

St. Augustine's Primary

NEWSLETTER



DIGITAL SCHOOLS
AWARDS SCOTLAND

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 2024 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 check our school website for weekly updates and that you regularly check our twitter account or our school Facebook. 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 Jesus in the Manger and our senior production of Christmas is Forever 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 some drivers park their vehicles near the roundabout or near the entrance to the Time Capsule as this can obstruct emergency services should they be called. **Please note 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.

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. Our school JRSO Officers will be out and about and will issue our own St. Augustine's Parking Ticket. You really don't want one of them!

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 £3,750.06. One word WOW! Thank you for all your support. The PTA Children's stall also raised an additional £1,260.65. A huge thank you to our amazing PTA for all their hard work and dedication. The PTA provided all party food for the Christmas parties and provided selection boxes Pr.4 – 7 and gifts for Pr. 1 - 3.



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.

St. Augustine's in the Community

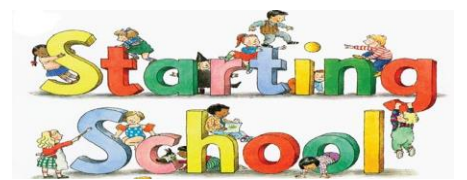
Prior to Christmas our nursery class and classes throughout the school went Carol Singing to spread some festive cheer among the general public (Asda) and local care homes (James Demspey Gardens, Deanston Care Home, Woodside Care Home and Summerlee Care Home). The children were a credit to the school and were welcomed with open arms.



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.

Registration of Infants Pr. 1



Registration for infant beginners for Session 2023/2024 is now open with parents requested to make an appointment at the school. Information is available on the school website or at the link below

www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk>school-admissions

The closing date for applications is Friday 19th January.

Registration for Nursery



Parents/Carers of 3 to 5 years olds who are now eligible to apply for early learning and childcare 2024/2025 can apply at present. All 3 to 5 year old children are eligible to receive 1140 hours of early learning and childcare per year. The closing date for applications is Friday 16th February.

Promoting Positive Behaviour

The school has a clear policy around promoting positive interactions in school and at breaktimes. Children are encouraged to follow school rules, be respectful of others and to reflect on their actions. We have a clear policy of encouraging children to make good choices and not to react inappropriately or aggressively to others. We are finding that there are sometimes mixed messaging given to children and this is confusing for young people as they feel justified in their actions. Can I kindly ask that you work in partnership with the school to promote our policy that promotes a culture of positive interactions and respectful behaviour as we want our school to be a happy place for everyone. Your support in this regard is very much appreciated. We aim to work in partnership with all parents for the good of all pupils.

Dates for Sacraments

Confirmation – Pr. 7

Wed. 23rd April

7.00pm

First Reconciliation - Pr.3

Tues. 12th March

7.00pm

First Communion – Pr. 4

Sun. 12th May – 10.00am (Rm 13 pupils)

Sun. 19th May – 12 o'clock (Rm 8 pupils)

Swimming block

Our Pr. 5 pupils will enjoy a block of swimming lessons and dry sport activities at the Time Capsule from 12th March – 11th June.

North Lanarkshire Council Cross Country Finals

Successful qualifying runners will represent the school in the finals on Wed. 13th March. We wish them every success.

Netball Qualifiers

Our netball team will take part in the North Lanarkshire qualifiers on Mon. 26th 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, Music, Art and DET to a number of classes from Pr. 4 – 7 both last term and 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 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.

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. 26th January.

Pr. 7 Information evening Wed. 22nd May – 6.00- 7.45pm

Induction Days Wed. 29th and Thurs. 30th May - 9.00 – 3pm

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. 14th February.

Communication

Please remember to check our school website for regular weekly updates. 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 joining please contact the school who will give you the contact details of the PTA.

Your school needs you!!!

Next meeting – Wed.17th Jan. at 7.15pm. Please come along and make new friends.

Parent Council

Our next meeting will be held on Wed. 17th Jan. at 6.00pm. All discussion is 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.

St.Ambrose Music Collective

A huge congratulations to the boys and girls of Pr. 7 who got the opportunity to open the St.Ambrose Christmas Concert and entertained the school at the end of month assembly in December. Quite an accomplishment. We look forward to the next stage of their musical journey.





January, February and March

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

HOLIDAY WEEKEND – School closed Mon. 12th, Tues. 13th

IN-SERVICE DAY – Wed. 14th Feb. (school closed to pupils)

ASH WEDNESDAY – Wed. 14th February

PUPIL REPORTS – issued week beg. 25th March

DAFFODIL TEA/EASTER BONNET PARADE – Tues. 26th March. Doors open 10.30am. Pr. 1 – 3 to entertain with spring songs at 11am

EASTER EGG COMPETITION – Pr. 4 – 7 pupils - Tues. 26th March

SCHOOL CLOSURES – Thurs. 28th March. **School closes 2.30pm**

SPRING BREAK – Mon. 1st April – Frid. 12th April (inclusive)

GOOD FRIDAY – Frid. 29th March

EASTER MONDAY – Mon. 1st April

SCHOOL RE-OPENS – Mon. 15th April 9.00am

Pr. 7 Strathclyde Park

Our Pr. 7 pupils will visit Strathclyde Park every day week beg. 13th May as part of an outward bound offering of activities. Children will be involved in cycling, canoeing and a number of team building exercises. Payments to commence in Jan.



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 Thurs. 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. 26th Feb. with World Book Day celebrated on Thurs. 7th March. Further details to follow. Please anticipate children dressing in pyjamas for our readathon that week.

Financial Education Week

A whole school focus on financial education will take place week beginning 22nd 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.

Children's Mental Health Week

Week beg. 5th 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. 11th March.

PTA Mother's Day Stall

Please note the PTA will run a Mother's Day stall on Thurs. 7th and Frid 8th March.

Spring Fling Disco

Spring disco will take place Thurs. 21st March. Details to follow.

Attendance at School

It is our policy to review pupil attendance on a regular basis at various points throughout the school year. Missing days at school impacts your child's progress in learning. Please contact the school if your child is unwell and unable to attend school. If possible, please avoid holidays during term time.

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: