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**St. David’s Primary School**

**May Newsletter 2022**

Dear Parent and Carer,

The final term is well under way and due to the reduction in restrictions we are looking forward to a busy and fun filled couple of months. We would like to thank you all for your patience and support over the past two years and we are all looking forward to working more closely with you going forward.

**School Procedures**



* Parents are NOT allowed to enter the playground at any time. Children must be dropped off and picked up at the gate unless they have permission to walk to and from school. After drop off pupils will walk safely to their playground where they will be able to play with their friends and classmates. Children who are attending the Breakfast Club, which runs every morning from 8.15am until 8.45am, are able to enter the school building through the main doors. **Children attending Breakfast Club are required to have breakfast when attending,** please do not drop your child off at Breakfast Club if they are not having breakfast. This service is free to all P1-5 pupils and any P6 and 7 pupils who are entitled to free school meals. Our playground is open from 8.30am and is supervised from 8.45am. Adults are not permitted past the school gate when dropping off and the school drop off area is restricted to nursery parents ONLY. Parents can now enter the school reception area, however if you would like to make an appointment with the head teacher please phone the school office to do this.
* Face coverings are not required for children in primary school, however **all staff, parents and visitors are encouraged to wear face coverings in and around the school building, this is not compulsory.**
* Communication from the school will continue to be predominantly through text and email, so it is vital that the school have an up to date email address and mobile number for every parent. Please contact the school office if we do not already have this information or if your details have changed. If you have not already done so please log on to Parents Portal, a flyer from NLC about this service is attached.
* A cashless system will continue be in place for school dinners and cash will NOT be taken on the premises at all. Please follow the instructions found on the North Lanarkshire website [www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk). Primary 1-5 will continue to receive free school meals as well as those with free school meal entitlement. If you think that your child may be entitled to a free school meal, please apply for this by submitting the form on North Lanarkshire Council’s website.

As well as this information, you can access all of North Lanarkshire’s guidance on Twitter and Facebook and keep up to date with latest developments. If you do not already do so, please follow us on Twitter at @StDavids4 as all updates are posted there on a regular basis. There is also a link to our school’s website on our Twitter page.

**Latest Guidance**

**Symptomatic Testing**

Pupils and staff who develop covid like symptoms, such as those listed below, and are not feeling well should remain at home until they feel better.  If pupils/staff have these symptoms but are feeling well and **do not have a fever**they can attend school.  At present we can only offer guidance as there is no longer a legal requirement to stay at home and self-isolate.

* continuous cough
* high temperature, fever or chills
* loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell
* shortness of breath
* unexplained tiredness, lack of energy
* muscle aches or pains that are not due to exercise
* not wanting to eat or not feeling hungry
* headache that's unusual or longer lasting than usual
* sore throat, stuffy or runny nose
* diarrhoea
* feeling sick or being sick

**Testing**

Regular LFD and PCR testing came to an end on April 30th.  Lateral flow device (LFD) tests remain available to a **limited group** of people in Scotland as detailed below.  If eligible for a free LFD test, they can be [ordered online](https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests) or by calling 119 for home delivery.

* you work in the NHS health or social care settings
* you have a health condition which means [you’re eligible for new coronavirus treatments](https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-treatments/)
* you're going into hospital for surgery or a procedure
* you're visiting a hospital or care home
* you're an unpaid carer
* you're applying for the [self-isolation support grant](https://www.mygov.scot/self-isolation-grant)

If any of the group above test positive they should follow the revised guidance to ‘stay at home’ for 3 days if 18 years and under, or for 5 days if over 18 years.  The way that we count these days has changed. Day 1 is the day after you took your test.

**READING BOOK AMNESTY – PLEASE RETURN ANY READING BOOKS THAT YOU MAY HAVE IN YOUR HOME. MANY OF OUR BOOKS HAVE NOT BEEN RETURNED DURING THE YEAR AND WE ARE NOW SHORT OF READING BOOKS FOR OUR GROUP WORK IN SCHOOL. PLEASE HAVE A LOOK IN YOUR HOMES AND RETURN ANY BOOKS EITHER TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE OR IN YOUR CHILD’S BAG AND NO QUESTIONS WILL BE ASKED AND NO BLAME WILL BE GIVEN. THANK YOU**



**End of School Year Reports**



Our written reports are due to be sent out to parents in June and our teachers are currently working on them. Your child may be undertaking some assessments in class over the next few weeks and this will help us to give you information about where they are in their learning at this time. Homework is a vital part of your child’s learning and we want every child to perform to the best of their ability. If your child’s report signals that they require to put in more effort then please support the teachers by encouraging your child to do this. Attendance at school is also vitally important and although we have seen a slight improvement in pupils’ attendance in this term, we still need your support in making it even better.

**School Uniform**



**Full school uniform MUST be worn by all of our pupils** and this can be purchased from Scotcrest in Airdrie who stock all of the necessary items as well as additional accessories that are optional. Supermarkets also stock very good quality uniform items in our school colours. Please note below the recommended school uniform. **We are still noticing that some of our older girls and boys in particular are not complying with our school’s policy. Leggings, track suit bottoms and sports zippers and hoodies are not school uniform. We ask that you strongly encourage your child to wear our school uniform at all times, unless otherwise advised by the school. We ask for your full support with this matter.**

St. David’s Primary School Blazer – **Navy** (available from Scotcrest with the school badge)

St. David’s Primary School Jumper - **Navy** (available from Scotcrest with the school badge)

St. David’s Primary School Gym Kit - **Navy** (available from Scotcrest with the school badge)

School Tie – **Navy/Silver** (available from the school office or Scotcrest)

School trousers/skirt/pinafore – **Grey** (available from most supermarkets and retail stores)

School Jumper/Cardigan – **Grey** (available from most supermarkets and retail stores)

School Shirt – **White** (available from most supermarkets and retail stores)

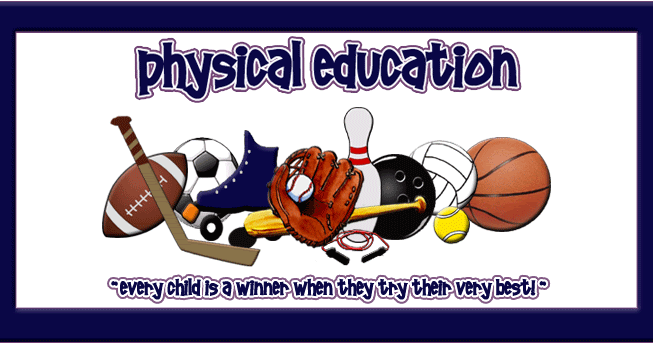
If you are experiencing any financial worries or difficulties, which are affecting your ability to purchase any of the school uniform items, please let me know. You can email me at any time and I will be able to respond to you. My email address is now [nllivingstonem1@northlan.org.uk](mailto:nllivingstonem1@northlan.org.uk) . This email address is new and I no longer have any access to my previous mailbox. Please note this is another new email address.

**AIRDRIE UNIFORM BANK**

**We have been contacted by Airdrie Uniform Bank who have a large stack of all of the school uniforms for Airdrie schools. As part of their service they also accept donations from families who have finished using uniforms in order to re-stock their supplies. Both Mrs Rooney from Plains Primary and myself have agreed that a representative from the Uniform Bank can come to the school during the very last week of school in June and collect any uniform donations from our families. Both schools will arrange non-uniform days of some description during the last 3 days and this will allow parents to wash the uniforms ready for donation. This is a very worthwhile cause and a great way to recycle and reuse clothes that are still in good condition.**

**PE Days**

**P1/2 – Tuesday and Wednesday (hall)**



**P2/3 – Tuesday and Wednesday (hall)**

**P3/4 – Tuesday and Friday (hall)**

**P5 – Wednesday and Friday (hall)**

**P6 – Wednesday and Friday (hall) P7 – Tuesday (swimming) and Friday (hall)**

**Please ensure that your child is always prepared to take part in PE with a change of clothes** and indoor trainers for the gym hall and outdoor trainers for the pitch. Each class has 2 hall times and a pitch time to accommodate their 2 hours of physical education (PE) every week, this ensures that we always have a time even in bad weather.

Primary 6 and 7 are currently receiving taster sessions every Friday for their P.E. from ACES Netball Club who are coming into the school to deliver the sessions every Friday afternoon. This will last for 6 weeks. Thank you to ACES Netball Club for giving our pupils this opportunity.

** PRIMARY SIX EURO WINNERS **

Congratulations to our Primary 6 children who took part in NLC’s Euro Quiz Competition! The team came FIRST PLACE for North Lanarkshire and will now represent our local authority at the finals for Scotland at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh. This is the first year that St. David’s has entered this annual event and it is such an achievement to win this very challenging quiz. Miss Lafferty and Mrs Clezy are looking forward to escorting the children to Edinburgh for the final on Monday 13th June. Well done to all!!!

**Saint David’s Primary and Nursery Class and Plains PS – ALLERGY ADVICE – NUTS**

Our guidance to parents, staff and pupils will state that snacks and treats containing nuts **should not be brought into school at any time** as this could trigger a severe allergic reaction for one of our pupils. Nut products **include nutella and kinder bars** which at the moment are very popular snacks in our schools. Children should no longer bring these as snacks. The child will start in our community after Christmas, however we ask for your full co-operation as we introduce this change. Staff in both schools will be receiving training and we will be raising awareness in all of our classes over the coming months. We are sure that you will understand the serious implications of this and will support this change and assist us in implementing it fully. Many thanks in anticipation of your co-operation.

**St. David’s Parent Council 2021 – 22**



Our next Parent Council meeting is on Monday 9th May when we will be discussing some fund raising opportunities in the coming term. We are hoping to have a Summer Disco and a special Jubilee Day Tuck Shop and Dress Down Day. Dates for these events and final arrangements will follow after the meeting on Monday. Our Parent Council have also offered to pay for some of the Primary 7 treats and events that will be taking place in the final few weeks.

**Attendance at Holy Mass and Children’s Liturgy**

As I am sure you are aware, the Parish of St. David’s now has a fantastic Children’s Liturgy which runs every Saturday evening during the 5pm Vigil Mass. Please encourage your child to attend every week so that they can take part in the many activities that are planned every week.

**Mini Vinnies – Primary 6**



Our Mini Vinnies are planning to be involved in some more fundraising events to help those in need in the Summer term. They have also been getting involved in the Parish life of St. David’s and helping Father Bergin with some of the duties. Some of the pupils have volunteered to be part of the choir at our First Holy Communion celebrations this Saturday 7th May at 10am and 12 noon.

**PRIMARY 7 ACTIVITIES**

Primary 7 have been attending NLC’s Outdoor Learning initiative at Strathclyde Park this week and it sounds like they have had a wonderful time. The children were transported daily to Strathclyde Park and took part in many outdoor activities including cycling, rowing and many others. Primary 7 pupils who are transitioning to St Margaret’s HS will also spend 1 day (Monday 9th May) at the school and a further 3 days there from Tuesday 24th May – Thursday 26th May as part of their preparation for high school life.

**First Holy Communion – Saturday 7th May 2022**



This weekend we will celebrate First Holy Communion with our Primary 4 children. The girls and boys have been preparing enthusiastically for their special day, with lots of hard work and support from Mrs McMichael, Mrs Clezy, Mrs Minnis and of course Fr. Bergin who has been overseeing our practices in the Church. Thank you to all of our parents who supported at home by completing the Sacramental Workbook and attending Mass in our parish. Father is looking forward to welcoming the children on Sunday for the Second Holy Communion and the boys and girls are encouraged to wear their special clothes on this day too.

**Primary 7 Confirmation – Thursday 12th May 2022**



This Thursday the 12th May our Primary 7 pupils will make their Confirmation in St. David’s Church. We are blessed and honoured as the Mass will be led by Bishop Toal and will take place at 7pm. More information about the Mass will follow to our Primary 7 parents next week, and I am sure you will join me in wishing these young people all the very best as they take the next step in their Sacramental Journey. God bless them all.

**HEAD LICE**

As you know head lice can be a very common problem in schools and in order for us to stop the spread of it in our school we ask you to ‘ONCE A WEEK, TAKE A PEEK’. If you find that your child has head lice we ask that you first of all get the appropriate treatment available from your pharmacist and contact the school office to let us know so that we can make affected classes aware with a standard letter. Your contact with us will be completely confidential.



**Saint David’s Day – Tuesday 24th May 2022**



**Our Patronal Feast Day is on Tuesday 24th May and we are looking forward to celebrating this with Holy Mass at 10am in St. David’s Church. We would like to invite all of our parents and families who are able to make it to join us for the celebration of Mass. After Mass we would like to invite you back to the school for a cup of tea or coffee and a sweet treat. As part of the celebration the pupils will be taking part in a Scottish Art Competition which is being led by Mrs McMichael in school and also a Scottish Scavenger Hunt in the playground on the day. We hope to have a special treat for all of the children in the afternoon to mark this very special day for our school.**

**BAGS2SCHOOL**

The deadline for donating old clothes and textiles to our BAGS2SCHOOL fundraising project has been extended to Thursday 26th May. If you would like to clear out any old clothes from your home please bring them into the school office. The school receives a donation from BAGS2SCHOOL depending on how much we collect. Thank you.

**Dates for you Diary**

First Holy Communion (Primary 4) – Saturday 7th May 2022 in St. David’s Church – 10am Mass and 12 noon Mass

Confirmation (Primary 7) – Thursday 12th May in St. David’s Church - 7pm (with Bishop Toal)

Celebrating our Cultures Fun Day – Thursday 23rd June – more information to follow

Primary 7 Leavers’ Mass and Graduation – Friday 24th June – more information to follow

**School Holidays 2021-22**

May weekend Holiday – Friday 27 May 2022

Queen’s Jubillee Holiday – Thursday 2 June and Friday 3 June 2022

Schools close for Summer – Wednesday 29 June at 1pm

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your constant support. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you require to speak to someone or if you have any concerns. We are always happy to help.



God bless,

Mrs M.J. Livingstone

Head Teacher