



**ST ANNE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
**March 2024**

*"Within our learning community, we will inspire one another to achieve our full potential.*

*Children, families and staff will be supported, challenged and listened to. Rights for all will be respected and promoted, with Christ and love at the centre of everything we do.*

*Working in positive partnerships, highly motivated staff will actively strive to create a nurturing, stimulating and joyful environment - **making learning fun!**"*

**SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS:**

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**Head Teacher: Nuala Boyd**

**Depute Head Teacher: Julie Hunter**

**Staffing Update**

Mrs Stevenson returned from maternity leave in February, assuming part-time responsibility for our P1 class.

Mrs Colquhoun is due to return from maternity leave on the 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2024

Miss Skea, who was providing long term maternity leave cover during Mrs Stevenson and Mrs Colquhoun's respective maternity leave, will continue to be allocated to our school until Mrs Colquhoun's return, and thereafter will be reallocated to another school within the local authority.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Skea for all of the hard work and commitment to our school and Primary 1 class during her time with us and wish her every good wish and blessing as she moves to another school within our local authority later this month.

**Wonderful News!**

We nominated Mrs McAdam for the Scottish Book Trust's Professional Learning Award – this is a national award that recognises the hard work learning professionals do to bring the magic of reading to young people. **We are delighted to inform you that the judging panel decided that this year's worthy winner was our very own Mrs Adam!** The panel were incredibly impressed with the dedication and commitment to Reading Schools which Mrs McAdam has shown over the years, and quite rightly felt that this should be recognised! As you know, Mrs McAdam has been a driving force in taking forward Reading Schools Award work in our school– organising library visits, preparing the hall for book bug events, setting up outdoor reading areas for children's use at break time, supporting the development of reading areas in the school, helping the parent council with Reading stalls at Christmas Fayres – these are just a few of the things which this award recognises and celebrates. This is an incredible achievement, and Mrs McAdam is the first Classroom Assistant in Scotland to receive this award. To celebrate winning this award, Scottish Book Trust will create a "winners film" and will visit the school to make this film on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March – further details to follow regarding this. Mrs McAdam will also receive a winner's prize of £500 of book vouchers and a bespoke trophy.

**Well done, Mrs McAdam!**

**Easter (Spring) Break**

School closes for Easter (Spring) break on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm.

School re-opens on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 for pupils and staff.

Our ELC Class remains open during this period for children attending on a 52 week basis.

**We wish all our families a very happy Easter!**



### **Trinity High School News**

On In-Service Day on 15<sup>th</sup> February, all cluster schools worked together as part of our approach to moderation, and ensuring consistently high quality teaching and learning experiences across our school.

Head Teachers from Trinity High School (St. Anne's, St. James' (Renfrew), St. John Bosco, St. Catherine's and Trinity High School) will meet together on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March to review our progress across the cluster schools, and to plan for session 2024/2025. We'll also work together to self-evaluate our work in developing communities of faith.

Staff of Trinity High School will visit St. Anne's Primary School on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March for P7/S1 Transition meetings. *Staff of Park Mains High School will also visit our school on this day for P7/S1 transition meetings.*

### **Parent Council**

Many thanks to all those who have attended Parent Council Meetings so far this session - thank you for your time and support!

**Our next Parent Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th March 2024 at 6.30pm.**

**Please do come along and join us!**

You may notice that our Parent Council Banner isn't out to remind you – it blew away in the storms!

A special thanks to everyone for their support of the fundraising activities for the Parent Council – the money raised makes a HUGE difference to our children, and helps us to make further IT and resource purchase which benefits of all of children.

Thank you so much!

### **School Improvement Progress**

Since the beginning of the year, we've been working hard on our School Improvement Priorities and wanted to give our wider parent body a very quick overview of our progress so far:

#### **TERM 1 (Aug-Dec 2023)**

**Improvement Priority 1 – Raise Attainment in Literacy with a priority focus on Writing**  
**Improvement Priority 3 – Further Improve Digital Literacy and Creativity across the school and ELC Class**

- Staff training and developing of Talk for Writing (non-fiction)
- Self-evaluation activities including peer and HT/DHT observations of learning in class
- Staff training in GOOGLE for Educators training programme, and implementation of further approaches to digital literacy across the school
- Learning Hero monthly focus assemblies and class teaching focus.
- Pupil Voice Groups (P4-P7) established and all Pupil Voice Group activities undertaken.
- Increased extra-curricular activities including music, choir, drama, and dancing lunchtime clubs in addition to further school funded extra-curricular sports activities.
- Reading Schools Gold Level Award activities

