

St. Bartholomew's Primary School

November - December 2023



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

I would like to extend a huge thank you to all of our teachers, pupils, parents and carers for the tremendous support that they have demonstrated this term. Our boys and girls have been working hard, with the help of their teachers, to ensure that Christmas at St Bartholomew's is a very special place. Pupils have been involved in a number of musical and sporting activities this term which build confidence and resilience. Some of our primary 6 pupils are singing on behalf of the school for a North Lanarkshire Christmas event on Wednesday 6th December - we wish them luck! Our primary 1-3 pupils have been practising hard for their Nativity play, which will be presented on the 13th of December and we look forward to welcoming everyone then. Primary 4-7 pupils are working hard on their Christmas carols and our Christmas Concert is on Friday 15th December. Mrs McLean, Mrs MacIntyre and myself had a sneak preview of their talents during Christmas lunch where children burst into song whilst enjoying some festive treats. They were amazing!

Thank you to all of our parents, carers and grandparents who came along to our Christmas Crafts event. The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their talents with their families. Again, a big thank you to Mrs MacFarlane and the families from Primary 7 who shared in the children's learning for 'Stay and Count'. We hope to see you at other family engagement sessions next term and beyond. The entire school are looking forward to our trip to the Pantomime on Thursday 7th December to see Treasure Island at The Pavilion theatre in Glasgow, As always, a huge thank you to Mark and Lucy Millar for their generosity.

We will continue the raffle for the wonderful class hampers at both the Nativity and Concert in order to create an opportunity for as many people from our community to access the raffles. We will draw the raffles, after the Christmas concert on Friday 15th December. We wish you luck!

Many of you are aware that Mrs Clare's daughter, Kathleen, is in hospital following a serious road traffic accident. We appreciate your thoughts and prayers and ask that you continue to pray for her full recovery. Thank you in advance.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a happy and Holy Christmas and please enjoy all the blessings of this wonderful season. We all look forward to seeing you again in the New Year.

Kind regards

Deirdre Bolland

Head Teacher



Kindness

Honesty

Respect

COMMUNICATING WITH PARENTS/CARERS

In line with North Lanarkshire Council's aspirations to become a leading digital authority, the main portals that we use for communicating with parents are:

Email and text – please provide our office staff with your up-to-date details to ensure you receive our most recent updates.

Class Dojo – all parents and carers are invited to join Dojo where they will see regular updates about their child's social and emotional learning/progress.

School Website – class pages on the school website provide parents and carers with regular information on their child's learning as well as updates from our weekly school assembly i.e. winning House, Cool Class and Pupils of the Week.

X (Twitter) - There is a Twitter feed on the home page of our website. We use Twitter to share news of the wide range of activities St. Bartholomew's pupils are involved in and to celebrate children's wider achievements.



PARISH LINKS

All classes continue to enjoy the opportunity to attend 10am Mass at St. Bartholomew's Church on a rotational basis throughout the year, taking place on **Wednesdays**. We also look forward to celebrating Mass as a whole-school on **Thursday 21st December** at 10am in spiritual preparation for Christmas. We are always seeking parent/carer helpers to accompany classes to Mass and would greatly appreciate your support with this.

A MESSAGE FROM ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S PARENT COUNCIL

The Parent Council would like to thank everyone for their contributions and support so far this year with our fundraising events. We have managed to raise £794.76 so far. We will meet up early in the new year to discuss fundraising events we will be holding until the end of the school year. As always any parents or carers wishing to join and support the parent council would be very welcome. Also if anyone has any suggestions or ideas for fundraising please let us know.

Many thanks to everyone involved and we hope you all have a lovely Christmas.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

The children had a wonderful time at our Christmas Fayre which was a huge success, thanks to the efforts of our P7 pupils, our Parent Council and all of our families who were able to attend on the day. The fayre generated somewhere in the region of £1500, a fabulous amount, which will support future school trips. Hamper raffles will be open until Friday afternoon, where they will be drawn at the P4-P7 Christmas Concert, and we will confirm the total amount raised from the fayre as soon as we have the final figure. A huge thanks to our wonderful pupils, parents/carers and staff for making our fayre such a success!



SCHOOL UNIFORM BANK

We always have new/nearly new items available for immediate collection in our school uniform bank. Collections can be arranged discreetly by contacting the office. We are also appealing for donations of school uniform items to replenish our stocks. These can be new or nearly new and handed into the office at any time. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE TACKLING POVERTY TEAM The team works with families to maximise their income and ensure they are receiving everything they are entitled to.

Tel: 01698 403170 Email: TPTeam@northlan.gov.uk

KEY DATES

Friday 1st December - School Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 5th December - Christmas Lunch

Thursday 7th December - School Trip to the Pantomime at the Pavillion Theatre,

Friday 8th December - Pupil Progress Reports to Parents/Carers

Wednesday 13th December - P1 - P3 Nativity Performance

Thursday 14th December - P1 - P3 Christmas Party

Friday 15th December - P4 & P7 Carol Concert

Tuesday 19th December - P4 & P5 Christmas Party

Wednesday 20th December - P6 & P7 Christmas Party

Friday 22nd December - Movie Duvet (non-uniform) Day, School closes 2:30pm



MARK MILLAR MBE

We once again extend our sincere thanks to Mark and Lucy Millar for their continuing support of our school. Mark and Lucy make it possible each year for every child in the school to attend the Pantomime at the Pavillion Theatre, Glasgow. This fully subsidised trip is an annual highlight for our children and always thoroughly enjoyed by each and every one. This year's Panto is **Treasure Island**. Oh yes it is!

THANK
YOU!

SACRAMENTS AND SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Fr. O'Kane has announced dates for the forthcoming Sacraments as follows:

- Sunday 4th February, 11:30am - Sacrament of Confirmation, Primary 7
- Wednesday 20th March, 7pm - Sacrament of First Confession, Primary 3
- Sunday 2nd June, 11:30am - First Holy Communion
- Sunday 16th June, 11:30am - First Holy Communion



Please pray for our Sacramental children as they develop in faith and prepare for the next steps in their Sacramental journey.

Kindness Honesty Respect

PARENT / CARER SURVEY

A short survey has now been issued to parents/carers and we would like to thank those who have taken the time to complete it, providing us with valued feedback. The response rate is very low at present and we are appealing to all parents/carers to take 10 minutes to fill out the online form. Your views are very important to us and will help us to identify and target areas for improvement.



CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING CLUB

Very well done to our P6 and P7 boys and girls who took part in North Lanarkshire's Cross Country running trials at Dunbeth Park. The children ran in wet, muddy conditions to compete against boys and girls from schools across North Lanarkshire and the competition was fierce! Our children cheered each other on to complete the race and wore their club t-shirts with pride. Their hard work and dedication each week at the after school running club paid off and four P7 children qualified for the finals in March 2024. Congratulations to Ayla, Roma, Elyse and Mark!



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We have offered a number of after school opportunities this term including:

School Clubs

Cross Country Running Club - P6 & P7
Netball Club - P6 & P7

Active Schools Clubs

Fun fitness - P2 & P3
A football club for P4 and P5 will be offered in the New Year.



Many thanks to our school staff, Mrs McLean, Mr Reilly and Ms Allington, for volunteering their own time and expertise to provide after school opportunities for our children, allowing them to thrive and excel beyond the classroom. These clubs wouldn't happen without their support. Thank you also to our Active Schools partners for their ongoing support with our after-school offer.

NLC's PRIMARY SCHOOL COLLECTIVE CHORUS

Mrs Crielly, Miss Coyle and Miss Allington accompanied a group of P5 and P6 children to NLC's Primary School Chorus event at Airdrie Academy on Wednesday 6th December. The children sang on stage in front of a packed audience and the event was a huge success. Very well done to our children for taking part and thank you to the families who managed to come along to support them. A special thanks to Mrs Crielly, Miss Coyle and Miss Allington for giving up their own time to ensure the children had this wonderful extra-curricular opportunity.



SCHOOL UNIFORM Pupils in St. Bartholomew's wear the school uniform with pride. We ask all parents/carers to support the school by encouraging children to adhere to the agreed dress code and wearing of our school uniform. The wearing of a school uniform helps promote the identity of the school in the local community and helps create an ethos of sharing and pride in the school. Our school colours are Red, Black and White with white shirts / polos and black trousers / skirts. Summer dresses are also available in red and white check.

Daily Uniform:

- White shirt / polo shirt
- School tie
- Black trousers / skirt / pinafore
- Plain black shoes / trainers
- Black sweater / cardigan
- Red gingham summer dress (appropriate to weather)



P.E. Kit

- White polo
- Black shorts / joggers
- Plain black trainers

Children should come to school on P.E. days dressed in full uniform with P.E. kits in bags. Football colours of any kind **are not permitted** in school - this is North Lanarkshire Council's policy and includes all football teams i.e. local, national, international. This also includes pencil cases, bags, water bottles and other accessories. Thank you in advance for your support.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES, 2023 - 2024

December 2023 - January 2024 Schools close: Friday 22 December 2023 at 2.30pm
Christmas and New Year holidays: Monday 25 December 2023 - Friday 5 January 2024 (inclusive)

February 2024 - Mid-term break: Monday 12 February and Tuesday 13 February 2024
In-service day: Wednesday 14 February 2024

April 2024 - Schools close: Thursday 28 March 2024 at 2.30pm. Spring holiday (Easter): Friday 29 March - Friday 12 April 2024 (Inclusive). Good Friday 29 March. Easter Monday 1 April 2024

May 2024 - In-service day: Thursday 2 May 2024 (to coincide with UK Parliamentary elections, but may be subject to change)
May holiday: Monday 6 May 2024
May weekend: Friday 24 May 2024 and Monday 27 May 2024 (inclusive)

June 2024 - Schools Close: Wednesday 26 June 2024 at 1pm.

Kindness Honesty Respect