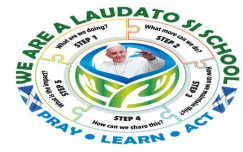


St. Augustine's Primary



NEWSLETTER



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

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our term before the October break was a very busy one with lots going on in school and many pupils getting out and about representing St. Augustine's beautifully in the wider community and beyond. We hope you have kept well informed about all that has been going on by checking our blog on the school app and our tweets on twitter. The term that lies ahead is always a hectic one so please take note of all the dates to add to your diary.

Mrs. C. Docherty



Infra-structure Update

The ongoing work to the school continues with a recent focus on carrying out a whole school audit of our current smartboard equipment. Technology plays a huge part in the delivery of our curriculum and the need for the most up to date and effective smartboards that are fully interactive have been identified as a school priority. The school purchased smartboards for all classes

a considerable number of years ago and they are now beginning to show their age and require regular repairs. Our allocation of PEF (Pupil Equity Fund) money is primarily used to support learners and ensure equity of provision for all. A portion of our PEF money will be allocated to supporting a staged purchase of Smartboards across the school. This will ensure all children benefit from a learning environment with technology fit for the 21st century. We anticipate their arrival this term.

Parking

Parking is available in the Time Capsule car park and St. Augustine's Church. Many thanks to everyone for showing such consideration and taking the time to park and stride. Your considerate actions keep everyone safe. Please do not park on the zig zags or at the roundabout.



PE.Days

Our P.E. kit is white polo shirt or white T-shirt, black shorts or black/grey jogging bottoms. Bright emblazoned T-shirts are not part of our uniform.

Please note your child/children's P.E. days for this term. Children are required to change for their P.E. sessions.

Rm 1 – Tues, Frid- outdoors

Rm 2 – Thurs, Frid - outdoors

Rm 3 – Mon, Wed. - outdoors

Rm 7 – Mon, Thurs - outdoors

Rm 8 – Tues, Thurs - outdoors

Rm 9 – Tues, Thurs - outdoors

Rm 10 – Wed, Thurs - outdoors

Rm 12 – Wed, Thurs - outdoors

Rm 13 – Wed, Frid - outdoors

Rm 15 – Wed, Mon- outdoors

Rm 16 – Thurs, Tues - outdoors

These days may change during the term ahead to accommodate any visiting specialists.

Please ensure your child brings gym shoes/trainers for changing for P.E. sessions along with a zipper for outdoor PE. Thank you for your co-operation in this regard. Children will only be exempt from a P.E. session if a letter is sent to school stating the need for an exemption on medical grounds.

Early Friday Pick Ups

We are experiencing an increased number of requests for children to be picked up early on a Friday with constant calls to the school office. Please ensure that such a request takes place only in exceptional circumstances and is not a weekly occurrence.

Labelling Clothes and Lunch Boxes

Please make our life much easier and label your child's belongings – blazer, jacket, cardigans, jumpers, lunch boxes. This will ensure 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! Please note we have a number of unclaimed clothes that are available in the front foyer to be uplifted. If you are missing some parts of the school uniform or are missing a jacket please contact the school. We have a large number of unclaimed lunch boxes from last term. Please contact the school or ask your child to check.

School Improvement Plan and Report

A copy of this year's School Improvement Plan and our School Improvement Report for 2020/21 can also be found on our school website. Please take some time to review our school priorities.

1. Improve attainment levels for learners with a focus on Literacy and Numeracy
2. Improve outcomes for learners, staff and families with a focus on HWB across the school
3. Improve outcomes for learners with a focus on STEM across all stages

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. On an occasion such as this please do not take offence when you are directed to make an appointment or to arrange a call the following day.

Change to pick up times

Please note that due to revised and relaxed guidelines for schools all pupils will leave school at 3.00pm. Please be advised that all parents are kindly encouraged to continue wearing a face mask at drop off and pick up times. We will remain with our staggered breaks and lunchtimes. **Please aim to drop off and leave. Please note the main entrance is not a drop off point for school.**

Sponsored Walk

A huge thank you is extended to all parents, carers, grandparents and wider school community who supported our recent Sponsored Walk. You helped us raise the astonishing sum of £ 4,169.05. We have never before raised such a fantastic sum of money from our sponsored walk and we thank you for your generous support. This money will make a huge difference to all.

Pope Francis Faith Award

Our Pr. 6 and 7 pupils are now making regular entries to their Faith Journals as they work to complete the two year award. A huge thanks to Jan Craven (St. Augustine's Youth Worker) who also supports the children on their journey of faith.

School attendance at Mass

It has been wonderful to see the school represented so well each week at Friday Mass. It has also been extremely heartening to hear from so many parishioners and visitors to the parish, both in person and online, taking the time to get in touch and give the children such lovely compliments on the reverence and respect they have shown at each service. Well done children!!

Afterschool Clubs



Healthy Schools

It is great news that we can now go ahead and organise some afterschool clubs this term. Our clubs will commence week beg. 25th Oct. Please look out for letters in your child's bag to register for any club.

Monday - Netball (Pr. 6 – 7)

Tuesday: Coding (Pr.4-5)

Street Dance (Pr. 6 and 7)

STEM Club (Pr.2)

Wednesday: Gaelic Football (Pr.5)

Lunchtime Rosary Club (Pr.4)

Writer's Editorial Team (Pr. 6 and 7)

Thursday Choir (Pr. 6 and 7)

Friday : club tbc

The school aims to continue to widen the variety of clubs available and also provide clubs for other stages in the school. Any parents who would be interested in assisting the school with running an afterschool club please contact the school. We would love to hear from you.

Parents Evening

Please note interim reports will be issued followed by a parents evening on either Tues. 16th, Wed. 17th or Thurs 18th Nov. Details to follow shortly. Please note meetings will not be face to face.

Celebrating Halloween



Due to current guidelines we will not be hosting a Halloween Disco this year. However, we do like to mark this fun event in our school calendar with Friday 29th October marked as our dress up day. Pupils can come dressed to school or can change in the afternoon for our Halloween themed day. Many thanks to the PTA for providing snacks and drinks in the afternoon.

COP26

Since our return to school in August all classes have had a focus on Climate Change as we get ready for COP26 when the worlds' leaders will discuss what we can do to save our planet for future generations. All classes have had a clear focus on learning about our common home and most importantly what we can do to make a difference. The school aims to create a video showcasing pupil work in the hope of sharing some important messages about the small changes we can all do to make a difference. Details to follow.

Laudato Si School

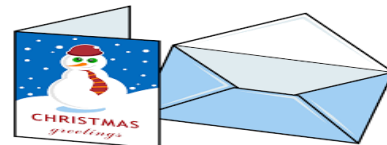
The school is delighted to announce that we have registered as a Laudato Si school in response to Pope Francis' call to make a promise to care for our common home. As a Laudato Si school we will attend a prayer service of commitment and will pledge to learn, pray and act to make a change for good.

'protect all life, to prepare for a better future, of justice, peace, love and beauty' (Laudato Si)



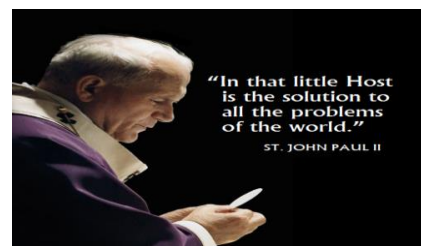
Christmas Card Project

Every year our PTA organise The Christmas Card Project that involves all pupils designing their own Christmas Cards. Packs will be issued week beg. 1st Nov. with a deadline date of Frid. 12th Nov. to submit card designs, place orders and submit payment. Please note the deadline as the printers require sufficient time to process orders.



Catholic Education Week

This year we celebrate Catholic Education Week from Monday 22nd November. This year's theme is Celebrating and Worshipping. Children will engage with a variety of resources to learn about the Liturgical Calendar during that week. Please anticipate an invitation from your child to attend Mass and to make celebration and worship at Holy Mass an important feature of your weekly family life



Pupil Retreats

A programme of pupil retreats that will take place in the Parish Centre for all classes has been established in the school calendar for the year ahead. Details of dates for each stage will be released nearer the time. Coming up-

Pr. 5 Mon 25th (group 1) or Tues.26th Oct.(Group 2)

Pr. 6 Mon. 1st (grp 1) or Tues 2nd Nov (grp 2)

Pr. 1 Tues. 23rd Nov

Pr. 2 Wed. 24th Nov

Pr. 5 Music Project

The school is delighted to announce that our Pr. 5 pupils are involved in an exciting music project as part of cluster working. In partnership with St.Ambrose and our associated primaries Pr. 5 pupils will have the opportunity to learn either a woodwind or brass instrument with a view to extending their interest next session. Children will be provided with a plastic version of the instrument to support them in the early stage of their music tuition. Exciting times!! Many thanks to St.Ambrose and North Lanarkshire Council for covering costs.

