



ST. JOHN PAUL II
Primary School & Nursery Class

August
2022

NEWSLETTER

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

A very warm welcome back to everyone; children and families and of course to all the staff team!

I hope that you have all managed to enjoy some relaxation over the Summer and that the hot weather wasn't TOO hot for you! Most typical Scots complain when it is wet and cold but also when it is too hot and sunny!

I have put together a few points of information for you, as we look forward to welcoming the children tomorrow morning. Please take note of the times for P1 children, as well as the information for dismissal at 3pm. ALL children will continue to enter through the main gates, however, P1 will be dismissed through the dining hall exit at the side of the pitch. P5 and P7 will exit through the Pitch Gate. P2, P3, P4 and P6 will exit through the main gates. This just helps a little with the congestion!

Whilst we are looking forward to a return which is more 'normal' than we have been used to over the past couple of years, we will still be working to keep everyone in school as safe and healthy as possible, with our hand washing routines, increased ventilation and air quality monitoring.

You should continue to take a sensible approach to sending your child to school if they are unwell, particularly if they have a high temperature or any of the other COVID symptoms. The same applies for any other illness! In saying that, I encourage you to ensure your child attends school every day and that they arrive on time. School starts for everyone at 9am prompt and the beginning of the day is a vital part where the children are settled and the timetable discussed.

With renewed prayers and good wishes,

Mr Thomas

Head Teacher

— WELCOME —
BACK TO SCHOOL

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P1 INFORMATION

We are delighted to welcome all of our P1 children and their families. The first day of school is a huge step for the children and a momentous occasion for their families!

DAY 1 - WEDNESDAY 17TH AUGUST - P1 children start at 10am

- If it is not raining, please gather in the playground just before 10am. If it is raining, you will be invited to gather in the Assembly Hall. **Please note that parents/carers are not normally permitted into the playground. Staff will be in the playground to collect Lunch orders (Chicken Curry or a Tuna or Cheese Roll).**
- Children will line up in their class lines and their buddies will join them.
- Buddies will support the children throughout the day.
- Parents/Carers will not be permitted into the building in the morning, however, you are welcome to come along to the school from 2pm on Wednesday 17th August to collect your child and see them in their new classroom and children can be collected from that time.

FROM THURSDAY 18TH & FRIDAY 19TH AUGUST – Children will all start school at 9am and enter through the main gate. Buddies will support this. You should then collect your child at **2:30pm** from the exit at the side of the pitch. This area will be coned off for safety reasons and so no vehicles should be in this area during the dismissal of children.

FROM MONDAY 22ND - DROP OFF IS 9AM AND DISMISSAL IS 3PM.

INFORMATION FOR P2 - P7 CHILDREN

- Children should arrive at school for a 9am start and all children should enter through the main gate.
- Breakfast Club is available from 8:15am.
- Children will be dismissed at 3pm.
- P5 and P7 will exit through the pitch gate. P2, P3, P4 and P6 will exit through the main gate.

Can I please appeal to all Parents/Carers? School finishes at 3pm and, as such, children should not be collected earlier than this unless for an appointment. All too often we have multiple children called to the office on a daily basis and this is very disruptive. Thank you!

UNIFORM & PE KIT

- Children should come to school in full school uniform. The main elements of our uniform are Shirt and Tie.
- **BLACK SHOES** should be worn to school.
- ALL P7 children should wear their P7 ties which were presented to them on the last day of term in June.
- A PE timetable will be put together and you will be informed of your child's PE Day. On this day, children will be permitted to come to school in their PE Kits. Where possible, PE will be outdoors.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS FOR P6 & P7 HAVE BEEN PAUSED FOR NOW

We have received communication from the Scottish Government that they have paused the roll out of Free School Meals for children in P6 and P7. This means that, if you think your child qualifies for Free School Meals because of low income, then you should apply by completing the form. If you do not apply, then you will be required to pay **£3.10** per day and there will also be a charge for the Breakfast Club.

Further information about Clothing Grants and Free School Meals can be found at the link below...

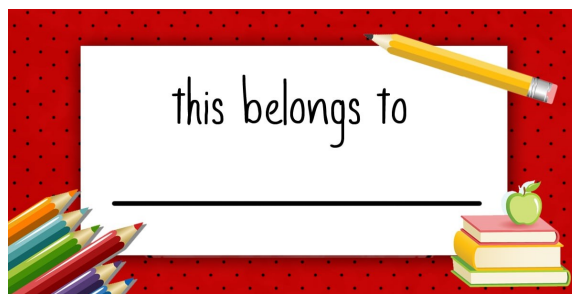
[Free school meals and clothing grants | North Lanarkshire Council](#)

If you have any problems with applying, please do get in touch with the school office.

P6 & P7 CHILDREN WILL REQUIRE THEIR ONLINE PAYMENT ACCOUNTS TO BE TOPPED UP.

PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING THAT BELONGS TO YOUR CHILD!

- All personal belongings your child brings to school should be clearly labelled—try to use a permanent marker for this!
- This includes bags, packed lunch boxes, pencil cases and all garments!
- Children should not bring personal toys to school unless this has been a request from the Teacher or if it is agreed as part of an individual's learning plan.



NOW IS THE BEST TIME TO GET ON BOARD WITH THIS. AS NEW THINGS ARE PURCHASED, PLEASE LABEL THEM THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

Meet the Teacher



Monday 22nd August 2022 from 3pm—3:30pm

As per our SAVE THE DATE before the summer holiday, we invite all parents/carers to come along to 'Meet the Teacher' this coming Monday. The procedure is as follows:

- ◆ All children will be dismissed as normal and should be collected from the main gate. This will allow those who travel on the bus or who are not able to attend can be collected safely.
- ◆ Those wishing to come along to 'Meet the Teacher' can enter the building, after collecting their child(ren), through the main doors at Reception.
- ◆ For safety reasons and to ease congestion, you should exit the building through the infant or senior doors to the playground and then through the main gates to the car park.
- ◆ This is **not** an opportunity to ask individual questions about your child's progress. It is simply an informal chance to see your child's new class and meet their teacher. **All welcome!**

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

As previously mentioned, attendance and punctuality will be a real focus for us during this coming year. We are adding attendance to your school improvement plan, along with all of the schools in the Cardinal Newman Cluster. Please try to:

- Make the most of your child's time at school - try not to take unnecessary days off school!
- Try to keep appointments to times outwith the school day and if this is not possible, keep these to a minimum.
- Ensure your child arrives on time for school. School starts at 9am!
- Collect your child at 3pm and not before.
- Talk to school staff if you have a concern or worry about your child's attendance.

REMEMBER WE ARE HERE TO HELP...

We are very aware of the pressures our families face these days and we know that times are still uncertain in many ways.

We are a school which prides itself on the positive relationship we have with our families and the wider community. We are here for you, whatever you need support with.

Please do contact us if there is anything we can help with, be it education, financial, health and wellbeing... anything!



DATES TO REMEMBER

Please take a look at our school diary and take note of any events that involve you or child. Some dates may be subject to change!

DATE:	EVENT:	DETAIL:
Wednesday 17th August	New Term Begins	Breakfast Club opens at 8:15am Nursery opens at 8:40am School starts for P2 - P7 at 9am P1 children will start later at 10am.
Monday 22nd August	Meet the Teacher	3pm—3:30pm Children should be collected at 3pm in the usual way and anyone wishing to Meet the Teacher should enter through the main door. All exit through the playground gates.
Tuesday 6th September	Parent Council Meeting	6pm in the school dining hall
Thursday 22nd September	Non Uniform Day	Children can dress down. Donations welcomed.
Friday 23rd & Monday 27th September	September Holiday Weekend	



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