



**ST. JOHN PAUL II**  
Primary School & Nursery Class

June  
2023

# END OF TERM

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

We are now into the last few days of the current school year and term and I wanted to ensure you were aware of everything that is happening between now and Wednesday 28th June at 1pm when the school will close for the summer holiday.

Please take a few minutes to read over the enclosed information.

With renewed good wishes,

*Mr Thomas*

*Head Teacher*



**END OF YEAR MASS**

**Wednesday 28th Mass 2023 at 10am**

**in St. Columba's Church**

**At this Mass we will present our P6 children with their new P7 School ties. We will present our P7 Pope Francis Faith Award candidates with their certificates. ALL WELCOME TO JOIN US!**

**Faith | Respect | Friendship | Trust | Kindness | Equality**

## PARENT PORTAL WILL BE OUR MAIN RESOURCE IN AUGUST

**From August 2023, no letters or reports will be sent home in paper form.**

Many of you have already linked up to Parents Portal. This is a one stop shop for everything digital and is designed to replace the normal things which would be sent back and forth in your child's school bag.

- Permission slips
- letters
- reports
- absence reporting
- responding to school texts

all of these things can be accessed through Parents Portal.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to sign up!

**On Boarding Codes for the Fusion Lunch App have been issued with reports.**

### DIGITAL SUPPORT:

We are hoping to have some drop in sessions for Parents/Carers, where we can offer support in making sure you are connected to the various digital tools which we are being asked to use by North Lanarkshire Council. ***Please look out for dates and information on these!*** We will probably save these until early in the new school year, so that we can catch our new P1 Parents and Carers.



## P1 TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC & P7 WEAR YELLOW WALK: Supporting St. Andrew's Hospice



Thank you to everyone who has supported our P1 and P7 children in their efforts to raise funds for St. Andrew's Hospice.

**Through the Primary 1 Teddy Bears' Picnic, the children raised £1000.**

**Through the Primary 7 Wear Yellow Walk, the children raised £932.52.**

This is an AMAZING amount to be raised and the children are delighted that they have been able to help in such a way. This is, of course, down to the generosity of our families and their friends and neighbours. Please pass on our thanks to them all!

**Total raised: £1932.52**

## LAST DAY OF TERM - WEDNESDAY 28TH JUNE 2023 - SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 1PM



Please note the earlier finish time on the last day of term. We would appreciate if you shared this information with friends and other families!

Please note the following:

- **Children should wear school uniform.**
- We will attend Mass at 10am in St. Columba's - **All welcome.**
- Lunch will be served for those who order one.
- We ask you to remind your children to take home all of their belongings - packed lunch boxes, jackets, etc. Any packed lunch boxes will be disposed of to avoid flies in the building!
- The surrounding roads will no doubt be very busy as the P7 leavers

attract quite a crowd! If you can walk or park elsewhere, this would be a real help!



## DRAMA CLUB & CHOIR SUMMER PRODUCTION

Congratulations to our amazing School Choir and Drama Club for an outstanding performance on Tuesday 20th June 2023. Despite a technical hitch with our stage lights and some apocalyptic rain downpours, the show was amazing. The children were delighted with their performance and rightly so! The audience were electric and encouraged our star performers throughout!

Thank you to those who came along and supported the children. We could not do things like this without you!

A HUGE thank you to all of the Drama Club and Choir staff who rehearsed and gave an massive amount of time in preparation. Thanks also to the wider staff team for supporting this initiative and accommodating timetable changes and rehearsal times.

## ST. JOHN PAUL II PARENT COUNCIL

We offer sincere thanks to the members of the Parent Council who have worked tirelessly this year. They have planned and held events throughout the year over and above their 4 meetings. We are extremely grateful for their hard work and support of our school. Their work is always with the aim of providing for our children.

They have funded aspects of the P7 Graduation (as is tradition), buying their Cardinal Newman School Ties and providing food for their party. They have supported the funding of a new whole school Correction and Assessment Policy, buying the resources and stampers which all teachers will use to provide feedback and Formative Assessment for children about their work. ***More information about this will be provided in the new school year.***

### BEACH PARTY

Hundreds of our children attended the recent Beach Parties and they all seemed to have a wonderful time. Thank you all for supporting this and a special thanks to our DJ who kept the children on the dance floor all night!

### RACE NIGHT

The recent Race Night was a huge success when it was held in the Bowling Club. Thank you to everyone who support this event, which was a first for many years.

## A WORD OF THANKS FROM OUR STAFF TEAM

We are very lucky to have such a supportive Parent Forum (that means all of you! You are all part of our Parent Forum simply having a child or children at our school!) We have had many volunteers for trips and other activities. You've supported our charitable works, our sacramental calendar and our various meetings/workshops and parent events. You have supported our staff, your child's Teachers, if required and you've responded to our requests for help. At this time of year, there is always generosity with gifts and cards. We NEVER expect these and encourage you to spend your money elsewhere. However, these are received with thanks and humility. For those leaving us, we wish you well. For those returning in August, we look forward to working closely with you once again for the best interests of our children.

*The pupils of Primary 7*  
invite you to attend their

*Mass of Thanksgiving  
and  
Graduation Ceremony*

on  
Monday 26th June 2023  
at 6pm

in St. John Paul II Primary School  
Assembly Hall



**Click on the link below to RSVP.**

## Further Information

The programme for the evening will be:

- 6pm** Mass of Thanksgiving  
**6:45pm** Graduation Ceremony  
**7:15pm** After 'photo ops' the children can change out of their uniform and they will be treated to food and refreshments courtesy of the Parent Council whilst enjoying some of their favourite tunes! Parents/Carers are asked to vacate the hall ASAP so we can set up for this part of the evening.  
**9pm** Parents to collect children

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

You have been allocated an initial **6** tickets per family. Please return your **RSVP** by clicking the link. Tell us how many of the **6** tickets you will be using. If you do not want to use all of your tickets, we can offer them to other families.

If we have any spare tickets after 9am on Friday 23rd June 2023, we will inform all Parents/Carers and we will issue these on a first come, first served basis.

Please click [HERE](#) to RSVP and book your tickets by FRIDAY 23RD JUNE at 9am. Unclaimed tickets will be offered to other families.

### FURTHER INFORMATION FOR P7 AND THEIR PARENTS/CARERS:

You will find information regarding Graduation below. Please also note the information regarding the last day of term and specifically the 1pm dismissal:

- Children should still wear school uniform on the last day, as we will be attending Mass in the Church at 10am. All welcome.
- Children will be permitted to change into alternative clothes before 1pm if they wish. They should bring these to school with them.
- School finishes at 1pm. We will dismiss the P7 children a couple of minutes after 1pm to allow some of the traffic to disperse.
- Staff will form a Guard of Honour as the children process with their Teachers out of the double gate in the playground. The Piper will lead the procession.
- Please ensure that any hired vehicles do not enter the school car park. Ask them to arrive AFTER 1pm as the roads will be very congested and there will be limited space. I'm grateful for your co-operation with this and I've already discussed this with a parent who is in contact with the party bus company.

*Following and adhering to these requests will ensure the safety of everyone at what is a very busy time within the school grounds. It will also ensure that our P7s have the best possible dismissal and farewell on their last day at St.*

*John Paul II.*

*Class of*   
**2023**

## STAFFING FOR 2023-2024

By now, you will have been informed of your child's class and Teacher for the next school year. We are delighted to be welcoming back out temporary staff next year. This has been achieved through the use of Pupil Equity Fund.

We welcome Mrs Howard to our staff team for the next school year. We are delighted to have her as part of our school community and hope that she quickly feels part of our team. We say farewell to Mrs McClung, who has been covering Primary 2 on a long term, temporary basis. She has been a wonderful addition to our school community and we thank her for her hard work and commitment throughout her time with us.

I am awaiting full confirmation of our staffing from Human Resources at North Lanarkshire, before I can announce the Teachers for some of our classes. This is completely out of my control, but as soon as I know, I will make a formal announcement. Thank you for your understanding.



*50th Jubilee  
of Priesthood*

We celebrated with Father Morris on Friday 17th June at a beautiful Mass. We were joined by members of our school community. We were also joined by Mrs DiNardo, the first Head Teacher of St. John Paul II. Mr Smith, Head Teacher of Cardinal Newman joined us, along with some former pupils. We had some members of the Parent Council as well as two of our local Councillors Loughran and Boyd. Claire O'Neill who is the Diocese of Motherwell Primary RE Adviser come to represent the Diocese and Bishop Toal. It was a fitting tribute to someone who has given so much over so many years to our school and parish communities. God Bless you, Father Morris!

Father Morris will join the children on Tuesday 27th for Assembly, where we will present him with some gifts and cut some special cake for us all to share.

### WINNING HOUSE FOR 2023

EVERY CHILD & STAFF MEMBER IN OUR  
SCHOOL IS PART OF A HOUSE

Knock | Lourdes | Guadeloupe |  
Fatima | Częstochowa

*These are all named after Marian  
Shrines and places of Pilgrimage  
relating to Our Lady.*

For the entire school year, our children have the opportunity to win House Tokens for their work, behaviour, attitude, going the extra mile, being kind, helping out and taking on responsibilities to name a few reasons. Each week our captains add up totals and share them with the children. The children are working towards winning a special end of year treat. This year's winning house is **KNOCK**. The children will attend a Private Screening of Mario Bros at the Vue Cinema in Hamilton.

### THORNIWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Our local Community Council are planning to run a School Uniform Bank during the month of July. This will operate on specific dates to be confirmed.

#### THEY ARE LOOKING FOR DONATIONS:

Donations of clean items of uniform can be handed into Tannochside Miners' Welfare 7 days per week between 11am and 11pm.

#### LOOK OUT FOR DATES:

Dates have still to be announced, so please keep an eye on Social Media and spread the word when you have the information.

*This is a fantastic initiative and will help our families save money and help the environment!*

# SCHOOL UNIFORM AT ST. JOHN PAUL II PRIMARY SCHOOL

## WHEN YOU ARE PREPARING TO BUY SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR NEXT YEAR PLEASE REMEMBER...

The start of a new school year is a very good time to get back into routine and the wearing of full school uniform! Many of our children do this, but it can slip at times.

Our school colours are Royal Blue and Gold, with light blue shirts/polos and black trousers/skirts. Not navy or grey.

### DAILY UNIFORM:

- Light Blue Shirt/Blouse
- School tie
- Black trousers/skirt/pinafore/shorts
- Plain Black Shoes/Trainers
- Royal Blue Sweater/Cardigan/Top
- Blue gingham summer dress (weather dependent)

### P.E. KIT:

- Light Blue Polo
- School Sweater/Cardigan/Top
- Black short/joggers/leggings
- Plain black Trainers

***Keeping everyone dressed in this way, keeps a sense of uniform and it means that you are buying things which can be worn on other days at school!***

Children can still wear their PE Kit to school on PE Days but this should be the kit indicated above ONLY.

### BAGS & ACCESSORIES:

- The school provides all stationery and resources.
- Children are free to bring their own stationery if they wish.
- **THESE SHOULD NOT BE FOOTBALL RELATED**
- More and more pencil cases, bags, water bottles, etc. are Celtic merchandise. This is NOT permitted as per North Lanarkshire Council policy.



### EMBROIDERED ITEMS

**There is no obligation or expectation upon Parents/Carers to buy garments with the school badge embroidered on them. This is purely a matter of choice!**

- Various suppliers provide our uniform.
- Most supermarkets and larger shops will sell our royal blue, light blue and black garments.

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Here are some important dates for the next few weeks. Please take a look and mark them in your own calendar!

DATE:	EVENT:	DETAIL:
Monday 26th June	Winning House Trip	
Monday 26th June	P7 Graduation Mass, Ceremony & Party	6pm in the school assembly hall.
Wednesday 28th June	End of Term Mass P6 issued with their P7 ties P7 Pope Francis Faith Award	10am in St. Columba's
	School closes at 1pm	

**ADVANCED NOTICE! SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER FOR 2023-24**  
**4th—6th September 2023**  
**More information to follow in August.**



**Meet the Teacher**

**Monday 21st August 2023 from 3pm—3:30pm**

**SAVE THE DATE! MORE INFORMATION TO COME!**

## NORTH LANARKSHIRE TACKLING POVERTY TEAM

The Tackling Poverty Team exists to help families to **maximize** their income. They work with families to ensure that they are receiving everything they are entitled to and can very often bring new resources and finance to families.

**Tel: 01698 403170**

**Email: [TPTeam@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:TPTeam@northlan.gov.uk)**



### St. John Paul II Primary School & Nursery Class

1 Laburnum Road, Viewpark, Uddingston, G71 5DG

t: 01698 522723 e: [enquiries-at-st-johnpaul@northlan.org.uk](mailto:enquiries-at-st-johnpaul@northlan.org.uk)

w: [www.johnpaul.n-lanark.sch.uk](http://www.johnpaul.n-lanark.sch.uk) twitter: @JPIIPrimary

Head Teacher: Mr Kristofer Thomas

**Faith | Respect | Friendship | Trust | Kindness | Equality**

# School Holiday Dates for Schools in North Lanarkshire Council



## June 2023

Schools close: Wednesday 28 June 2023 at 1pm

## August 2023

Teachers return and in-service day: Monday 14 August 2023

In-service day: Tuesday 15 August 2023

Pupils return: Wednesday 16 August 2023

## September 2023

September weekend: Friday 22 September and Monday 25 September 2023 (inclusive)

## October 2023

October week: Monday 16 to Friday 20 October 2023 (inclusive)

## November 2023

In-service day: Monday 13 November

## 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**