Enterprise Fortnight

All pupils will take part in Enterprise fortnight with project work leading to products for the Children's Christmas Fair. week beg. 1st Nov.

Road Safety Week

Our whole school Road Safety week will take place week beg. 15th Nov. Our Junior Road Safety Officers will lead this whole school focus with the aim of raising awareness about the importance of safe crossing and parking, most notably around our school.

12 Days of Giving Christmas Appeal

Following on from our very successful appeal last year and the need within our community we aim to repeat our appeal and hopefully replicate the success of last year. Details to follow at the end of November.

PTA Christmas Stall

Our wonderful PTA will run their annual Children's Christmas Stall for all pupils to purchase small pocket money priced gifts for family members week beg. 6th Dec. Any parents willing to help out on the day would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the school or PTA members.



Happy Birthday

to all our

October,

November

and

December

birthday

boys and girls.

Pr. 7 Transition

Our Pr. 7 pupils have started an enhanced transition to S1 involving staff from St.Ambrose. The focus is currently on reading and analysing text. Parents will be contacted in regard of pupils who require fuller transition involving meetings with St.Ambrose staff.

Influenza Vaccine

Returns in regard of the flu vaccine have been collated with pupils to receive their nasal spray on a scheduled date of Tues. 26th October

SACRAMENT DATES

Pr.3 First Reconciliation – Tues. 22nd March 7.00pm

Confirmation – Pr.7 pupils only – Wed. 16th March 7.00pm

Pr.4 First Communion –

Families will shortly receive a letter to confirm date and time of First Communion.

Please note Father Kane has already issued letters of invite to Pr. 3,4 and 7 7 pupils for the Ignite Club which takes place after 10.00am Mass each Sunday.(classes held alternate weeks for the two age groups)

Parent Council

Our Parent Council are committed to supporting the school on its' improvement agenda. Next Meeting Wed. 27th October. The meeting will be held virtually at 6.30pm.

Parent Teacher Association

Next meeting – Wed..27th Oct at 7.15pm. New members are warmly welcome to join us. We need your support. Our meeting will be held virtually. Please contact the school if you wish to attend our next meeting.

Christmas Panto

The school made a decision last term not to commit to attending an outside panto as restrictions remained in place. However, the panto season will not be overlooked with a virtual panto and a possible visit from a theatre company arranged to ensure everyone enjoys this festive treat. Details nearer the time.

Celebrating Christmas

Please check our blog and twitter account for updates on class activities in the lead up to Christmas. Unfortunately, due to ongoing restrictions and a requirement to mitigate risk we remain unable to admit parents and grandparents into the school on a large scale. I hope you can appreciate the need for such measures when rates remain high. However, we do aim to ensure the festive season is fully taking place at St.Augustine's and that there is plenty going on in the school during this time of preparation. Similar to last year classes will be more than happy to share their learning virtually so no one feels they are missing these precious moments.

October



Mon. 25th – Pr. 5 Retreat (Group 1)

Tues. 26th Pr. 5 Retreat (Group 2)

Pr. 6 – attending Mass to commission MISSIO Champions

Frid 29th Dress Up Day (whole school)

End of Month Assembly

Halloween Themed Lunch

NOVEMBER



Mon. 1st – All Saints Day

Pr. 6 Retreat (Group 1)

Pr. 6 Retreat (Group 2)

Mon.15th – In-Service Day (children do not attend school)

Tues. 16th, Wed. 17th and Thurs. 18th – Parents Evening

Pr. 1 Retreat – Tues. 23rd

Pr. 2 Retreat – Wed. 24th

End of Month Assembly Frid. 26th

Tues. 30th - St.Andrew's Day Mass

Tues. 30th St.Andrew's Themed Lunch

DECEMBER



Week beg 6th -PTA Children's Christmas Stall

Thurs. 9th Christmas Lunch

Wed. 15th Pr. 4 and 5 Christmas Party

Frid. 17th Pr. 6 and 7 – Christmas Party

Tues. 21st – Pr. 1, 2 and 3 Christmas Party

Wed.22nd - Christmas Service – 10.00am. Children can be collected directly after Mass.

School closes Wed. 22nd 2.30pm. School re-opens Mon. 10th January at 9.00am

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:

