



August - Oct' 2024



# St. Augustine's Primary



**GOLD  
QUALIFIED**



**GOLD  
QUALIFIED**



**DIGITAL SCHOOLS  
AWARDS SCOTLAND**



Dear Parents/Carers,

It is wonderful to welcome all pupils, staff, parents, carers and grandparents back to our school community for the start of a new school year. A warm welcome is extended to our new Pr. 1 intake and the many new families that have now joined our community of faith and learning this session. We look forward to further strengthening home/school and parish relations in the year ahead and getting to know everyone in the weeks and months ahead.

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs. C. Docherty*

Head Teacher

### A warm welcome to our new starts

We are delighted to have welcomed 40 new pupils to our Pr. 1 classes. It is wonderful to see how quickly they have settled into their new environment, learning new routines and becoming acquainted with lots of new faces. We hope the initial enthusiasm continues and the children thrive in their new learning environment. A warm welcome is also extended to the new families who have joined our school community. We look forward to working in partnership to meet your child's needs in the years ahead.

### 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 -5 . Please note parents are not allowed into the school for drop off purposes nor is the breakfast club to be used as an early drop off for school. **Staff are on hand to supervise children who are at school for breakfast only not for early morning care/supervision.** Your understanding in this regard is greatly appreciated.

### Uniform

Your children look resplendent in their new school uniforms and are wearing them with great pride. They are a credit to you. Children are expected to wear their uniform every day and to change for PE lessons. Please note our uniform is grey (not black) trousers/skirt, grey jumper/cardigan, white shirt and **black shoes or plain black trainers.** Highly coloured footwear/trainers are not part of the school uniform. Please aim to ensure your child is dressed in the colours of the school everyday.

## School Yard – Drop off and Pick Up

Please note that parents are **not** permitted to enter the school yard either before 9.00am or after 3.00pm. Please ensure you have informed your child/children of their **pick up point well beyond the school gates**. 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. **Please do not gather or stand at the exit gates as this causes a high degree of congestion and makes it difficult for younger children to pass through.** 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. Pr. 1 pupils have a soft start and enter the school building on arrival at school and are not required to line up for morning prayers.

**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 on or before 9am or at 3pm. Please drop off your child in time for morning prayers at 9am**

## SAFE PARKING



Please remember to **Park and Stride**. Parking is available in the car park of St. Augustine's Church and the Time Capsule. **Please DO NOT park on the zig zag lines. It is inconsiderate and endangers lives.**

Please note Traffic Regulation Orders will be enforced meaning that markings will no longer be advisory and drivers can be fined. This will mean the council can carry out enforcement duties in a similar way to enforcement of double yellow lines. Police will make unannounced visits at drop off and pick times.

## Staffing Update

The school said goodbye to three very highly valued members of staff at the end of term. A fond farewell was made to Mrs Paula Scott ( Senior Clerical Assistant) and Mrs Karen Ross ( Clerical Assistant). Both ladies worked in the school for 23 years and 19 years respectively. They witnessed a lot of change and attended to a great many children during those decades. We thank both ladies for their outstanding contribution to our school and wish them great health and happiness for a long retirement.

We are also extremely sad to announce that Mr Kevin Mullen will no longer be in post as our ICT teacher. He has been deployed to the secondary sector. Mr Mullen worked in the school for a total of 9 years and was responsible for developing skills and knowledge in relation to ICT for pupils across the school. His expertise means he will be greatly missed by staff and pupils alike. We wish Mr Mullen every success in his new appointment.

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs Johnstone from her maternity leave. We are delighted to be joined by new staff member Miss A. Murphy. We are also delighted to have some additional teaching staff this session. We will be joined for some of the year by Cluster Support Teachers (Ms. Fiona Wong and Mrs Donna Callaghan) and Cluster Resource Teacher ( Miss Chloe Wilkie)

### Senior Management Team

Mrs Caroline Docherty – Head Teacher – strategic leadership and management

Mrs Margaret Maria Elliott - responsibility for assessment across the school, tracking attainment, timetabling, pupil pastoral support and much more!!

Mrs Lisa Drummond – Principal Teacher - responsibility for Maths across the school, STEM, Pope Francis Faith Award.

### Clerical Team

Post to be filled– Senior Clerical

Mrs Emma McGurk - Clerical Assistant

Mrs Elizabeth Turner – Clerical Assistant

## Staffing for 2024/2025



Pr. 1 Rm 1 – Mrs Gillooly

Pr.1 Rm 2 – Miss Ross

Pr. 2 Rm 3 – Miss Jamieson

Pr. 2/3 Rm 4 – Miss Livingstone

Pr. 3 Rm 7 – Mrs Thomson

Pr. 3/4 Rm 8 – Miss Ross ( Mon, Tues) Mrs Johnstone ( Wed – Frid)

Pr. 4 Rm 12 -Miss Murphy and Mrs McGlone ( Tues)

Pr. 5 Rm 16 Mrs Elder

Pr. 5/6 Rm 13 – Mr O'Dowd

Pr. 6 Rm 15 Mrs Ewing

Pr. 7 Rm 9 Mrs Longyear

Pr. 7 Rm 10 Mrs Drummond and Miss Ross (Frid)

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

Attainment teachers - Mrs Chisholm (Early Intervention (Pr. 1 and 2 ), Miss Ross (Pr. 3 and 4)

### Support Staff

Mrs Mary Thomson

Mrs Fiona Cartwright

Mrs Angela McGuinness

Miss Patricia McShane

Mrs Danielle Murray

### School Clothing

The school amassed quite a number of school items last session that were lost /unclaimed property. Some clothing was also donated. Please visit the school as we have jumpers, cardigans and jackets available for uplift. The school operates a drop in afternoon on a Monday and Friday for anyone who wishes to uplift any clothing. All is washed and available for collection. Please make use of this service, everything is free.

## 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 encourage our children to be Stewards of Creation and to support our work as a Laudato Si School.



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.

## 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 – we really do need all stock returned as soon as possible.

## Afterschool Clubs



Details to follow in regard of our afterschool programme for this term.

## PE.Days

Teachers will deliver one PE session outdoors and will also deliver one session indoors each week. Please supply your child with a plain black or grey zipper for outdoor PE. Children may also wear their school jumper or cardigan. Children have been advised that we are not sponsored by any company i.e Nike, Adidas, therefore **plain black leggings, black joggers or shorts and a plain white T-shirt is the requirement for PE** and keeps everyone the same with no stress placed on parents to wear a named garment. All children change into their kit for PE.

Rm 1 – Thurs, (Tues- outdoors) (Pr. 1)

Rm 2 – Thurs, (Tues – outdoors) (Pr 1)

Rm 3 – Frid, (Mon. – outdoors) (Pr. 2)

Rm 4 – Frid,( Mon – outdoors) (Pr. 2/3)

Rm 7 – Wed, (Mon - outdoors) (Pr.3)

Rm 8 – Tues, (Wed – outdoors) (Pr. 3/4)

Rm 9 – Mon, (Thurs– outdoors) – (Pr. 7)

Rm 10 Mon , (Thurs – outdoors )– (Pr. 7)

Rm 12 – Wed, (Thurs – outdoors) Pr. 4

Rm 13 – Tues, (Thurs – outdoors) Pr. 5/6

Rm 15 -Wed, (Thurs – outdoors) Pr. 6

Rm 16 – Frid, (Thurs – outdoors) Pr. 5

Please ensure your child brings gym shoes/trainers to change for P.E. sessions along with P.E. kit. **Outdoor shoes are not appropriate gym wear.** Thank you. 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 for a limited period of time. PE is part of the curriculum and all pupils are

## Communication

Please check our school blog on the school website for weekly school updates. A week ahead will be 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. We are also on X ( formerly twitter) and Facebook so plenty of ways to keep informed. Please be aware that content that may be of a personal nature should be brought directly to the attention of the school – via a phonecall or an e-mail.

## Labelling Clothes and Lunch Boxes

**Please, please make our life much easier and label your child's belongings – blazer, jacket, cardigans, jumpers, lunch boxes, water bottles. 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 and we have a lot of children wearing very similar black jackets, grey jumpers and cardigans!**

## 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 and expect to be seen** if an appointment has not been made or phone call has not been requested.

## School Success and Awards



The school was delighted to announce last session that we had achieved the prestigious **Digital School Award from Education Scotland** in recognition of the school's excellence in integrating digital technology into learning and teaching. This was an amazing accolade and one to add to our many school achievements. A huge thank you to Mrs Drummond for collating all evidence and making such an excellent submission that truly reflected the work of the school. A special mention to Mr Mullen, our ICT teacher who played a key role across the school to support our digital learning programme. We could not have done it without a dedicated staff team. **Now we are going for the Digital Wellbeing Cyber Resilience and Internet Safety Award.**

We are also delighted to confirm we achieved the **Gold School Sports Award**. This award reflects the many and varied sporting opportunities children experience in school and beyond and all our sporting achievements. Another good news story.



### School Request- Please help

As an Eco school we have a strong focus on reduce, reuse and recycle to save our planet. We are hoping you can assist us by way of donating old Christmas Jumpers and Halloween Costumes so that they can be re-used by children in the school. This will go some way to supporting us as an Eco School and also supporting families within our school community as the cost of living crisis worsens for so many. We kindly ask that you do a clear out and if you have any items to donate please send to the school. We would greatly appreciate your kindness whilst caring for the environment.

## 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 and to share it! So please send in medals, awards and trophies that your child may have won at the clubs, competitions they attend out with school.



### Parent Portal

Please ensure you have checked your child's school bag for a letter in regard of Parent Portal and familiarise yourself with how to access the portal. The portal is North Lanarkshire's one stop shop in terms of accessing a wide variety of school information in relation to your own child.

The Portal now gives direct access to iPayimpact, the online payment for school lunches and wider school events, your child's attendance, and the ability for the main contact parent to update contact details. **Please review the portal to update data information in regard of your child for this school session including all parent contact and emergency contact details. Please ensure you have checked e-mail information so that it can updated on our system as information from school is sent via e-mail including all newsletters and school updates.**

### Lunchtime Hours

Pr. 1 – 4 – 12.00 – 12.45

Pr. 5 – 7 - 12.45 – 1.30pm

### Patronal Feast Day

Our Patronal Feast Day will take place on Wed. 28<sup>th</sup> Aug. The school will attend Mass at 10am. Please join us.

## Rights Respecting School

### Award



Last session the school worked on it's action plan towards achieving 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 placed it at the heart of our ethos and curriculum. Our involvement in RRSA fully reflect our work as a community of faith and learning as we continue to develop our pupils as responsible citizens. To date we have evidence gathered to support our submission for silver award this session.



### Online Payments

Please ensure payments are made online for school lunches as we cannot accept cash. You are required to pay for lunch if you child is in Pr. 6 or 7 unless in receipt of free meals.

### School Photographs

School Photographs will be taken Mon. 26<sup>th</sup> and Frid. 30<sup>th</sup> Aug. these will include individuals and family groups.

### Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons commence for Pr. 5 on Tues. 20<sup>th</sup> Aug. Children will attend a dry sports session and a block of swimming lessons for 12 weeks.

## WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL

Please be aware that we are a nut free school and children should not be provided with snacks containing nuts at any time. This includes Nutella spread and Bueno bars that contain hazlenuts.



### August – September

Classes will visit the Church and join the Friday services. One class will visit each week starting with Pr. 7.

#### September

Frid. 6<sup>th</sup> Whole School Assembly – pupils only

Frid 13<sup>th</sup> - Pr. 7 transition visit 1 to St.Ambrose HS – all day

Thurs. 26<sup>th</sup> – Whole school sponsored walk Pr. 1- 4 -am, Pr. 5 – 7 – pm.  
Please contact the school if you wish to join us for the walk

#### October

Frid. 4<sup>th</sup> – Whole School Assembly

Wed. 9<sup>th</sup> Oct – Interim Profiles to be issued

#### Holiday Weekend

Frid. 27<sup>th</sup> and Mon. 30<sup>th</sup> September

#### October Break

Mon 14<sup>th</sup> – Frid. 18<sup>th</sup>

#### In-Service Day

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November

Flu Vaccinations - 4<sup>th</sup> Dec.



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 on Thurs. 26<sup>th</sup> September (Pr. 1 – 4 am, Pr. 5 – 7 pm). Our fingers are crossed for a rain free walk through the great landmarks of Coatbridge. And 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. All funds go towards supporting our many out of school activities and theatre company visits. Your support both in person and in sponsor money is greatly appreciated.



### Halloween Disco

Our Halloween disco will take place on the evening of Wed. 30<sup>th</sup> Oct.

Halloween Parade for Pr. 1 - 3, parents invited, will take place 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2.15pm.

## Parent Council

Our Parent Council/PTA are committed to supporting the school with its' improvement agenda and work tirelessly to support the school in all aspects of teaching and learning and meeting pupil needs. 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.

Date of first meeting Wed. 11<sup>th</sup> Sept' 6.00pm (Parish Centre) for all matters in relation to Parent Council and 7.15pm for all PTA business.

## PTA ACHIEVEMENTS

Last year our PTA continued to contribute significantly to the community life of the school and every child across the school benefitted from the funds raised. We sincerely thank all members for their commitment. Last year the PTA subsidised the cost of the summer trip to Blair Drummond Safari, Almond Valley and M& D's, paid for the Christmas Panto, theatre company visits, Pr. 7 yearbooks, Pr.7 ties for High School, subsidized Pr.7 Hoodies, Pr.7 Awards, outside play equipment, class resources, selection boxes at Christmas, Easter eggs 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:



