



St. Lucy's Primary, LCSC and Nursery

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December/January Diary Dates

- 28th Nov- Christmas Fayre
6pm in St.Lucy's Primary
- 29th Nov- Pantomime Visit
- 2nd Dec- Advent Assembly
in school with Fr Campbell
for pupils and staff
- 5th Dec - School Christmas
Lunch (PM)
- 6th Dec- Nursery Christmas
Show (10.30am/1.45pm)
- 6th Dec- First Friday Mass
in Church at 9.15am
- 9th Dec- Christmas Concert
Dress Rehearsal
- 10th Dec- Christmas
Concert Evening
Performance (*children
should return to school for
6.30pm*)
- 11th Dec- Christmas
Concert Afternoon
performance
- 12th Dec- In-Set Day -
Election Day (children
should not attend
school/nursery)
- 13th Dec- Feast Day of
St.Lucy. Mass- 9.30am
in Church. All welcome!
- 16th Dec (PM)- Senior
Party
- 17th Dec(PM)- Infant Party
(*please note change of
date*)
- 17th Dec - Santa visiting
nursery (AM/PM)
- 18th Dec- School Carol
Service in Church 10.30am
- 18th Dec- Junior Party
(*please note change of
date*)

School closes at 2.30pm on
Thursday 19th December and re-
opens Monday 6th January 9.00am

- WB 13th Jan -Registration
for P1 (Aug 2020)
- 14th & 15th Jan- Parent
Workshops
- 22nd Jan- P1 & P7 Dental
Inspections
- 24th Jan- Scottish Day
Celebrations
- 28th Jan- P6 visit to OLHS



December 2019



Dear Parent/Carer,
Preparations for Christmas are truly underway in
St.Lucy's!

*I am sure this will be a **December to Remember!***

We welcome Mrs J Adamson, Class Teacher and Mrs L Watson, Principal Teacher to St.Lucy's Primary School Community. We look forward to working with them both every Thursday and Friday. We also bid a fond farewell to Miss Henderson. I would like to thank Miss Henderson for the valuable contribution she has made to the lives of the children she has worked with throughout her career in St.Lucy's. We wish her well on her retirement

We enjoyed a fabulous outing to the MacRobert Theatre in Stirling to see the 'Rapunzel' pantomime. A great time was had by all. It was lovely seeing everyone getting into the Christmas Spirit by singing and dancing in the aisles. Our children were a credit to our school community.

Many thanks to all Parent Helpers who accompanied us.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks to our Parent Council who recently donated a very generous £2000 to our school community. As stated in our previous newsletter, £1500 of this money was used to heavily subsidise the trip to the panto and it will also pay for the nursery Christmas Treat - a visit from 'Pirate Pete'. The remainder of this money will be used to further support school activities throughout the session 2019-20.

Our annual Christmas Fayre was a great success, raising an impressive £1019. It was a lovely evening with an atmosphere of true community spirit! Many thanks to all who came along to support this event. An extra special note of thanks to Miss McCarthy for organising and co-ordinating this.

The season of Advent began on 2nd December with visits from Fr.Campbell, discussing how we can prepare for the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day.

Wishing you all a very Happy and Holy Christmas from everyone within St.Lucy's Primary, LCSC and Nursery.

Many thanks for all of your support throughout 2019 and we look forward to working with you all again in 2020!

If you have any concerns or queries regarding any aspect of our school, LCSC or nursery, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C. Straub - Head Teacher (Acting)



Catholic Education Week

17th - 22nd Nov 2019

'Promoting the Gospel Values'

Catholic Education Week began with mass in St. Lucy's Church on 17th November. Many children attended mass to represent our school wearing their uniform with pride and participated very respectfully in the liturgy. Well done! Many thanks to personnel and pupils from Our Lady's High School (OLHS) who also attended. We worked in partnership with OLHS to produce a cluster booklet on how we promote the Gospel Values- the theme of this year's Catholic Education Week.

During Catholic Education Week 19 of our P7 children received the Sacrament of Confirmation from the Archbishop in Sacred Heart alongside children from St. Andrew's and St. Margaret of Scotland. Congratulations to all!



Positive Behaviour/Relationships

I thought it would be helpful for me to remind you of what we do in St. Lucy's to promote the 'Gospel Values' which in turn encourages positive behaviour/relationships throughout our school community.

Pride of St Lucy Awards- Any member of staff throughout our school community may award a child with a 'Pride of St. Lucy' sticker when he/she is showing 'Pride' in our school. This may be evident in his/her work, his/her conduct both, within and outwith the school. Children are also encouraged to demonstrate 'Pride' in our school by wearing full school uniform. Each child has an individual bookmark to stick the stickers awarded to him/her. At the end of each term, the Class Teachers count the number of 'Pride of St. Lucy' stickers each child has and the child who has the greatest number of stickers is awarded a 'Pride of St. Lucy' medal at our termly 'Pride of St. Lucy' termly assembly. At the end of the school year, there is an overall 'Pride of St. Lucy' winner who receives a medal and his/her name is engraved on the 'Pride of St. Lucy' shield.



Rising Star Award-

This award is given weekly to one child per class by the Class Teacher. Children receive this award for demonstrating the **'Three Rs'- Respect for Yourself, Respect for Others and Responsibility for your Actions.** This is celebrated during our weekly assembly where each 'Rising Star' is announced and congratulated.

Positive Behaviour/

Relationships (contin)



St. Lucy's Bee-Attitudes- following on from the theme of CEW 'Promoting the Gospel Values', which is also known as 'The Beattitudes', we have introduced 'The Bee-Attitudes' within St. Lucy's. This is a set of simple, child friendly statements of how to promote the Gospel Values in our daily lives. Any child may receive one of these stickers from any member of staff for demonstrating these statements. Any particular child who has gone above and beyond will be highlighted at First Friday Masses/Assemblies.

Please encourage your child to bring in any awards they have achieved outwith school, for example- swimming medals, football trophies etc. During our weekly assemblies, we celebrate the life of the whole child.

Headteacher's Award- Golden Ticket

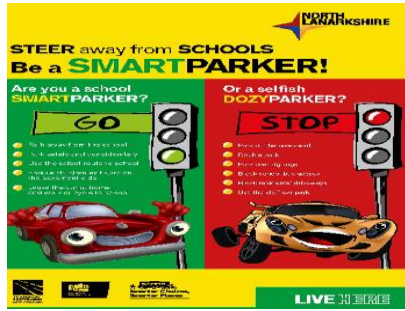


Beginning from this month, a child from each class will be selected for a 'Headteacher's Award'. These children will then receive a 'Golden Ticket' to their home through the post. The 'Golden Ticket' is an invitation a tea party with me (*Mrs Straub*). The children are identified by the Head Teacher in consultation with Class Teachers for displaying attributes outlined in our 'Pride of St. Lucy', 'Rising Star' and 'Bee- Attitudes' policies. This is a way to celebrate the overall hard work, effort and commitment of our children. Our first tea party is taking place on **Friday 6th Dec.** *I am looking very forward to this event! Keep your eyes peeled on your letterboxes!!!!*



'Cuppa Connect'

Our partnership with Barnardo's Scotland continues to develop. Thank you to Fiona, who attended our most recent Parent Council meeting to discuss what her role entails. Remember our 'Cuppa Connect' event takes place on the first Friday of each month from 9.30am-10.30am. The school will be a lot quieter than usual at this time as most of our children and staff will be celebrating First Friday mass in St. Lucy's Church. 'Cuppa Connect' is an informal opportunity for you to seek advice/support from Fiona regarding subjects which impact your family life and also have a 'cuppa' of course. This month's 'Cuppa Connect' will take place on **Friday 10th Jan at 9.30am** in our school. **Children are welcome too.**



Junior Road Safety Officers

Our two Junior Road Safety Officers, Jack Collins and Josh McIntyre are working hard to remind you of the above message from North Lanarkshire Council. I ask that you continue supporting us with this initiative by adhering to our parking procedures to ensure safe passage for all. Thank you!



Interim Reports

Parents/carers of children within our Mainstream School will receive an Interim Report for their son/daughter week beginning 16th Dec. These reports will outline the progress and achievement to date of our children.

Profile Dates for parents/carers of children within our LCSC are now planned for January 2020. Further details will be sent individually.

Reclassification of LCSC Classes

In order to accommodate an increase in the number of children within our LCSC there have been amendments made to some of our current LCSC classes. A small number of children have transferred into new classrooms with different teachers. Reclassification came into effect from Wednesday 20th November 2019. Staff continue working collaboratively to ensure the best outcomes for our children are achieved. **I would like to thank all parents/carers of children within our LCSC for your cooperation and support during this process. We will continue working in partnership to support and nurture our children.**

A further 'Meet the Teacher' session will be arranged in due course for any parent/carer wishing to meet their son/daughter's new teacher. Further details will be sent to individual parents. Thank you again!

Menu Changes in Dinner Hall

The Scottish Government is driving improvements in school meals and as you should be aware, the new Primary menu cycle went live on **Wed 20th November 2019**. You will have noticed a lot of changes have been made to this menu.

