcoming all parents/ carers to our Meet the Teacher evening on **Wednesday 30th August** **6pm till 7pm.** You will have the opportunity to visit your child’s class and gain information on how you can best support your child’s learning at home. Please make every effort to come along to this event.

**![MC900436023[1]]()Out of School Hours Learning**

****As ever the school will offer a wide range of activities throughout the year. We encourage all children to attend at least one of our Out of School Hours activities. Our clubs will begin after the September weekend…more information to follow.

**Green Hands Together**

You may have noticed that our garden project which has been organised by our super Parent Council is looking fantastic. The Parent Council were successful in applying for Grants from Tesco and Lottery to develop a science club garden and inter-generational garden club in conjunction with Alzheimer Scotland.

Our Green Hands Together project will provide pupils with links to the curriculum whilst working alongside Alzheimer Scotland to support people within our local community. We will keep you updated on this exciting new project for our school community.

**Lining Up/ Wet Play**

I hope you agree that the children have been lining up beautifully in school. The following classes should line up as indicated below-

 **Infant Yard – P1, P2, P2/3 P3, P4 Senior Yard – P5, P5/6, P6. P7**

Please note, that on a very wet morning, I would like the children to come straight to the hall rather than into their classes. I will be at the main door to welcome the children from **8.50am** onwards. Miss McGregor, Miss Jones and I will supervise the children and line them up ready for the bell at **9am.**

**School Uniform – August 2017**

It has been fantastic to see our pupils coming into school looking very smart in their school uniform**.** Our school uniform is always proudly supported by our parents and consists of:

* Grey trousers/Grey skirt or pinafore
* School tie
* School blazer or fleece
* Grey or purple jumper or sweatshirt
* White shirt or polo shirt
* Black shoes – **Not Trainers**

**Parent Focus Group**

***School Motto-* *Growing in Faith – Learning for Life***

As a school community, I would like for us to re-visit our school motto and together create core values which will be central in achieving our aims and sustaining a positive ethos of our school. I would like to create a ‘Parent Focus Group’ to work alongside staff and children in developing our core values. If you could spare some time during the school day and would like to be part of the focus group then please contact the school office.

**Nut Allergy**

Can I remind you that we have children in the school who have very severe nut allergies, therefore we ask for your cooperation in ensuring that all snacks/lunches etc. are nut free at all times. In particular please ensure that chocolate spreads which are sometimes used in lunches are nut free.

**Jewellery**
For reasons of health and safety jewellery should not be worn to school.
For those children with ears pierced, please note that small studs only are permitted. Children will be asked to remove all other jewellery.

**NB**. Stud earrings should be removed on PE days and in the case of recently pierced ears then these should be covered with tape.

**Good to Be Green**

We operate a positive behaviour policy within the school. This is done in partnership with parents. Your child will bring home their behaviour card on a Friday. Could I please ask that you sign this card. Children who manage to stay on **GREEN** are invited to the **“GOOD TO BE GREEN”** disco at end of term. In addition, we have our monthly “A- Factor Party”. We invite one child from each class to this party who we think deserve a special treat. If your child goes to a **RED** card for negative behaviours, I will issue a letter and an exercise to be undertaken by your child. Our policy is consistent and the majority of our children display excellent behaviour and manners.

**Water in School**

We encourage all pupils to bring water to drink throughout the day. Please provide your child with a bottle which can be refilled at any point during the day. I must remind you, however, that only still /tap water is permissible. Any flavoured water/juice provided can only be consumed at interval/lunchtime. **Please note that fizzy drinks are not allowed in school at any time.**

**Kilbowie 2017**

Our Primary 7 children will attend Kilbowie Outdoor Residential centre week beginning **18th September**. A meeting to discuss arrangements for the trip will be on **Tuesday 5th September at 6pm.** I look forward to seeing you then.

**School Improvement Plan 2017/2018**

This year our priorities are:-

Priority 1

To revisit the ethos of our school and nursery through a review of our vision, values and aims involving all stake holders. There will be a particular focus on the social and emotional wellbeing to ensure children and young people are included, engaged and involved. We will introduce a new promoting positive relationships and behaviour policy which is essential in supporting children's and young people's health and wellbeing throughout their lives. Within the school we will enhance learner’s sense of the Catholic ethos through engagement with ‘Developing in Faith’ document.

Priority 2

To continue to improve attainment in Literacy for all learners within the school and nursery through effective learning and teaching including careful and detailed monitoring and tracking of learners’ progress at each stage. This will be supported by appropriately targeted interventions to close any attainment gaps identified.

Priority 3

To improve learner’s attainment in Numeracy for all learners within the school and nursery through effective teaching and learning including detailed monitoring and tracking of learners’ progress at each stage. This will be supported by appropriately targeted interventions to close any attainment gaps identified.

Thank you for your continued support and co-operation.

With kindest regards.

**Mrs S McLean**

**Head Teacher**

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St. Aidan…Pray for Us

We Pray Together**…**

God of wisdom and might, we praise you

for the wonder of our being, for mind, body and spirit.
Be with our children as they begin a new school year.
Bless them and their teachers and staff.
Give the strength and grace as their bodies grow;
wisdom and knowledge to their minds
as they search for understanding;
and peace and zeal to their hearts.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

 **IMPORTANT DATES**

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| Meet the Teacher | Wednesday 30th August 6pm -7pm |
| St Aidan’s Feast Day Mass/Talent Show | Thursday 31st August Mass 10am |
| Kilbowie Information Session | Tuesday 5th September 6-7pm |
| Parent Council | Tuesday 5th September 7-9pm |
| Wishaw Press Photographer P1 | Wednesday 6th September 9.15am |
| P7 to Kilbowie | Monday 18th September till Thursday 21st September |
| P7 Monitoring Pledge Assembly | Friday 22nd September 2.15pm |
| September Weekend | **Friday 22nd September till Monday 25th September** |
| School Photographer Nursery – P7 | Tuesday 26th September |
| P7 Monitoring Pledge Assembly | Friday 29th September 2.15pm |
| Parents Evening | Thursday 12th October 3.15pm – 9pm |
| A-Factor Party | Friday 29th September |