



WE MISS YOU !!!

As we end another month of working and learning from home, all of our staff from St John's wanted to share a message with you all to let you know that we are missing you and we can't wait to see you all again. This was on our Twitter page but we thought we would put in our Newsletter too in case anyone did not see it. I hope that you and your family continue to stay safe. Mrs Gray



Online Learning

We are seeing super examples of a great variety of learning that is taking place at home during these strange times. We love hearing all about it and cannot wait for the children to be able to share their new found talents and skills with their teachers and friends face to face. A huge thank you to all parents and carers who are trying hard to help their children access online learning. It has been a learning curve for all of us. Please remember that if you are having difficulty accessing information or are still having difficulties accessing any online learning teachers are posting, then please call or email the school and your child's teacher will get back to you. I will be sending out a survey to get feedback on what you feel is going well and what we can change in August.

August

As we prepare for a return in August to a 'blended learning' approach we want to make sure that all families are able to access online learning, we are starting to have very small groups of children in to school to support learning. In a few weeks we will also invite a parent and child in to school to help support and offer some training on the use of all the online platforms. As mentioned in the messages to parents, please contact the school if you wish to be included in this.

Resource Packs



We have now distributed over 100 packs to families! These packs are still available to any families who would like one, even if you have had one before and just want a top up of resources. We are also keen to know if there is anything you think should be added to the packs? The school is open Monday to Thursday from 9-12noon. Please contact us if you would like to collect one during these times. Remember we can also deliver to families who are isolating.

Free School Meals

Throughout the lockdown period, many families have been in receipt of free school meals and the weekly food boxes. The feedback has been very positive. As we approach the summer holidays the Council have notified us that this provision will end week beginning June 22nd. Some families may continue to receive this support for an extended period and if so, you will be notified in due course. Although in St. John's all primary 1 to 4 children receive free school meals it is important that you also apply for this to ensure at times like these you definitely receive them.

Twitter

Remember to access our Twitter page. Our most up to date information is available on here and messages from children and staff, to help all of our school community feel connected in these strange times, are updated regularly.

Nursery to Primary 1 Transition

We hope that you and your child are looking forward to joining St John's Primary and getting excited about starting your new school. Miss Ross and all of the staff of St John's are really looking forward to welcoming your child into our school community and although these are challenging, uncertain times for us all, please be sure that we are here to support you in any way we can. At St John's, the staff and the wider school community are all committed to maintaining positive links between home and school. This positive partnership is very important to the health, happiness and progress of your child.

We will be inviting your child and one adult in to visit from the week beginning 15th June. As you will appreciate, this will be different to the usual transition opportunities with parents and children attending in much smaller groups. It is our hope that this will be beneficial for both you and your child, to see where the children will be learning and to meet school staff and for us to answer any questions you may have. You will be contacted again shortly with days and times.

If you require transport to the school from August please contact South Ayrshire Council or complete the form online using this link - <https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/schools/school-transport.aspx>

Nursery and Primary 1 (plus older siblings) Bounce and Sing - Every Tuesday from your home on Zoom at 10am

This is proving very popular with our younger children and their siblings. Please do not forget to join in any week using the code and password. The code is the same each week and the password will be sent out.

P7 Transition

Our Primary 7s will be working through a 'Virtual Transition' Timetable during their final month as St John's pupils. Over the course of June they will be participating in our whole school virtual sports day and we look forward to seeing as many of them

involved for their very last Sports Day at St John's. Queen Margaret Academy also have some activities arranged for our P7s to take part in during what would originally have been their 'bump-up week'. The staff at Inverclyde have also come up with a sports challenge for pupils to take part in where they will run / walk a virtual 60k run between cluster primaries all the way to QMA. Further details of how to 'participate' in these events will be posted on Teams and on Twitter. Finally, we are looking for pupils to share their memories of St John's with us in the final week. I have also written to Primary 7 parents asking to share any other suggestions for this final month. Please email me at the school with any ideas.

Parish Links

During the month of May, we pray to Mary using the prayers of the Rosary. Although we could not be together to do this, it was lovely to see so many of you join in each week with the different Parishes to say the Rosary as part of our cluster.



Fr David, and Bishop Nolan, have been delighted with the number of pictures that have been sent to them following their weekly requests for pictures of Jesus, Mary, your families and the Holy Spirit. They say that it is stopping the church feel so empty and putting a smile on their faces. They are amazed at all the fabulous artists we have in our cluster schools. Keep them coming as there are still some spaces to fill ☺



Our Virtual Sports 'Day' 2020, is week beginning 1st June. We hope as many of you as possible will join in the variety of daily challenges - watch out for lots of the staff showing you what to do in our videos!

On Thursday 4th June, there will be a 'live challenge' from our YouTube channel hosted by Claire Rogerson, our Active Schools co-ordinator. All information about this exciting and creative version of our Sports Day, is on Teams and emailed out to everyone. Don't forget you are collecting points for your House and the winning House will be announced on Friday 5th June. There will be prizes for individuals in each year group as well. I am in the Yellow house so I am hoping that we do really, really well!

Good luck to everyone and have fun ☺



Staff Mental Health

It has been important for me to also support my staff over the Lockdown as many staff try to juggle online teaching and supporting their own children and families during this time. One of the ways that we have done this is to have a Friday morning gym class. It has been great fun to see each other online and to work hard for $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour to relieve some stress and to release some positive endorphins!

Couch to 5K

A number of families have joined me in the couch to 5K, I have been finding it very hard especially on the warm days, however, I have been sticking with it, please send me your photographs of how you are getting on!