All meals will be served with a minimum two portion offering of vegetables and all drinks containing free sugars will be removed. All meals will include a carton of milk or chilled tap water. Aqua juice and Calypso cup will no longer be available. Water in jugs or cartons of milk will be the only drink options for school meals. Ham sandwiches are now no longer available and have been replaced with sliced chicken three times per week. The NLC website will be updated and will include a link which explains in more detail the rationale from Hmie about the changes.



Christmas Lunch

As you aware, Christmas Lunch will be served in school for our children on **Thursday 5th December**. If your son/daughter does not want a Christmas lunch then he/she should bring a packed lunch with him/her on the **5th December** as the only options available on this day are turkey, steak pie and a vegetarian meal. Separate correspondence will have already been received.



Paperless Communication

As you are aware more and more of our communication with parents is done electronically—text message, twitter etc. This seems to be very successful for the majority of parents as it is instantaneous and goes directly to them. All newsletters and any letters which do not need to be signed etc. will be sent electronically, this will not only cut down on cost but is environmentally friendly. As you know, arranging appointments for Parents' Evening in October was all done electronically. Despite some parents experiencing a few initial technical issues, on the whole this system was very positive. Many thanks to Mrs Smith and Mrs McGarvey who worked very hard to ensure the smooth running of this initiative. In January 2020, I am delighted to announce that we will be launching our new school app. This app will provide quick and easy access to information and messages from our school.

More information on how to download our app to your mobile phone device will be given in the New Year.

Managing Attendance/Late Coming



All Head Teachers within North Lanarkshire Council (NLC) are required to monitor the attendance of all children. I recently contacted specific parents/carers to inform them that their child's attendance was below North Lanarkshire's target of 95%. If you received a letter and are concerned about this, please feel free to contact me at school and we can work together to achieve improvements. May I please take this opportunity to remind you that if your son/daughter is unwell/unable to attend school, could you please contact the school office at your earliest convenience? If we have not heard from you regarding your son/daughter's absence we will send you a text no later than 9.30am. Let's make every day count for our children!

Registration for Primary One 2020-2021

If your son/daughter will reach the age of 5 between 1st March 2020 and 28th February 2021 then he/she should be registered for school in January (**WB 13th January**) to begin Primary 1 in August 2020. Confirmed dates and times of when to enrol in St. Lucy's will be published and displayed in the local community/twitter.

Parents/Carers must bring the following documents along to register their child-

- Child's Birth Certificate
- Council Tax bill (Proof of Address)
- Child's Baptismal Certificate (if applicable)

I look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school.

Best Start Grant - School Age Payment



I would like to remind you again of The Best Start Grant- School Age Payment. The School Age Payment is the third Best Start Grant package of payments that is providing extra money to families in Scotland who are on a low income to help support their child during their early years.

The Best Start Grant does not replace the Clothing Grant offered by North Lanarkshire Council.

The Best Start Grant - School Age Payment from Social Security Scotland is a one off payment of £250 available around the time a child would normally start Primary 1.

The first application window for the School Age Payment will run from 3 June 2019 to 29 Feb 2020 for children who were born from 1 March 2014 to 28 Feb 2015, inclusive will be the right age for their parent/carers to claim.

Further information may be obtained by calling

0800 182 2222 or by visiting

www.mygov.scot/best-start-grant.

Parent Council

Here in St.Lucy's, we have a very active Parent Council who are always looking for further support from our parent body.

The next Parent Council Meeting is on **Monday 27th January 2020 at 6.15pm in St.Lucy's Church Hall. ALL PARENTS/CARERS WELCOME.** I hope to see you there!

Points to Remember-

School hours -

9am-10.30am

10.30am-10.45am- INTERVAL

***12.15pm-1pm- LUNCH**

1pm-3pm

*(*on the day of your child's Christmas Party, he/she may be collected from the school office at 12 o'clock)*

Nursery hours-

AM- 8.40am-11.50am

PM- 12.45pm-3.55pm

- No child should bring food/drinks containing nuts or nut products such as **Nutella** to school/nursery
- Fizzy drinks are not permitted in school/nursery
- Class drinking bottles should be filled with **PLAIN WATER ONLY**
- No football strips/logos are permitted in school, this includes lunch boxes and school bags
- During school hours, mobile phones will be stored securely in the school office
- **Parents should 'drop' children off at the relevant yard gates and NOT enter the yards. Members of staff will supervise the yards each morning from 8.50am**
- **Infant parents may come into the yards at 3pm to collect children. Please stay near to fence to allow safe/clear passage.**
- Shirts and ties should be worn **EVERY** day
- A change of shoes should be kept in school
- Any child going home for lunch should be collected from the Main Office at 12.15pm
- All P1-3 children receive a free school meal at lunch time as per the Scottish Government initiative.
- Children moving from P3 into P4 are no longer automatically entitled to Free School Meals. Applications are required. Relevant information has been submitted to P4.