



ST. JOHN PAUL II

Primary School & Nursery Class

December
2020

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers and friends of St. John Paul II,

This will be our final Newsletter of 2020 and I am sure you will agree it has been a year like no other! There have been many challenges we have all had to face together along with many untold challenges within our families and the wider community. Throughout this period, we have sought to encourage a spirit of co-operation and openness, backed up with good communication and appropriate support for our learners.

North Lanarkshire Council will be issuing information to all families in the coming day or two which should confirm everything you need to know for the start of the new term in January 2021. This will mean different things for different families and as I would encourage you to keep an eye on NLC social media and their Schools Update Website.

We can all be extremely proud of the way in which we have come together as a school community throughout this year and I am certain that, whatever the challenges ahead may be, we will continue to do so.

The picture of what things will look like in the weeks ahead will no doubt be ever-changing; this is something we have all come to expect! However, with those changes can come anxiety and I would encourage you to get in touch if you have questions or concerns. We may not always be able to provide answers straight away but we will always do our best.

I wish everyone in our school community the blessings of the season and I hope that you all manage to adequately celebrate Christmas with your love ones. I thank you all for your continued support and wish you health and happiness in 2021.

With renewed good wishes,

Mr Thomas

Head Teacher



Faith | Respect | Friendship | Trust | Kindness | Equality

CHRISTMAS AT ST. JOHN PAUL II

We always knew that Christmas would be different this year in school, however, our Christmas Spirits have not been dampened!

The children have thoroughly enjoyed their Virtual Panto, Christmas Lunch, Christmas Jumper Days, Santa Dash, P1/Nursery visit from Santa, Nursery North Pole Breakfast, Arts and Crafts and Virtual Santa Message.

My sincere thanks to all of the staff for going above and beyond to make all of this happen, including our catering staff who made a beautiful Christmas Lunch for us again this year.

To see the children so happy and smiling and fully entering into the spirit of Christmas has been wonderful. There has definitely been a happy atmosphere in school. Our staff made a huge effort to decorate the school for the children too.



I am sure that the adults have missed certain aspects of our Christmas celebrations, but every effort has been made to ensure the children have had the best possible time in challenging circumstances.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Many people have handed in gifts, cards and good wishes for our staff team. We never would expect this to happen but your generosity is always appreciated. A simple card or kind word is enough to express your thanks, but if you have gone to the expense and trouble to hand in a card or gift, we want to say thank you.



Thank You!

Generosity that goes the extra mile...

Many of you kindly donated Christmas Jumpers to our Jumper Exchange—these were both 'pre-loved' and brand new. This meant that nobody had to go without!

Some families also wanted to help other families in our community and so anonymous donations were made to the school. So many will have experienced hardship recently and others will have had a change in circumstances, perhaps due to COVID.

I would encourage anyone who needs support to contact me directly on ht@johnpaul.n-lanark.sch.uk or by calling the school. Support can be offered, not just at Christmas, but at any point in the year. Please do not feel embarrassed or concerned about confidentiality.

This generosity of spirit shows the care and attention people want to pay to those around them in a quiet way. That is real community spirit and that is the true spirit of Christmas.

RETURNING TO SCHOOL IN JANUARY

Information will be circulated by North Lanarkshire so please keep an eye on their social media platforms and website. We will pass all of this on too in the usual ways. We know that you will have questions and even anxieties around what will happen. The situation is changeable so we will keep you updated.

Digital Learning will be offered from 11th January and information about this will be made available from 6th January, when school is open for Keyworker families. As always, we are there to answer your questions when needed. Feel free to email me at ht@johnpaul.n-lanark.sch.uk should you have any questions. If we work together we will, as we did before, manage all of this successfully. Just keep a look out for information from NLC and from ourselves via the app and social media/text service.

dates
to Remember

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!



Christmas
BLESSINGS

Holidays for Schools in North Lanarkshire

December 2020 - January 2021

Christmas and New Year Holidays: Wednesday 23 December 2020 to Tuesday 5 January 2021 (inclusive).
School closes at 2:30pm on Tuesday 22nd December

February 2021

Mid-term break: Monday 8 February 2021 and Tuesday 9 February 2021
In-service Day: Wednesday 10 February 2021
School closes at 3pm on Friday 5th February 2020.

April 2021

Friday 2 April 2021 to Friday 16 April 2021 (Inclusive)
(Good Friday 2 April 2021 and Easter Monday 5 April 2021)
School closes at 2:30pm on Thursday 1st April.

May 2021

May Day holiday: Monday 3 May 2021 In-service day: Thursday 6 May 2021
May weekend holiday: Friday 28 May 2021 and Monday 31 May 2021

June 2021

School closes: Thursday 24 June 2021 at 1pm



St. John Paul II Primary School & Nursery

1 Laburnum Road, Viewpark, Uddingston, G71 5DG

t: 01698 522723 | e: office@johnpaul.n-lanark.sch.uk

w: www.johnpaul.n-lanark.sch.uk twitter: @JPIIPrimary

Head Teacher: Mr Kristofer Thomas

Faith | Respect | Friendship | Trust | Kindness | Equality