

St. Augustine's Primary



Winner of NLC Sport Award - Primary School of the Year 2019



Dear Parents/Carers,

It is wonderful to welcome all our pupils, staff, parents, carers and grandparents back to our school community for the start of a new school year particularly after all that happened to our school session prior to the end of term. We are living in unprecedented times with the current news still very much placing the pandemic centre stage. Guidance from both Scottish Government and NHS Scotland reassures us that schools are a safe place for children and we want to see everyone back in the classroom. Please be assured that we have taken full account of the current advice and guidelines to ensure that we mitigate risk as much as is possible. Please review our Back to School updated handbook available on the school blog for details around enhanced personal hygiene and the enhanced surveillance and monitoring for contact and trace. We will continue to give regular updates on our blog, twitter and facebook pages.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. C. Docherty

Open Evening/ Meet the Teacher Night

Please note that our annual Meet the Teacher Evening that traditionally takes place in September will not take place due to the ongoing pandemic and issues with crowds. We will continue to carry out risk assessments of all our school activities that may impact the degree to which we hold events this session.

Breakfast Club

All North Lanarkshire Primary schools host Breakfast Clubs. Our doors open 8.15am – 8.45am. Cost is £1. Breakfast club is free for Pr. 1 – 3. It is free to pupils in receipt of free school meals. Please note parents are not allowed into the school for drop off purposes at the breakfast club. There is no need to pre-register.

Uniform

Could I please ask that you ensure your child remains in school uniform everyday and that the school tie is worn daily. We await delivery from the supplier of Pr.7 ties ordered before lockdown. Please note our uniform is grey (not black) trousers/skirt, grey jumper/cardigan, white shirt and black shoes or plain black trainers.

School Yard – Social Distancing at the Perimeter of the School

Please note that parents are not permitted to enter the school yard either before 9.00am or after 3.00pm. In order to ensure **social distancing** for the health and safety of both pupils and parents please ensure you have informed your child/children of their pick up point well beyond the school gates if possible. Please note the infant gates are **only** to be used by pupils from Rm 1 – 4 and their parents. There is too much congestion at 3.00pm if this exit gate is used by other parents and pupils. Your co-operation would be greatly appreciated. Please try to **drop off and leave** as parents standing at the fence can be upsetting for some pupils. Social distancing/wearing a mask needs to take place among parents at the school fence.

SAFE PARKING



Please remember to **Park and Stride**. Parking is available in the car park of St. Augustine's Church and the Time Capsule where there is now a pathway made directly from the car park to Henderson Street. Please **DO NOT** park on the zig zag lines. It is inconsiderate and endangers lives.

Staffing Update

The school said goodbye to two valued members of staff at the end of term. A fond farewell was made to Mrs. McMillan who has now moved to another establishment. We thank her for her contributions last session.

We also said a very sad farewell to Mrs. Moira Hanlon who retired from St. Augustine's at the end of the school term. Mrs. Hanlon was a well respected and much loved member of the staff team who taught at St. Augustine's for 17 years. Her gentle, warm manner will be much missed by both her colleagues and pupils. We wish her a long, happy and healthy retirement and thank her most sincerely for her service to our school community. She will be greatly missed.

We are delighted that Miss Erin Jamieson is now confirmed as a permanent member of the staff team. We also welcome Mrs Katy Longyear as a new permanent staff member this session.

The school is also delighted to welcome Mrs Siobhan Docherty and Mr. Brian McIntyre to the staff team this session.

Staffing for 2020/2021

Pr. 1 Rm 1 – Miss G. Ross

Pr.1 Rm 2 – Miss K. Ross,
Mr. McIntyre (Frid)

Pr. 2 Rm 3 – Miss E. Jamieson

Pr. 2 Rm 4 – Mrs. T. Elder

Pr. 3 Rm 10 Mr. O'Dowd (this is a change to information issued in June)

Pr.3 Rm 9 Mrs. P. Chisholm (Mon, Tues). Please note Mrs. Chisholm is absent at present and her post will be filled by Mr. McIntyre at present, Mrs. O'Donohue (Wed- Frid)

Pr. 4 Rm 14 Mrs. D. Gillooly (Mon – Wed)/ Mrs. J. Doyle (Thurs, Frid)

Pr. 4/5 Rm 13 Mrs. E. Thomson

Pr. 5 Rm 16 Mrs. K. Longyear

Pr. 5/6 Rm 12 Miss H. Ewing

Pr. 6 Rm 15 Mrs. S. Docherty,
Mr. McIntyre (Wed)

Pr. 6/7 Rm 8 Mrs. L. Drummond

Pr. 7 Rm 7 Miss C. Watt

Attainment Teachers – providing support for learning Mrs. A. McGlone .

