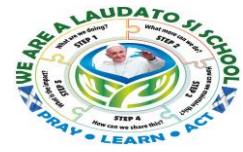


November - December 2022



# 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*



### 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.



Please note Community Police and Traffic Wardens will be making unannounced visits to our school campus as the zig zags around the school are now enforceable and fines can be given for unlawful parking.



## 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/Pr.1 Tues, (Frid- outdoors)

Rm 2/Pr1– Tues, (Frid – outdoors)

Rm 3/Pr. 2 – Mon, (Frid. – outdoors)

Rm 4/Pr.2/3 – Mon, ( Frid – outdoors)

Rm 7/Pr.3/4 - Wed, (Thurs- outdoors)

Rm 8/Pr. 3 – Tues, (Thurs – outdoors)

Rm 9 /Pr.6/7 Frid, (Thurs – outdoors)

Rm 10 /Pr. 7–Tues , (Thurs –outdoors)

Rm 12/Pr. 6 – Frid, (Mon – outdoors)

Rm 13/Pr. 4 – Frid, (Tues – outdoors)

Rm 15/Pr. 5 – Thurs, (Wed- outdoors)

Rm 16/Pr. 5 – Thurs, (Wed – 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 once again 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.

## Looking after the planet

We have a large collection of used/new uniforms/jackets that are freely available for uplift. Mon and Frid afternoon are pick up days. You are more than welcome to select what you need and save clothing landing in landfill sites and impacting our environment.

Please make our life much easier and **label your child's belongings – blazer, jacket, cardigans, jumpers, lunch boxes.** 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.

## School Improvement Plan and Report

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

**Cluster Priority** - To further improve outcomes for pupils through a robust, shared health and wellbeing programme to increase attendance and attainment across the curriculum with a specific focus on numeracy

## School

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 continued smooth running of the school 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.

## Attendance and Late Coming

Please note our school bell rings at 8.58am to ensure children are lined up in preparation for morning prayers each day. The bell rings at 9am each morning with prayers commencing directly afterwards. Please ensure your child is dropped off in time for the start of the school day. Late arrivals, particularly if this is a regular occurrence, greatly affect children and impact on their learning. Arriving late can lead children to experience high feelings of anxiety, missed learning opportunities and ultimately gaps in learning.

**Please note as part of important safe guarding procedures the doors and subsequently the gates are closed when classes enter the school.** Attendance figures will continue to be reviewed as part of ongoing school policy. Please notify the school if your child is unable to attend school or if they will be late 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. Your helped us raise the astonishing sum of £ 3,435.64. This is 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.

## 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.

## Parents Evening

Please note following the issue of interim reports our Parents evenings will take place on Tues. 15<sup>th</sup> Nov and Wed. 16<sup>th</sup> Nov. Meetings will be face to face and will strictly keep to the set 7 mins. Appointments can be made via the online booking system. Pupils are encouraged to sit beside their parents during the report – particularly Pr. 6 and 7 pupils.

## BOOK FAIR

The book fair will be running during BOOK WEEK SCOTLAND, week beg. 14<sup>th</sup> Nov. Classes will be timetabled to make a visit with the Book Fair also open during the Parents evenings.

## Sporting Calendar

A full calendar of festivals and competitions are now in our school diary.

Cross Country Qualifier Pr. 4 - 7 – Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Nov.-am. Dunbeth Park

Gaelic Football session Pr. 5 – St.Ambrose HS- Wed. 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov.

Junior Sports Leader Training Pr. 7 – commencing 1<sup>st</sup> Nov.

Benchball Pr 5 – St.Ambrose Sports Leaders- 25<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec

Benchall Competition Pr. 5 – Festival St.Ambrose HS- 16<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Pr. 7 swimming block (Rm 10) commences 1<sup>st</sup> Dec – 9<sup>th</sup> March 12 weeks

Yoga specialist currently working with Nursery and Pr. 1 pupils.

Pr. 7 currently working with coach for Gaelic Football sessions.

Please note swimming blocks are booked for

Pr 5 commencing 15<sup>th</sup> March – 21<sup>st</sup> June. This session also includes a dry sport session in the Time Capsule

Pr. 7 (Rm 9) commencing 14<sup>th</sup> March – 21<sup>st</sup> June

## Celebrating Halloween

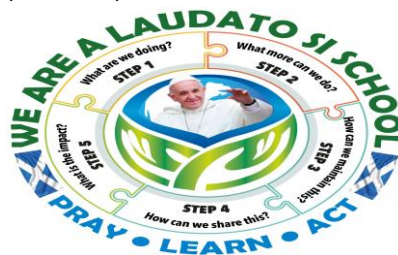


Many thanks to our wonderful PTA who helped us celebrate Halloween in style. The Halloween disco raised an astonishing £1191.25. Many thanks to the many parents who helped out at the disco to ensure the children had a wonderful time and to all parents for their patience and understanding at pick up time.

## Laudato Si School

In response to Pope Francis' call to make a promise to care for our common home we are now a Laudato Si school and have pledged 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)



Our curriculum and committee work reflect our ongoing commitment to care for our world. Lessons and action plans are regularly shared on our twitter account. We are now going to work in partnership with Friends of Monklands Canal Group to help look after the natural beauty on our doorstep. Details to follow.

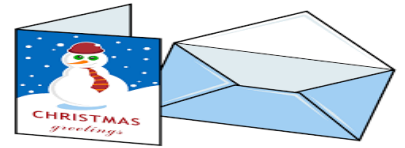
## MUSIC LESSONS

Our Pr. 6 pupils continue their instrumental music instruction with staff from St.Ambrose HS. They have also met their cluster musicians (cluster primaries) at a recent HS event. We look forward to a presentation that showcases the progress the children have made. It has been quite remarkable!

Our Pr. 5 pupils are involved in an exciting project with Summerlee Heritage Museum and are learning to play the penny whistle. All music tuition is taking place on a Thursday, please sympathise. It can be quite a cacophony!

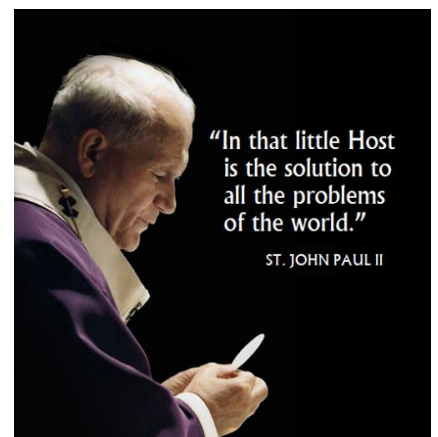
## Christmas Card Project

Every year our PTA organise The Christmas Card Project that involves all pupils designing their own Christmas Cards. Packs will be issued week beg. 7<sup>th</sup> Nov. with a deadline date of Tues. 15<sup>th</sup> Nov. to submit designs and orders.



## Catholic Education Week

This year we celebrate Catholic Education Week from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November. This year's theme is Communion, Participation, Mission. Children will engage with a variety of resources 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 are in the school diary with several classes having already attended their retreats. Please note dates below.

NET Ministries – Pr. 7- 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov – Parish Centre

Pope Francis Faith Award Retreat – Pr. 6 pupils to attend either – Tues. 8<sup>th</sup> Nov or Frid. 11<sup>th</sup> Nov.

Advent Retreat Pr. Rm 1 – Wed. 30<sup>th</sup> Nov

Advent Retreat Pr. Rm 2 – Thurs. 1<sup>st</sup> Dec

### Enterprise Fortnight

All pupils will take part in Enterprise fortnight with project work leading to products for the Children's Christmas Fair. week beg. 21st Nov.

### Road Safety Week

Our whole school Road Safety week will take place week beg. 14<sup>th</sup> 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. Please park and stride to get to school. Community Police Officers are monitoring the situation around the school as we have too much congestion and too many incidences of inconsiderate parking. Please be aware that traffic wardens will be visiting the area

### 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.

### Christmas Panto

In response to the current cost of living crisis the school made a decision, in the interest of all families within our school community, to bring a visiting theatre company to the school for our Christmas Panto. M & M Productions will entertain the children with their version of Aladdin on Mon. 19<sup>th</sup> Dec – am. The children have been entertained already with a production of Sleeping Beauty in October as a whole school treat. There will be no cost to families with payment made from school funds and PTA. Children can come to school in their own clothes resplendent in their Christmas jumpers and antlers for some festive fun! Many thanks to our PTA.



