

JANUARY – MARCH 2023

St. Augustine's Primary

NEWSLETTER



www.st-augustines.n-lanark.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is wonderful to welcome everyone back to school after our Christmas and New Year festivities. We hope you all enjoyed precious time with your family and are looking forward to all that 2023 has to offer. This year is an exciting year with much going on in the school as always. We look forward to continuing to strengthen the great partnership we enjoy between home, school and Church in the year ahead. Our newsletter will report on what's happened in school and feature events that are up and coming with important dates to put in your diary for the term ahead. Please ensure you have uploaded the school app for weekly updates and that you regularly check our twitter account. You don't want to miss out all that is going on in our wonderful school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. C. Docherty

Thank You

Many thanks for your wonderful support last session and for your generosity throughout the school year. Our school fund, which only exists because of your support and generosity (sponsor money, ticket sales), enables the school to participate in all NLC events as they arise throughout the year, to take part in outside visits linked to class learning and to welcome visiting theatre companies and outreach teams. Buses are also an extremely costly expense and we always aim to cover as much of the cost as possible thanks to your support.

Christmas Performances

We hope you enjoyed our Christmas performances of Mend the Manger and Spreading Some Christmas Cheer (Pr. 1 – 4) and our senior production of Panto Pandemonium by Pr. 5 – 7. The wealth of talent on show was quite something to behold. We really do have amazing children at St. Augustine's and it was wonderful to see their talents on display. The boys and girls were a real credit to the school and their families. Many thanks to everyone for their great support in preparing the children so well to give such polished performances.



Drop off and Pick Up

All parents are once again kindly reminded to refrain from entering the school yard both before 9.00 am and before 3.00 pm. If picking your child up please locate yourself on the pavement around the school. **Please note the main entrance to the school is not a drop off point or pick up point for pupils to enter or leave the school before 9am or at 3pm. Children are required to be in their line for morning prayers at 9am.**

SAFE PARKING



The parking situation around our school is much improved, however, it remains concerning that parking still takes place near the roundabout and the infant gates. The zig zags are not drop off points. **Please park and stride.** Parking is available in the Time Capsule car park and also in the car park of St. Augustine's Church. Please use these parking facilities.

Updated Advice about Zig Zag lines

Please note we have kept clear markings around the perimeter of the school. Traffic Regulation Orders have been introduced outside all schools meaning that the signs will no longer be advisory and drivers can be fined. This will mean the council can carry out enforcement duties at our keep clear markings in a similar way to enforcement of double yellow lines.

Please note there are plans to impose 20mph speed limits around the school in due course.

PLEASE PARK AND STRIDE

Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair was a resounding success raising an astonishing £3349.72. One word WOW! Thank you for all your support.



12 Days of Giving Christmas Appeal

Many thanks for your support of our Christmas Appeal during Advent. Father Kane's Stay Connected and Coatbridge Foodbank were all blown away by your amazing generosity. Check out our convoy of kindness!!



Friday Mass

The school has a rota that will enable one class each week to attend Friday Mass at 10.00am in St. Augustine's Church. We look forward to you joining us at the Friday service if you are available.

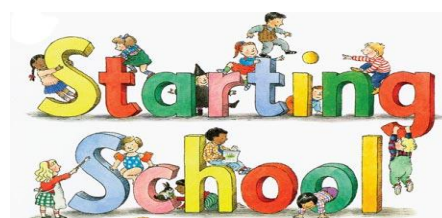
Pr.7 Transition to S1

Please ensure all paperwork is returned to school for the purpose of transition planning for high school. Deadline is Frid. 3rd February.

Pr. 7 Information evening Wed. 24th May – 6.00- 7.45pm

Induction Days Wed. 31st May and Thurs. 1st June - 9.30 – 3pm

Registration of Infants Pr. 1



Registration for infant beginners for Session 2022/2023 is now open with parents requested to make an appointment at the school. Information is available on the blog or go directly to www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk>school-admissions

The closing date for applications is Frid. 20th January.

Registration for Nursery



Parents/Carers of 3 to 5 years olds who are now eligible to apply for early learning and childcare 2023/2024 session entry usually apply at this time. Please be aware we await information from the authority in regard of the application process. All 3 to 5 year old children are eligible to receive 1140 hours of early learning and childcare per year. When we are in receipt of details due notification will be given about the application process. Apologies for the delay.

St. Ambrose Music Collective

A huge congratulations to the boys and girls of Pr. 6 who completed their music programme with the tutors from St. Ambrose. They got the opportunity to perform in front of the whole school and also to perform in front of a packed house at the North Lanarkshire Christmas Concert in December. Quite an accomplishment. We look forward to the next stage of their musical journey.

Pr. 5 Folk Music Group

Our Pr. 5 children are taking part in an exciting music project learning to play a number of traditional pieces of music on the penny whistle. A performance will take place Thurs. 15th June at Summerlee Heritage Museum.

Dates for Sacraments

Confirmation – Pr. 7

Wed. 19th April

7.00pm

First Reconciliation - Pr.3

Tues. 14th March

7.00pm

First Communion – Pr. 4

Sun. 7th May – 10.00am (Rm 13 pupils)

Sun. 14th May – 12 o'clock (Rm 7 pupils)

Swimming block

Our Pr. 7 pupils are now enjoying a swimming block with payment made through our PEF allocation. Pr. 7 /Rm 10 last block Thurs. 9th March. Swimming block for Pr. 7 Rm 9 commences 14th March until 20th June.

