



Dear Parent/Guardian,
Please find below information which I hope you find useful.

Pupil Attendance

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting the school by updating us if a pupil is absent. Can I remind you that if your child is absent due to illness we ask if you could do the following:

1. On the morning when the absence starts please telephone the school on 274955 to inform us.
2. When your child returns to school please send a signed letter explaining the reason for your child's absence.
3. If an absence is not reported we will send a text message to alert you to your child's absence. Please acknowledge this message by calling the school.
4. If no contact is made the office will call to establish the reason for the child's absence.
5. If we are unable to make contact to establish why the child is absent we will need to record the child as missing and contact the police.

It is also important that your child **arrives on time** for school at 9.00a.m. Again, this is monitored and we encourage parents to form good habits so that your child starts his/her day in a calm manner.

Patronal Feast Day

Fr O'Connor and I have been speaking about ways of marking a Patronal feast day. As Our Lady does not have one dedicated day to mark her feast like other saints we thought we would mark St Mary's Primary feast day on the 8th December, which is the feast of the Immaculate Conception. This year the feast falls on a Saturday, therefore the mass will take place on Friday the 7th December which would be our First Friday Mass.

Groupcall

Thank you to everyone who has shared their email address to allow us to communicate with you via email. This will be the main way that we will communicate with you from now on including flyers for events and newsletters. **This will be the last paper copy of the Newsletter issued by the school.**



Therefore can I ask that you check your email regularly for updates and information from the school. If you have still to give an email address please do so ASAP. I will also send information on how to download the Xpression App after the Christmas holidays.

Mary's Meals - Dress Down Day

Primary 4/5 have been working on the Global Goal of hunger. As part of their learning they have asked, through very persuasive pieces of writing, if we could have a dress down to raise funds for Mary's Meals.

This will take place on **Friday the 16th November**.

To 'dress down' we would ask the child makes a **minimum** donation of £1.

Please note that in line with North Lanarkshire Council Policy no inappropriate slogans/images or football colours, including international teams, should be worn to school.



Local Historian

I am in the process of producing a timeline for the diocese as part of the celebrations to commemorate the anniversary of the 1918 Education Act. If anyone has or knows anyone with any historical information regarding the school, including when it opened and previous head teachers, please contact the school.



Catholic Education Week

The dates for Catholic Education Week have changed. Each year we will mark the work of Catholic Education and celebrate the contribution they make to local communities from the 16th-30th November.

We will choose some time during these weeks to focus on the CEW theme "Serving The Common Good".



Centenary of the 1918 Education Act

On the 21st November 2018 we will mark the day that Catholic Education became part of the Scottish state system. On this day some of our Bishops and representatives of the Catholic Education Community will celebrate Mass in the Houses of Parliament to thank God for one hundred years of partnership between the Church and local & national government.



As this historic date falls in the time when we will be celebrating Catholic Education Week, we will mark this occasion in school as well before going to the Pantomime in the afternoon.

Thank you for your continued support.
Yours sincerely
Francis McIntyre
Headteacher

GLOW

We have recently updated the children's GLOW accounts. Glow is an online resource which allows learners to work in a variety of ways, from collaborating with peers to working individually at their own pace and communicating with staff. Benefits of Glow for the children include:

Office 365 – Glow provides full access to Microsoft's Office suite including: Mail, Word, PowerPoint, Excel, OneNote, OneDrive and SharePoint. As well as using this service online through Glow, learners can download a full version of Office 365 at no cost. This can develop their skills with Office applications, support their learning outside school and use collaborative tools such as Sway to create and share interactive presentations demonstrating their learning both inside and out with Glow.

Collaborative working – Glow is a cloud-based service, meaning learners can work both individually and collaboratively on documents, projects and homework from any connected device.

Anywhere, anytime learning – Learners can access the resources and features of Glow using any device at any time. This means that learning can continue outside the classroom on any device that is connected to the internet.

Mrs McGuire will be working to develop 'Digital Leaders' who will support pupils and staff in exciting ways to learn through Glow. The children will be issued with their updated log in details soon.

Parent Council

An update from the Parent Council:

- We completed the sale of our new 50/50 numbers, and sold 80. Giving us £40 for funds and £40 for each of the monthly winners. The First Draw for the 50/50 club took place on 30th October. The winning number was 16.
- Our boxes in the Tesco Bags for help were filling up well -thanks to all those friends and family who popped in many handfuls! The tokens will now be counted and we should hear by the end of November where we placed in the vote
- We held our annual Halloween disco and the children had a great time! The costumes were fab!
- The company who will be transforming our garden area have been out again to review the area and give us an updated quote. We should have a revised quote in a few weeks.
- The Next Meeting will take place on Monday 26th November.

Dates for your Diary

- 5th November – Food bank Assembly for P4-7
- 16th November - Dress down Day
- 19th November – Inservice Day
- 21st November – Pantomime
- 30th November - SSPCA visiting for assemblies
- 26th November - Parent Council Meeting