Happy Birthday

to all our

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 are invited to attend an Information Evening on Tues. 15<sup>th</sup> Nov.

### SACRAMENT DATES

Pr.3 First Reconciliation – Tues. 14<sup>th</sup> March 7.00pm

Confirmation – Pr.7 pupils only – Wed. 19<sup>th</sup> April 7.00pm

Pr.4 First Communion –

7<sup>th</sup> May Rm 13 - 10.00am

14<sup>th</sup> May Rm 7 - 12.00

Please check Parish Bulletin for all details in regard of Ignite club as part of home/parish partnership working.

### Fluoride Varnish

This will take place for Nursery pupils and Pr. 1 – 4 pupils on Tues. 15<sup>th</sup> Nov.

### St.Andrew's Day Celebration

Children will attend Mass at 10am on the morning of St.Andrew's day.

### Parent Council

Our Parent Council are committed to supporting the school on its' improvement agenda. Next Meeting Wed.1<sup>st</sup> Feb.

### Parent Teacher Association

Next meeting – Wed..1<sup>st</sup> Feb. 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.

Details in regard of whether the meeting will be held virtually or in the parish centre will be shared nearer the time.

### Christmas Fair

The school are looking for donations for our forthcoming Christmas Fair on Sat. 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec. We are looking for donations of bottles (bottle stall), tombola gifts (adults and children stall), unwanted, good condition toys, books. Please send all donations to the school.

If you wish to help out on the day for the first Christmas Fair since before the pandemic please notify the school or PTA members. Thank you.

### Christmas Nativity and Christmas Show

This year we have two productions taking place that will mean performances for Pr. 1- 4 pupils on set days and performances for Pr. 5 – 7 on different set days. Auditions will be taking place in school with parts allocated shortly.

Details will follow in regard of ticket sales nearer the time.

## NOVEMBER



Tues. 8<sup>th</sup> Pr. 6 Retreat

Frid. 11<sup>th</sup> Pr. 6 Retreat

**Mon.14<sup>th</sup> – In-Service Day** (children do not attend school)

Tues. 15<sup>th</sup>, Wed. 16<sup>th</sup> – Parents Evening

Frid. 25<sup>th</sup> – End of Month Assembly

Mon. 28<sup>th</sup> Nov - Pr.2 Retreat

Tues. 29<sup>th</sup> - Pr. 2 Retreat

Wed. 30<sup>th</sup> – Pr. 1 Retreat

Wed. 30<sup>th</sup> – St.Andrew’s Day Mass

## DECEMBER



Thurs. 1<sup>st</sup> – Pr. 1 Retreat

Sat. 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas Fair

Tues. 6<sup>th</sup> PTA Wrap Up

Wed. 7<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Nativity and Show – Pr. 1 – 4 (6.30- 7.30pm)

Thurs. 8<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Nativity and Show Pr. 1 – 4 (1.30pm)

Thurs. 8<sup>th</sup> –Panto Pandemonium Pr. 5 – 7 ( 6.30 – 7.30pm)

Frid 9<sup>th</sup> – Nursery Nativity - am

Frid. 9<sup>th</sup> Panto Pandemonium Pr. 5 – 7 (1.30pm)

Tues. 13<sup>th</sup> – CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Wed. 14<sup>th</sup> Pr. 5 Christmas Party

Thurs. 15<sup>th</sup> Pr. 6 – Christmas Party

Frid. 16<sup>th</sup> Pr.7 Christmas Party

Mon. Pr. 3 and 4 Christmas Party

Tues. 20<sup>th</sup> – Pr. 1 and 2 Christmas Party

Wed. 21<sup>st</sup> – Nursery Christmas Party

Thurs. 22<sup>nd</sup> - Christmas Service – 10.00am. Children can be collected directly after Mass.

School closes Thurs. 22<sup>nd</sup> 2.30pm. School re-opens Mon. 9<sup>th</sup> 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:



