St Aidan’s Primary School & Nursery Class

**MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER**

Welcome to our May newsletter and to our final term of this school year. As usual the children will be very busy and lots of activities are planned. To keep you updated with our progress within the Scottish Attainment Challenge I plan to send out a PEF (Pupil Equity Fund) Newsletter during this month.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**Staffing Update**

Mrs McArthur will begin her Mat leave on Friday 4th May, Miss Logue will cover P4 until the end of June. We wish Miss McArthur the very best of luck and look forward to meeting baby McArthur very soon.

Interviews for Principal Teacher and Acting Principal Teacher will be held during the month of May, I will keep you updated on appointments in due course.

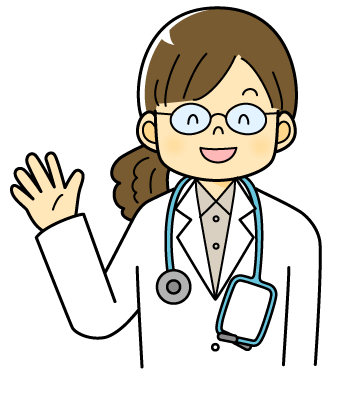
**St. Aidan’s Enhanced Provision (LCSC) **

We are delighted to announce that as from August we will be welcoming 12 new children (P1 Stage) and their families into our school community. This is a new chapter for the school, the staff and I feel very privileged to be part of this**.**

**May Holidays**

We have two bank holidays during this month. The first Please note that the school is con Monday 7th May and Tuesday 8th May (this is an inset day for staff and pupils should not attend). School is also closed on Friday 25th May and Monday 28th May. Have a lovely holiday with your family.

**World of Work Week**

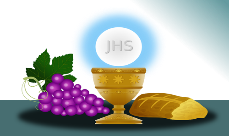
Thank you to Miss Jones and Miss McGregor for organising a super World of Work Week for all pupils. The children had the opportunity to speak to adults about their profession and visit various workplaces to help develop the young workforce

**Play Zone **

As part of our focus in raising attainment we have developed a soft start club to school by the introduction of a Play zone. Miss McIntosh our Early Learning Practitioner will be leading this initiative. Children can join the play zone from 8.30 till 9am every morning. The play zone is open for all children in the school.

**Sacrament of Holy Eucharist**

Pupils in Primary 4 will be presented for this special Sacrament on Saturday 19th May at 11:00am. The children will have their First Holy Communion Retreat on Friday 11th May. More specific information will be provided for parents of Primary Four early next week.

The date for the First Holy Communion party is Sunday 3rd June. 

Please remember these children in your prayers

**Lenten Charities**

Thank you for your support and kind donations towards our three Lenten charities. We will be presenting Mary’s Meal, SCIAF and Misso Scotland with a cheque during assembly on Friday4th May.

**Forest School – P3/P5**

The children from P3 and P5 will be taking part in a 6 week Forest School Adventure Block. The Forest School will be held every Tuesday. A letter outlining all details will be sent home shortly.

**Nursery – Primary One Transition Programme – TERM4**

As you will be aware the Nursery children have been involved in a very thorough transition programme this year. During the month of May the children will be invited to meet with their class teacher and to take part in play based learning. The parents will then attend the following information sessions:

Wednesday 9th May – Active Maths -1.45 till 2.45

Wednesday 16th May – Active Literacy -1.45 till 2.45

Wednesday 23rd May – Lunch Taster and HT presentation/ Pupil and Parent Council Input

MC900440428[1] **Primary/Secondary Liaison**

Pupils in Primary Seven will be involved in an extensive transition programme with St. Aidan’s High School this term:

Mrs Fagan (DHT) will visit on Monday 23rd April to speak to the children

Primary Six will attend St. Aidan’s High School for a Spanish Culture day on Thursday 17th May.

Four pupils will represent our school in the Maths Challenge on Friday 11th May

Sports Day for St. Aidan’s HS is on Monday 11th June

Induction days where children will follow a timetable in their new class are Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13thJune.

**P7 End of Year Celebrations **

Our Primary 7 End of Year celebrations will be based around the following events:

Primary 7 Leavers Assembly – This event will take place on Monday 18th June @ 9.30am in the school hall.

Primary 7 Leavers Mass – Will take place on Thursday 21st June @ 10am in St. Aidan’s Church

Primary 7 Trip – Special Event and Meal (TBC)

**God’s Loving Plan – P6 & P7**

There will be an information sharing meeting on Monday 30th April at 3.15pm. I would encourage all parents/carers to attend.

**Seasons for Growth**

There will be an information sharing meeting on Thursday 10th May at 2pm. I would encourage all parents/carers who wish their child to take part in this programme to attend.

**Summer Trip**

All children from Nursery to P6 will take part in a summer trip this year. We are finalising all the arrangements and a letter will follow shortly.

**CEM/PIPS Assessments P1, P3, P5 & P7**

As part of the Scottish Government Attainment Challenge in North Lanarkshire, schools will soon be administering an adaptive, online assessment covering aspects in literacy and numeracy for all children at P1, P3, P5 and P7.

These assessments are designed to support your child’s learning and contribute additional information on your child’s progress. Information from the assessments will be used as part of our overall assessment and reporting format. Parents will not get an individual report from the online assessment.

The assessment will be split over various sessions to allow the children adequate time to complete. We will be administering the assessments during the month of May.

**Health Promoting School/ Nursery**

Now that the summer is almost here please can we ask you to send your child to school with a bottle of water each day. We encourage our children to drink water throughout the day as this also helps concentration. As we are a health promoting school can I remind you that we discourage any fizzy juice to be brought to school…Please support us in this. If it is a particularly hot, sunny day, please can you ensure your child has some sun protection on their skin before coming to school as well as bringing a sun-hat with them in their bags.

**Mobile Phones**

Mobiles phones must be handed into the school office or to Mrs McLean in the morning and collected at 3.00pm. Mobile phones are not allowed in classrooms.

**Once a week take a peek**

Can I ask you to check your child’s hair and be extra vigilant when brushing, combing or washing your child’s hair.

**Absence**

If your child is unable to attend school for any reason we ask that you let the school office know by phoning or calling in as soon as possible on the first morning of your child’s absence. A text will be sent from 10.00am onwards, to the parent/guardian of every child who is absent unless the school office has been informed of the reason.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday |
| NEW!  Science Club – Miss Keegan  P4-5  NEW!  Dance Club – Miss Sherlock  P4-5    P4-7  Choir – Mrs Airth | Cross Country – Mrs Donnelly    P5-7 | New!  Puzzle Study Club – Mrs Young/ Mrs Jankuaskiene P1-4 | Football – Mr Laughlan  P6-7  New!  Bikeability – Mrs Quinn/Mrs McGeough P5-6  Cross Country – Mrs Donnelly  P5-7 |

**After School Clubs -**Please notify the school if for any reason your child can not attend their after school club – Safety of the children is paramount.

**Green Hands Together Update **

The Green Hands Together project is being led by Mrs Airth and Miss Bell, and is supported by the Parent Council. Through working collaboratively with Alzheimer's Scotland we have created an intergenerational project between the children in the school and adults in the local community who have been diagnosed with dementia.

The project officially began in October when a group of 11 children from P1-7 selected to become members of the committee responsible for running the project. The committee have been meeting every month alongside the group from Alzhiemer's Scotland. During the months of October - February we spent our time researching and planning the sensory garden as the weather was too cold to work outside. Since February both groups have been working together to sow seeds in the poly tunnel. In the coming months we will continue to grow plants and vegetables in our poly tunnel and will begin transferring some plants to the outside planters in the sensory garden.

We have many things planned in the next few months to help develop a whole school understanding of the project and what life is like for those living with dementia. Volunteers from Alzheimer's Scotland will be providing 'Dementia Friends' sessions with staff during our in-service day, parents during our open afternoon and the new P1 parents during the P1 inductions. In addition to this, the children from the committee will be visiting the DOMUS unit at the University of the West of Scotland for an interactive session to help them understand how dementia can affect everyday life. Mrs Airth and Miss Bell will also be offering a gardening after school club to allow other children from P4-7 a chance to become actively involved in the project.

We are very proud of the project and although it is still in the early stages we are looking forward to taking it forward for years to come. Next year the project will be led by Mrs Quinn and Miss Bell until Mrs Airth returns to school. We will continue to meet with the group from Alzheimer's Scotland once a month to develop the garden and hope to officially launch the project once our plants are blooming. In addition to this, we hope to encourage whole school involvement in the project and are keen for any parents or family members interested in the project to help with gardening and maintenance.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

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| Tuesday 1st May - P3/P5 | Forest School to begin ( 6 WEEK BLOCK) |
| Wednesday 2nd May | Green Hands Together Committee to UWS |
| Monday 7th May | Bank Holiday |
| Tuesday 8th May | School Inset Day ( Children do not attend) |
| Wednesday 9th May | P7 Bible Exhibition  Induction Day 1 for New P1  New Nursery Children to visit  Mrs McGeough- Seasons for Growth Training |
| Thursday 10th May – 2pm | Seasons for Growth Information session |
| Friday 11th May | P4 First Holy Communion Retreat |
| Wednesady 16th May | Induction Day 2 – New P1 Children |
| Thursday 17th May | P6 Spanish Culture Day |
| Saturday 19th May – 11am | Sacrament of First Holy Communion |
| Wednesady 23rd May | Induction Day 3 – New P1 Children |
| Friday 25th-Monday 28th May | School Closed for May Weekend |



Mrs McLean

Head Teacher