#### **TERM 2: (Jan-March 2024)**

**Improvement Priority 4 – Further develop approaches to ensure wellbeing, equality and inclusion, through RNRA and GIRFEC implementation.**

**Improvement Priority 2 – Raise attainment in Numeracy through evidence-based approaches, and improved use of community/outdoor spaces.**

- teacher professional enquiry on Outdoor learning and implementation of approaches in learning with focus on Numeracy.
- Development of school spaces to include sensory space, new reading areas in communal spaces, lower school library development, and creation of new upper school/community library space.
- Moderation and evaluation of learning, teaching and assessment with cluster schools (In-service)

## Pupil Voice Groups and Parental Involvement/Engagement

All of our Pupil Voice Group representatives have been issued with new lanyards -these should be worn **daily** to school.

All of our Pupil Voice Groups have a display in the school – within our foyer area, you will find display/information on the following groups:

- How Good is OUR School Pupil Voice Group (blue display and lanyards)
  - Laudato Si Pupil Voice Group (yellow display and lanyards)
  - Junior Road Safety Officer Pupil voice Group (red display and lanyards)
  - Digital Schools Award Group (orange display lanyards\_
  - Gardening group (dark green display and lanyards)
- Our Reading Schools Award pupil voice group (multi-coloured display and lanyard) is within the P1-P3 corridor area.

**Please do feel free to pop into school have a wee read of the most recent meeting minutes and find out how these groups are helping to drive forward improvements in our school.**

We'd like to thank all of our parents/carers, and parish representatives who have volunteered to help our different pupil voice groups. We'd also like to say a special "Thank you" to Mrs Campbell (P2 parent) for her help and support in developing our new upper school/community library space.

If you have skill or expertise, or you're just interested in helping us in our school, we'd love to hear from you! Please drop us a little email, call the school office, or speak to Mrs Boyd/Mrs Hunter at our **forthcoming Parent's Evening on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March.**

Just a little reminder also that you are most welcome to view your child's learning journey folder at any point – just give us a little call at the school to arrange!

## Forthcoming events in March

### Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024

We look forward to welcoming our Education Manager, Yvonne Ward, to our school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March for a Self-Evaluation visit with focus on How Good is Our School Quality Indicator 2.3 – Learning, Teaching and Assessment, and Quality Indicator 1.1 – Self-evaluation for Self-Improvement.

### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March

First Wednesday Mass at St. Bernadette's Church at 9.30am – all welcome to attend!

### World Book Day – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March

As outlined in our Important Dates (issued earlier this session), we will have a non-uniform day for World Book Day. Children can come to school dressed as their favourite book character, or wear pyjamas to school. *As always, please don't go to any expense in buying costumes! Pyjamas are perfectly fine!* During World Book Day, our children will take part in reading activities and fun book activities to celebrate this day.

### STEM Week – 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> March

During this week, we'll promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) learning and careers. We'll welcome a range of partners, including Zoo Lab and the Royal Navy, to help our children learn more about STEM subjects and careers.

### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Reporting to Parents/Carers and filming day

Parents' Evening for P2-P7 (3.30-5.00 and 6.00-8.30pm)

Filming day at St. Anne's Primary for Scottish Book Trust Professional Learning Award

### Big Spring Clean- 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March

St. Anne's Primary and ELC Class support of Renfrewshire's Big Spring Clean (litter picking) linking to our Laudato Si Schools work (see page 4-5 of this newsletter)

### SCIAF Lenten Appeal – 11<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March

Fundraising for SCIAF through Big Walk In Lent Appeal – see page 4-5 for further details.

### Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

Easter Reflection at 11am in P4-7 playground  
All families are most welcome to join us.

## LENT 2024

We've already begun our journey through Lent, with our Lenten Daily Thought for the Day where all classes in the school come together (via online GOOGLE Classroom meeting) to listen to the Gospel for the day and to reflect on what this means for us.

The Lenten Thought for the Day is posted in your child's GOOGLE classroom so that they can share the Gospel message with you at home, and to allow you and your child to learn and pray together throughout Lent.