Principal Teachers – Mrs. Fraser - responsibility for Spanish and Health Wellbeing. Miss Ross – responsibility for Health and Wellbeing, Early Level Curriculum and Nursery

Mr. Mullen – responsibility for teaching ICT across the school

Depute Head Teacher – Mrs. M. M. Elliott has responsibility for assessment across the school, tracking attainment, probationer mentor and pupil pastoral support. She wishes that was all!!

Committees

All pupils are members of a Make a Difference committee. In school we have a wide variety of committees to make a difference that impact at class, school, local and national level. Our committees are

Pupil Council

Enterprise Committee

Health Committee

Eco Committee

Communications Committee

JRSO Committee

Global Citizens

Rights Respecting School

Committees will meet this term to draw up their action points for the year and the term ahead. How we run our committees will change this session to minimise movement around the school.

Feast Day

Our patronal feast day is on Frid. 28th August. The school has still to confirm with Father Kane how we will celebrate this feast day. The children will also celebrate the feast day in the school with a movie afternoon.

Book Amnesty

If you have any school reading books that were not returned last session could we please have them back. It is a most costly business each year replenishing our stock of reading books and novels and we rely upon pupils returning them to school once used. If you have a collection of books or a single book could you please return to school.

Afterschool Clubs



Our afterschool programme is currently suspended in line with guidance from NLC. As soon as we can resume our afterschool programme and full PE programme we will inform you.

PE.Days

At present teachers will aim to get children outside for PE sessions and will notify you of the days this will take place. In accordance with Scottish Government Guidelines we are not delivering a full PE programme that would involve lessons in the gym hall at present.

Contacting School

In order to ensure the safety of all within the school building we kindly request that parents who wish to discuss an issue in relation to their child either contact the school by phone or e-mail to request to speak to a member of the senior management team. A return call will be made in the first instance. We greatly appreciate your understanding and co-operation in this regard and kindly ask that you do not arrive at the school office if an appointment has not been made or phone call has not been requested.

Communication

If you have not uploaded the school app to your phone please do so this term. Our app is our primary way of communicating to you the life of the school and sharing its successes. A week ahead is posted each week so you can check what is happening in school and to confirm times. The lunch menu is posted each week for your child to review and check menu options. Please upload the school app to your phone. We are also on Twitter and Facebook so plenty of ways to keep informed. Please be aware these are information platforms not for personal parent complaints. A flyer is available in the school foyer to assist with uploading the school app.

Photographs

Wilson Photography will visit the school Mon. 17th Aug. to take individual and family groups. Wed. 19st Aug. class group and whole school photograph.

Christmas Panto and Outings

Our school had provisionally booked a panto for December, however, due to ongoing restrictions the school will not be attending a panto this year. Following further guidance from NLC there will be no planned school trips this session.

Labelling Clothes and Lunch Boxes

Please make our life much easier and label your child's belongings – blazer, jacket, cardigans, jumpers, lunch boxes. It means teachers can return belongings quickly to the rightful owner when clothes fall off pegs, blazers and jackets get mixed up or items are left behind. Everyone has the same blazer!

School Building News

Last session the school underwent a refurbishment that involved a full re-wire and the installation of a new heating system. The school was also painted. The painting of all corridors, classrooms, main foyer and assembly hall has greatly improved the appearance of the school estate. Work still continues to complete certain areas of the school.

Nursery News

Contractors have been on site throughout the summer working to adapt a section of the ground floor at the infant department to accommodate our nursery class. They are also developing a section of school grounds to accommodate a separate entrance for the nursery class. We anticipate a completion of all works by mid October. Currently our new nursery class will be housed in the Time Capsule until all works have been completed.

Morning Drop Off

Please note the main entrance is not a drop off and entry point for pupils. All pupils should be in the school yard for 8.55am. The 8.58 bell rings in preparation for morning prayers that commence each morning at 9.00am sharp. Please remember to drop off and leave.

School Success

At the end of the final term of last session the school was once again nominated for the prestigious North Lanarkshire Primary Sports School of the Year Award. Unfortunately we were unsuccessful in June but treasure winning the accolade in June 2019.

Celebrating Success

Whilst we will continue to celebrate pupil success and achievements in school please remind your child to share with us their achievements outside of school. We love to hear their good news!

St. Augustine's Nursery Class

The school is delighted that we now have our own nursery class with the first of our nursery pupils going through the doors of our temporary accommodation this week. We are delighted that we have a newly formed nursery team lead by Lead Practitioner Vicki Dunn. The team is made up of some highly experienced Early Years workers and we are grateful to have them on the team. It is anticipated that the nursery will be completed and ready to move in prior to the October break. It will greatly enable effective transition work from nursery to Pr.1. We can't wait to have our new nursery premises.

Rights Respecting School Award



Last session the school drew up an action plan to achieve Rights Respecting School Silver Award - Rights Aware. This involved a whole school commitment to raising awareness of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and places it at the heart of our ethos and curriculum. Our involvement in RRSA fully reflect our work as a community of faith and learning and develop our pupils as responsible citizens. To date we have a bit of catching up due to the school closure last session.



Change to Lunchtime

Please note that lunchtime hours are changed with immediate effect.

Pr. 1 – 3 – 12.00 – 12.45

Pr. 4 – 7 - 12.45 – 1.30pm

Online Payments

Please ensure payments are made online for school lunches as we cannot accept cash.

Data sheets will be issued shortly – please update with your e-mail address for future communications.



August – September

Mon. 17th - Wilson
Photography - Individuals and families class groups, whole school photograph

Wed. 19st - Wilson
Photographer- class groups, whole school photograph

Frid. 28th - School to celebrate Patronal Feast Day

September

We hold our annual sponsored walk each September. Please look out for details in September to confirm how this will proceed.

**School In-Service Day -
Thurs. 24th Sept.**

**Holiday Weekend
Frid. 25th and Mon.
28th Sept'**

October Break

Mon 12th - Frid. 16th



Happy Birthday

to all our

August

and

September

birthday

boys and girls.

Annual Sponsored Walk

Our annual sponsored walk in aid of school funds takes place in September. Our fingers are crossed for a rain free walk through the great landmarks of Coatbridge. Yes we do have some wonderful landmarks and we like to take a few pictures as we go along!! If any parents or grandparents would like to accompany us on our annual walk we would love to hear from you.



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Parent Teacher Association

Our wonderfully supportive PTA would love to welcome new members to their monthly meetings and help plan for school events that contribute to the community life of the school and raise much needed school funds.

Your school needs you!!!

The date and venue of our first meeting has still to be confirmed.

Parent Council

Our Parent Council are committed to supporting the school on its' improvement agenda and work tirelessly to support the school in all aspects of teaching and learning and meeting pupil needs. Date of first meeting to be confirmed.

PTA ACHIEVEMENTS

Last year our PTA contributed significantly to the community life of the school and every child across the school benefitted from the funds raised. Much of what the school do could not take place without the commitment of the PTA who are resolute in their desire to raise much needed funds. Last year they funded visits by a number of theatre companies, Generation Science workshops, buses for educational visits, Pr. 7 yearbooks, Pr.7 ties for High School, Pr.7 Hoodies, Pr.7 Awards, outside play equipment, class resources and much, much more. The list goes on. As a school community we thank the PTA for their outstanding work that really makes a difference and benefits all pupils. **Please think about joining our PTA!!! WE NEED YOU!!!!**

Parental Comments/Feedback

The school greatly appreciates all feedback and comments from the wider parent body in regard of the school. Please feel free to complete the sheet and send into school if there is anything you wish to bring to our attention. Thank you.

Signed:

Date:

