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| **St Aidan’s Primary, Language and Communication Support Centre and Nursery Class**  **Newsletter**  **October 2018** | | |
| **Twitter: @/** | **www.st-aidans-pri.n-lanark.sch.uk** | **Tel: 01698 522702** |
| HPS%20LOGO | | |

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to our October newsletter. As always, the term has got off to a busy start! The children have settled into their new classes and lots of exciting events have been planned for the year.

I have spent time over the past few weeks talking to the children about their learning and have been impressed with the teaching and learning in the classrooms I have visited so far.

**Staffing Update**

Mrs Lynda McLeod, clerical assistant, is sadly leaving us to take up a post within another establishment. Mrs McLeod has worked in the school for over 18 years and I’m sure you join me in thanking her for her many years of service within our school community and wish her well in her new post. I’m delighted to announce that Mrs Pauline McKenna will take on the additional clerical hours and be with us Monday- Friday 8.30am till 12.30pm.

A warm welcome to Mrs Michelle Convery who takes up the post of ASNA, Mrs Irene Carr, Support for Learning Teacher and to our students within the school and nursery.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish Miss McGregor the very best of luck on her forthcoming wedding day. After the October holidays we will welcome Miss McGregor back as Mrs Keen. We wish you both a lifetime of happiness.

**Out of School Hours Learning**

Our OOSHL Clubs this term includes: -

Football P6-7 Cross Country P4-7 Enterprise P3-7 Cosy Café P1-3

**Tracking Reports/ Jotters Home**

Tracking Reports and Attendance Reports will be sent home next week. The Tracking Report gives a simple indication of how your child’s learning is progressing. Please take time to read this report with your child.

Jotters will come home before Parents’ Evening. Please complete the feedback sheet. Your views are important to us.

**Parents’ Evening**

Parents’ Evening will take place on Thursday 11th October. You have all been given the opportunity to book an appointment through our new online booking system; the last date for booking an appointment online is Wednesday 10th October 2018. We look forward to seeing you then.

**Golds Sports Award**

****We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded our first Gold School Sports Award. We will have a presentation event in January. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my wonderful team, especially Miss Jones for all their hard work and dedication. This is a fitting recognition of the school’s achievements in putting sport at the heart of our planning, practice and ethos.

**Pope Francis Faith Award**

I am delighted to share that two of our PFFA children will represent our school community at the Diocesan Reception of the ‘Jesus our Teacher’ Icon. The children and Miss Jones will attend the service on **Wednesday 10th October at 2pm.**

MC900437990[1]**Scholastic Book Fair- Read to Succeed**

We will be holding our annual Book fair during week beginning 8th October. As usual the children will have an opportunity to review the books on sale and may purchase these during the week or during Parents’ Evening on **Thursday 11h October**.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank one of our parents, Mrs Claire Kirkwood, for giving of her time so freely to help organise and categorise our new Senior Library. The library looks amazing and the children will spend many happy hours there developing a love of reading.

During Parents’ Evening I would like to encourage parents to take part in a ‘Book Drop’. If you have any children’s books/ book box sets at home which you no longer use and would like to donate to our infant or senior library, then please bring along on this evening.

**LCSC – Parent Group**

The St Aidan's LCSC parents’ group will meet once per month to offer support and strategies to each other. We also hope to register as a charity to acquire grants with the aim of developing sensory play opportunities for the children around the school. First coffee Morning will be on **Wednesday 3rd October**.

**Halloween**

Our Halloween celebration for pupils will be held on **Wednesday 31st October**. All children are invited to dress up for this – we will be coming together in the hall in the afternoon for our usual celebrations. Unfortunately, due to numbers within the hall we are unable to have parents attending. **Pupils should come to school in full uniform** and either go home to change or get changed during lunchtime.

**Halloween Disco**

Please note the Halloween Disco will be held on **Friday 2nd November**

P1-4 6.30pm - 7.45pm P5-7 8pm - 9.30pm

Information letter will be issued **Monday 22nd October.** Entry is **£2** payable on the night.

**School Uniform Consultation Update**

The response from the recent uniform consultation resulted in the majority of parents wishing to add a tartan pinafore to our uniform policy from **August 2019.** To this end, I have been in discussion with Logoexpres, a company who are able to provide a tartan pinafore, with our school colours for a very reasonable price. Logoexpres will create a personalised school order form and will attend our Parents’ Evening in **March 2019** to launch the new additional garment and explain the process of online ordering and delivery. The company can provide all our uniform which will hopefully make purchasing uniform easier for all parents. Local uniform suppliers will still stock most of our uniform if you wish to continue as before. Here are details of Logoexpres costing:

**Tartan Pinafore £18.00**

**Grey Pinafore £12.50**

**Grey Trousers £12.50**

**Purple Blazer £27.00**

**Rev Rain Jacket £22.00**

**Grey Knitted Cardigan £15.00**

**Grey Knitted Jumper £13.50**

**Grey Knitted Tank top £11.50**

**Purple V-Neck Sweat £ 9.00**

**Gold or White Polo Shirt £ 7.50**

**Purple Infant bag. £10.00**

**Purple Junior Bag. £12.00**

**All above have embroidered school badge except pinafores and trousers.**

**The Nursery uniform is navy sweatshirt @ £8.50 with logo.**

**Please note – The company can also provide an elastic waistband tartan skirt which will be available up to Age 13.**

**Parent Council**

Thank you to the new parents who recently joined our Parent Council. The Parent Council do great work in this school and over the coming months a number of initiatives are planned which will not only benefit the school but the whole community. The PC will keep you updated in their newsletter.

We would like to encourage all parents and carers within the school, LCSC and nursery to consider joining the Parent Council. **The next meeting is on Tuesday 6th Novemeber at 7pm.**

**Parentzone Scotland -School Information Dashboard**

The way that school and national level information and data is presented through Parentzone Scotland has changed.

To help raise attainment, ensure all learners have the best chance to succeed, and support school improvement, information is gathered from publicly funded schools in Scotland. The Scottish Government has brought a range of this information together in a school information dashboard.

The dashboard is broken down into three sectors - primary schools, secondary schools and special schools.

In each sector you can look at information for individual schools. You can also look at Scotland level information for the sector by selecting 'Scotland' and 'all publicly funded schools'.

You can read more about the dashboard and view the information by visiting the following website:

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/sg.eas.learninganalysis#!/vizhome/SchoolInformationDashboard-Primary/Introduction>

**Pupil/Parent Consultation Feedback 2018**

Please find attached to this newsletter responses from our last Annual Parent/Pupil Survey. I strongly believe in listening to all stakeholders. Parent and pupil views are important to us and help to shape and improve our school.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that there are several ways to let us know your thoughts about our school:

**Daily Contact** - I am always available in the playground at either the beginning or end of the school day.

**Make an appointment** – Sometimes you may wish to discuss an issue in more depth, if this is the case please make an appointment with me by contacting the school office.

**Parent Voice/Survey** – We have two Parents’ Evenings in Oct/March and ask for your thoughts on our school through questionnaires at this time.

**Focus Groups** - We have offered Parents the opportunity to become directly involved through our Values Focus Group and parent Supporter Project

****To this end, can I ask for your support in using the above mention forums to discuss any concerns or thoughts you may have on our school. Please avoid using social media such as Facebook to share your views. The school does not have a Facebook account so therefore I am unable to respond to any concerns/views you may have. Thank you for your support in this matter.

**Month of the Holy Rosary and Missionary Month**

Throughout the month of October, we will have a Family Rosary every Wednesday morning at **8.40am**. All children and family members are welcome to attend. First Rosary takes place in the school hall on **Wednesday 3rd October.**

October is Missionary Month and as a result the children will be exploring the work of this charity. Each class will be issued with a Missio Charity box. Can you please encourage your children to bring in small coins for their box throughout this month?

**Belfast Titanic Trip**

This term the pupils in P6 & P7 will be travelling to Belfast to visit the Titanic Experience. The trip will take place on **Thursday 25th October**. The children and staff are super excited and looking forward to this adventure.

**Committees 2018**

Our children all took part in their very first committee last week. Every pupil in the school is involved in a committee and we have children from the Nursery within the Pupil Council. I hope the children enjoyed their committee and understand the important role they play in shaping further improvements in the school and nursery.

**Our Committees for 2018 -**

**Faith in Action Active Kids Enterprise Green Hands Together**

Pupil Council Healthy School JRSO Digital Leaders

ECO Pupil Wellbeing

**Communication**

It is vitally important that we have clear and effective communication systems with parents.  
We have our Twitter feed which is updated daily. We share learning and experiences with you via photographs etc. We now have 1,051 followers. Please follow us @St\_Aidans\_PS  
**We also have our school website http//st-aidans-pri.n-lanark.sch.uk**

**Garden Day**

On Saturday 3rd November we will have a ‘**Big Tidy Garden Day’ from 10 am till 1pm**. This was a very successful event last year and we really appreciate the parents’ who gave so freely of their time to tidy our school garden. If you can spare a little time, then please come along and join in the fun**.**

**P7/S1Transition**

Please note that the P7 Partnership Evening for children transferring to **St. Aidan’s High** will be held on the

**6th November 6.45pm** at the High School.

**MacMillan Coffee Morning/Sunshine Room Tea Party**

We will hold our annual MacMillan Coffee Morning on **Friday 9th November** **at 11am.** The Nurture class will

hold a Tea Party on the same day/time. All proceeds going towards this worthy cause. More Information will follow…

**Swimming P5**

The children from P5 will begin their Swimming/Gym Block on **Wednesday 28th November**. This is a 12-week Block. More information will be sent home with the children.

**October Break**

School and nursery will close to pupils and staff on **Friday 12th October** at the usual times. We will reopen on **Monday 22nd October**. We hope you all have a restful break

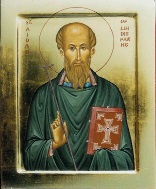
Thank you for your continued support and co-operation.

With kindest regards.

***Mrs S McLean***

**Head Teacher**

We Pray Together**…**

**M**ay all children  
**I**n the world  
**S**hare love  
**S**hare friendship  
**I**n the peace  
**O**f God’s love  
**N**ow and forever

Amen

St Aidan…Pray for Us

**IMPORTANT DATES**

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| --- | --- |
| 3rd October | LCSC Coffee Morning |
| 8th - 10th October | Book Fair |
| 10th October | Diocesan Reception Service 2pm |
| 11th October | Parents’ Evening |
| **October break** | **School closes Friday 12th October – re-opens Monday 22nd October** |
| 25th October | Belfast Titanic Trips |
| 31st October | Halloween Parade |
| 2nd November | Halloween Disco P1-3 (6.30 – 7.45) P4-7 (8pm – 9.30) |
| 3rd November | Gardening Day 10am – 1pm |
| 6th November | Parent Council Meeting |
| 6th November | P7/S1 Transition - St Aidan’s High School 6.45pm |
| 9th November | MacMillan Coffee Morning/Sunshine Room Tea Party 11am |
| 28th November | P5 Swimming (12-week block) |
| January | Gold Sports Award |