Our Primary 4 children received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, and were quite simply, marvellous! They were so reverent and well prepared – well done, Primary 4!

Our Primary 7 and Primary 6 children have visited St. Bernadette's Church for a penitential service with Father David and to attend Confession (Sacrament of Reconciliation). Primary 5 Class will attend this week on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

As part of our Laudato Si Schools work, our Laudato Si Steering Group have presented to our school on our Laudato Si work and actions for this year, and will also present to St. Bernadette's Parish at Holy Mass at 10.30am on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March. Communication to parents/carers from our Laudato Si Steering group will be issued to families later this week – this will provide you with an update on our work so far, and which is closely linked to our Lenten activities (below).

### SCIAF Lenten Appeal – Big Lenten Walk

This year, SCIAF have a Lenten Challenge (Big Lenten Walk) to walk 200km during the 40 days of Lent. Our Laudato Si Schools Steering Group wanted our school community to take part in this, but also wanted to link this to the Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel fortnight (11<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> March) and Renfrewshire's "Big Spring Clean" (25<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> March) (See overleaf)

Our plans for SCIAF's Big Lenten Walk are as follows:

-Each child in the school will be challenged to walk 18 miles over 18 days (11<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March). *We hope this builds on the "Beat The Streets" event earlier this session where so many of our families gave us feedback about enjoying walking and being out and about in our local community*

-Each child will be given a sponsor sheet, so that families can make a donation for the miles walked by children (and their families!). *In this, we know that there are a lot of financial pressures on families, and we would not wish to add to this in anyway. For this reason, we would simply like to ask that you give what you can and to please not worry if this isn't possible.*

-Donations for SCIAF should be made via your Parent Pay account by Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March. Please DON'T send money to school as we are a cashless school and are not allowed to hold money overnight. Once all donations have been sent to us via Parent Pay, we'll send a cheque to SCIAF for the total amount collected by our school.

## **LENT 2024 (Continued)**

### **SUSTRANS “Big Walk and Wheel” ( 11<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> March)**

Linking to our Laudato Si Schools work and our Lenten fundraising for SCIAF, we are taking part in SUSTRANS “Big Walk and Wheel”. The Big Walk and Wheel fortnight aims to encourage as many pupils as possible to make more sustainable journeys to school by walking, cycling or scootering. Schools with the highest percentage of pupils making sustainable journeys will be placed on the national leaderboard, and there are prizes to be won! The national leaderboard and prizes are great, but of course the biggest reward will be reducing our impact on the environment and really helping to look after our common home, the earth, just as Pope Francis asks us to do in Laudato Si Schools.

Our Junior Road Safety Officer Group will be encouraging all of our children to really take part in this event – but of course, our children need your help too! Please, can you try not to drive to school, but instead to walk, cycle or scooter with your child? We really, really appreciate your help and support in this!

### **Renfrewshire Big Spring Clean (25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March)**

In the last week of term (25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March), again as part of our Laudato Si Schools work, we will try to make a difference in our local community by going on litter picking walks in our local environment. During this week, all of our classes will be out and about, enjoying God’s beautiful world but also helping to keep it tidy!

We’d love for families to come along and to join us! Our children will be out and about on the following days:

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March – P1 and P7: 1.30pm-2.30pm

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March – P2 and P6: 1.30pm-2.30pm

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March – P3, P4 and P5: 1.30pm-2.30pm

If you can come along, simply come to the school and meet us outside the front office.

### **Stations of the Cross and Easter Reflection – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March (11am – Upper Playground)**

To mark the end of our Lenten Journey and Holy Week, and as we look forward to celebrating Easter, our Pope Francis Faith Award pupils (P6) and Father David will lead us in prayer through a Stations of the Cross and Easter Reflection Service on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 11am in the upper playground. All of our families are most warmly invited to join us.

In preparation for this service, all of our children will be making cross/crucifix in class as part of Art and Design learning. The children will bring their cross/crucifix home so that you can have this in your home on Good Friday and to bring along to Good Friday Service. (Just a little reminder that Good Friday Service is held at 3pm in Catholic Churches – further details of Good Friday and other Holy Week/Easter Masses can be found on [www.catholicerskine.com](http://www.catholicerskine.com) )

**School closes to children and staff at 2.30pm on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**

School re-opens to children and staff on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024.