North Lanarkshire Council Cross Country Finals

Successful qualifying runners will represent the school in the finals on Wed. 1st March. We wish them every success.

Netball Qualifiers

Our netball team will take part in the North Lanarkshire qualifiers on Thurs. 9th Feb. We wish the team every success!

Curricular Visits by High School staff from St.Ambrose

Many thanks to St.Ambrose HS staff for their extensive transition programme delivering lessons on Maths, Literacy, Science and DET to a number of classes from Pr. 4 – 7 this term.

Afterschool Clubs



Letters will be issued shortly detailing school clubs and dates and duration of blocks so that we can ensure a provision of after school clubs at most stages. It is our intention to run afterschool clubs for school choir, STEM, CODING, netball, football, dance and cross country this term. Further clubs will be added as the term progresses and will include ICT club, art club and cooking club. Details to follow.

Lunchtime Clubs

The school is delighted that this term there will be a number of lunchtime clubs some of which will be run by the children themselves. We hope to have a Rosary Club, Garageband Music Club, Lego Club, Mindfulness Club and a Sports Leaders Play Club for Pr.1, 2 and 3 pupils. Please contact the school if you are interested in supporting or running a school club. We would love to hear from you. A huge thank you to staff for running such a diverse array of clubs in their own time. We are sure the children will be delighted.

Lenten Charity Events



The school will plan a programme of activities throughout Lent to raise money for our chosen charities. Thrilling Thursdays and Fun Fridays will feature a number of events to raise money. Ash Wednesday – Wed. 22nd February.

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. Our twitter also has daily updates and showcases the great work taking place across the school. To save money on the cost of texts we will continue to send out any quick notifications and reminders via the school app or via e-mail. Please check your mailbox to ensure you have read any communication coming from the school. If you have not received any e-mails this session and have provided an e-mail address please contact the school so that we can check the address we have on our system.

Parent Teacher Association

Our wonderful PTA has grown in size thanks to some new members but we are always keen to welcome new faces. If you are interested in attending please contact the school who will give you the contact details of the PTA.

Your school needs you!!!

Next meeting – Wed.1st Feb. at 7.15pm. Please come along and make new friends. This will be a virtual meeting.

Parent Council

Our next meeting will be held on Wed. 1st Feb. at 6.00pm. Meetings remain virtual. Meetings are held on the last Wed. of each month with all discussion focused upon school business. The next meeting will have a particular focus on the school improvement plan for this session and will discuss priorities for next session.



January, February and March

BURNS SUPPER – Pr. 7 parents and grandparents Wed. 25th Jan. – 1.30pm

HOLIDAY WEEKEND – School closed Mon. 13th, Tues. 14th and Wed. 15th Feb.

ASH WEDNESDAY – Wed. 22nd February

PUPIL REPORTS – issued week beg. 27th March

DAFFODIL TEA/EASTER BONNET PARADE – Wed. 29th March 10.30am. Pr. 1 – 3

EASTER EGG COMPETITION – Pr. 4 – 7 pupils - Thurs. 30th March

SCHOOL CLOSES – Frid. 31st March. **School closes 2.30pm**

SPRING BREAK – Mon. 3rd April – Frid. 14th April (inclusive)

GOOD FRIDAY – Frid. 7th April

EASTER MONDAY – Mon. 10th April

SCHOOL RE-OPENS – Mon. 17th April 9.00am

Pr. 7 Strathclyde Park

Our Pr. 7 pupils will visit Strathclyde Park every day week beg. 27th February as part of an outward bound offering of activities. Children will be involved in cycling, canoeing and a number of team building exercises. We wish them well.



Happy Birthday
to all our
January
February and March
birthday
boys and girls.

Burns Day



Please note some classes may be looking at some Burns poetry and may celebrate Burns day with some Irn Bru/Highland Spring Water and shortbread.

Pr. 7 Burns Day Event

Parents and grandparents of our Pr. 7 pupils are invited to join us for a Burns Supper on Wed. 25th Jan at 1.30pm in the school hall.

SAFER INTERNET WEEK

Week beg. 6th Feb will involve the whole school learning about Safer Internet use. Lessons will take place in classes across the school. Our Community Police will also support this focus week with a number of visits.

LITERACY WEEK

Our whole school focus on reading for enjoyment and writing our own books will commence week beg. 20th Feb. with World Book Day celebrated on 2nd March. Further details to follow.

Financial Education Week

A whole school focus on financial education will take place week beginning 23rd January. The Financial Inclusion Team will support our financial education week with prepared lessons and workshops. We thank them in anticipation of their support. Lessons are important life skills to teach children how to manage money.

CLASS RETREATS

Please note the schedule of class retreats for this term

Pr. 7 – either Wed. 18th or Thurs. 26th Jan

Pr. 3 – either Wed. 22nd or Thurs. 23rd Feb.

One class or group will visit either day.

Classes will visit the Parish Centre for their assigned retreat day.

Children's Mental Health Week

Week beg. 6th Feb. will provide a platform for the school to focus upon looking after our mental health and wellbeing.

SCIENCE and ENGINEERING WEEK

A number of workshops, shows and class events have been booked to provide a whole school focus on all things STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. Our focus week is week beg. 13th March. We hope to launch our STEM room as a whole school resource during this focus week.

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: