

 St Aidan’s Primary, L.C.S.C & Nursery Class

August/September 2018

School telephone number – 01698 522702

****

 **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 settle so well back in school and 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 Zonfrillo (P1a), Miss Sherry (P1b) Mrs Anderson (P2/3) Miss McGinn (P4) Mrs MacDermid (P5)**

**Mrs MacDermid (ASNA – L.C.S.C) Miss Donnelly (Acting PT LCSC)**

A warm welcome to our new members of staff… You are joining a very special team.

**Breakfast Club / Play zone**

The very popular Breakfast Club has started already from **8.20am – 9am every morning** and our Play zone is available from **8.30am till 8.55am.**

 Please note that there is no cost for the breakfast service for pupils entitled to free meals, this includes all pupils who receive free meals in P1 to P3. The cost for all other pupils in P4-P7 is £1 per day for those not eligible for free meals

**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 **11am** on **Friday 31st August**. I would like to extend an invitation to all parents and family to join us at this special Mass.

Also on this special day we will hold our ‘Mrs Thomson Talent Show’. Mrs Liz Thomson worked in St Aidan’s for many years as a valued member of the support staff team. We honour her memory by holding a special fun 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 29th August** **6pm till 7pm.** I will share 2018/19School Improvement Plan with you and then 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.

**Lining Up/ Wet Play**

I hope you agree that the children have been lining up beautifully in school. Can I remind all parents to remain behind the white line in the morning, this allows us to take the children safely into school. The following classes should line up as indicated below-

 **Infant Yard – P1, P1/2, P2/3, P3/4 Senior Yard – P4, P5, P6, P6/7a, P6/7b**

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 2018**

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**

I would like to gather your views on our school uniform, to this end, I have attached a parent questionnaire to this newsletter.

**Nut Allergy**

Can I remind you that we have children and staff in the school with 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 works in partnership with parents. Your child will bring home their Good to be Green card on a Friday… Could I please ask that you sign this card. We will continue to hold our monthly “A- Factor Party”, where children’s efforts are recognised and celebrated. Our policy is consistent and the majority of our children display excellent behaviour and manners.

**Tree of Knowledge**

Tree of Knowledge has been delivering inspirational workshops in schools and have a focus on developing growth mindset, resilience and improved mental wellbeing. Tree of Knowledge will work with our P6 and P7 children during the month of September. Parents will be invited into a presentation towards the end of the workshops… more info to follow.

**Parent Council**

We are looking for new members to join the Parent Council next term. Being part of the Parent Council is a great way for parents and carers of children at all stages to find out more and contribute to the life of the school. Attached to this newsletter is St.Aidan’s Parent Council Vacancies letter. Please take time to read over this letter and give some thought to joining our super Parent Council.

**Belfast –Titanic Museum and Kilbowie 2018**

This term the pupils in P6 & P7 will have a learning focus on the ‘Titanic’. This is an exciting project that the children are already keen to learn about. In discussing with the pupils we spoke about the possibility of travelling to Belfast to visit the Titanic Experience. To this end, I plan to take the P6 & P7 children to Belfast on **Thursday 25th October.**

Our Primary 7 children will attend Kilbowie Outdoor Residential centre week beginning **21st January 2019.**

An information evening for Parents of P6 & P7 to discuss arrangement for Belfast Trip and Kilbowie will be held on **Wednesday 19th September 6pm till 6,30pm** for Belfast Trip and **6.30pm till 7pm** for Kilbowie Outdoor Residential Trip. I look forward to seeing you then.



**Relationships and Anti Bullying Policy**

With new guidelines issued from North Lanarkshire council, the school has redrafted its Anti-Bullying and Relationships Policy. I will share the policy with the parent council and then with all children during assembly. The policy will then be uploaded onto our Glow website.

**Water in School**

****We encourage all pupils to bring water or diluted sugar free juice to drink throughout the day. Please provide your child with a bottle which can be refilled at any point during the day. **Please note that fizzy drinks are not allowed in school at any time**

**School Photographer**

Please note that Tempest school photographer will be in school on Thursday 13th September. Children will have individual, class and family photographs taken. Please contact the school the office to be allocated a suitable time if you wish your pre-school children to be photographed as part of the family photo.

Please note that Wishaw Press will take P1 photograph on Wednesday 29th August.

**Car Parking**

Please ensure you drop off and pick up in safe parking areas. Your drop off/pick up should not hinder the view of our crossing patrol staff or the safety of other families. Please do not use the staff car park as a pick up or dropping off area as staff require access and exit to and from the car park throughout the day.

**School Improvement Plan 2018/2019**

This year our priorities are:-

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  **Priority 1:** | To improve attainment in literacy with a particular focus on phonological awareness, spelling and in speaking, listening and **writing. Pupil attainment will be supported by appropriately targeted interventions to close any gaps identified.** |
| **Priority 2:** | To improve attainment in numeracy & maths for all learners by developing effective learning and teaching approaches. We will implement Math Recovery Programme- such as SEAL and use assessment such as MALT as an intervention process for targeting pupils who are having difficulties with numeracy and maths. |
|  **Priority 3:** |  Continue to support the social and emotional health of children by developing teacher capacity in nurturing practices, by achieving Nurturing School status and Communication Friendly Award – Bronze level. We will target interventions for pupils where appropriate to ensure equity at every stage |
| **Priority 4:** | To improve parental and community engagement by working together to improve our outdoor learning and provision. Targeting interventions with a particular focus on the use of outdoor learning to develop resilience and social & emotional wellbeing. |

Thank you for your continued support and co-operation.

With kindest regards.

**Mrs S McLean**

**Head Teacher**

 **IMPORTANT DATES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Meet the Teacher | Wednesday 29th August 6pm -7pm |
| St Aidan’s Feast Day Mass/Talent Show | Friday 31st August Mass 11am |
| Parent Council | Tuesday 4th September 7pm |
| Wishaw Press Photographer P1 | Wednesday 29h August  |
| Tree of Knowledge Workshops P6 & P7 | Begin Wednesday 13th September |
| Tempest Photographer | Thursday 13th September |
| Belfast Titanic / Kilbowie Information Evening | Wednesday 19th September 6pm till 7pm |
| September Weekend | **Friday 21st September till Monday 24th September** |
| 1. Factor Party
 | Friday 28th September  |
| Tracking Reports 1/Jotters home to parents | Tuesday 9th October |
| Parents Night | Thursday 11th October |

****

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.