

Dear Parent/Carer,



A warm welcome back to all of our pupils and staff and a special hello to our new P1 children who arrived beautifully presented for their first day in St Patrick's-not a tear was shed amongst our new starts although I can't speak for all their parents!

## Staffing Update

We would like to welcome Miss Gemmell to Primary 5 and Miss Mancini to Primary 6, we hope you enjoy your time at St Patrick's Primary! Welcome to Mrs Cameron our School Assistant who will work alongside Mrs McDowall when she returns. Mrs Young also joins our team in the office with Mrs Kelly. I am sure you will join with me in welcoming all new and some familiar faces to the school.

## Baby Boy!

Congratulations to Mrs Gardiner and her husband who welcomed a beautiful baby boy into the world in July. Baby Finn Alexander Gardiner born on 20<sup>th</sup> July weighing 9.2lbs. Both mum and bay are doing well and we are all excited for Finn's first visit to St Patrick's very soon!

## Information Update



By the end of August you will receive a variety of forms to ensure the school and Authority systems hold accurate information on your child(ren). As soon as these forms come home please complete and return to school so we can update our records accordingly. Throughout the year your contact details or that of your nominated Emergency Contact may change, please ensure you update the school as soon as possible!

## Health & Safety Update

As you know, the safety and wellbeing of your child is of paramount importance to us all in St Patrick's.

Below I have listed some reminders of procedures which help to make our school a safe environment for all.

## Social Media Safety

As all parents are aware, real vigilance must be applied when children use mobile phones, iPads etc.

Our policy in school is that all mobile phones and media devices are switched off and handed in to your child's teacher at the start of the



# August 2019 Newsletter

school day where they are placed in a secure place until end of day when they will be returned as the children file out of school.

Should you need to convey any important information to your child during the school day, please contact the school office-01292 690070 and the message will be relayed to them.

## After-School pick up arrangements



At the end of each day, children in P1-4 will exit from the infant door and will only be released into an adult's care on recognition of the adult by the child/teacher.

P5-7 will exit from the upper door and their teacher will remain at the door to ensure all children have been safely claimed.

Any child who expected to be collected and for whom no-one is in the playground will re-enter school and go to the "soft seats" opposite the main front door to wait for collection.

Please try to contact us as soon as you know you will not be at school in time for collection to allow us to allay any worries your child might have when they do not see their parent/carer outside waiting for them.

## Bus Children

The school has a list of all children who should be travelling on the school bus on each particular day.

All children travelling on the bus leave their classroom at end of day and assemble in the main corridor where their names are checked off by one of our School Assistants.

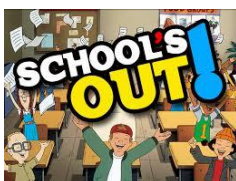


Unless we have been specifically informed that they have not to travel on the bus as per listed, your child will be escorted to the waiting bus.

You can alert us to any travel changes by phoning the school on the number above or by emailing: [stpatricks.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:stpatricks.mail@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

## School's out

Parents/Carers of children using this facility must liaise with School's Out directly re days of attendance/changes to arrangements etc.



Each morning School's Out give the school a copy of their list of children attending after school that day.

Should a child say he/she has not to attend School's Out despite their name being on the list for that day and the school has had no phone call or email to confirm this change,

# August 2019 Newsletter

then the child will walk to the School's Out facility and will require to be collected from that venue by a nominated adult.

## Entry/Exit from school am/pm

Could I ask you remind anyone dropping your children off at school that the school car park is NOT a drop off area. There should be no parent cars in the car park at drop off and pick up times. This is to ensure the pupils are safe entering and leaving the building. As the morning and nights get darker this is even more pertinent!

For children who walk to school or are dropped off by car, the double gate at the front of the building nearest to Church St is the normal entrance into school. Please observe parking restrictions around our school-they are there for everyone's safety.



From the top double gate all children should proceed round the corner of the building and enter by the side gate next to Church St.



In the afternoon the double gates leading on to Church St will be open from 2.45pm to allow all parents access to the main playground for collection of their child/children.

## Cycle/Skateboard Travel:

If a child has travelled to school by bike, scooter, skateboard then they should enter the school by the gate directly facing the front door.



Once in the school grounds they should dismount from their bike etc and walk round the building and along the pavement at the side of the building to the cycle storage area. After they have parked their bike etc they can walk back to the side gate midway down the building and enter from the carpark side. **No child or adult should enter school on a bike /skateboard using the car park entrance gates.**

As I have written often, only parents visiting the school for an appointment, coming as a parent helper or in need of using the disabled spaces should park in the car park.

Please also support the safety of all of our children by not dropping off or picking up your child in the car park at the beginning or end of the school day respectively.

## Wet Mornings

If the weather is very wet in the morning then all children should come straight in by the side gate as usual and make their way to the upper exit where they will enter the building and assemble in the gym hall until the bell rings.



Supervision will be in the hall from 8.45 am as is the case in the playground.

# August 2019 Newsletter

## Pupil Support



At present we have children in school who suffer from **severe** nut allergies. Please support these children by refraining from giving your child nut based spreads or nut based snacks at break or lunch. If your child has a nut based snack or lunch we will ask them not to eat it and if at lunch they will be offered a school lunch instead.

## PE Kits

In order to participate fully and safely all pupils must have the correct PE kit. This should be indoor gym shoes or trainers, shorts and a t-shirt. For health & safety reasons, **all** jewellery should be removed for gym and long hair tied back. As PE kits are similar, please ensure that your child's name is on **all** items for easy identification.

## Money being sent to school office

If you are sending money to the school office for trips etc. please could you pop the money into an envelope that has your child's name, class and description of what the money is for, this will ensure there are no mix ups or children forgetting.

Thank you all for your continued support in making St Patrick's the safe school it is.

A busy year lies ahead packed full of interesting , enjoyable and relevant learning experiences for our school community- we look forward to working with you all in the many different capacities which support the development of all our children into confident, successful, and responsible young citizens aware of the need to respect their own rights and those of others.

## Additional Support Needs Forums for 2019

Wednesday 20/11/19 - Parent Forum - 6:30-8pm - Girvan Academy, Girvan

Wednesday 19/2/19 - Parent Forum - 6:30-8pm - Marr College, Troon

Thursday 7/5/19 - 1-8pm - ASN Information Hub - Ayr Town Hall

South Ayrshire ASN forums are open to all parents of children / young people in South Ayrshire - whether they have diagnosed or identified Additional Support Needs or not.

## Bikeability Training available

Cycle Training Assistant courses are now being offered which will be delivered to meet SCQF Accreditation (1 credit point at Level 5) and the main points to be aware of are:-

- It is expected that participants are **able** cyclists, as part of the course involves practical activities and candidates will be assessed on this;
- This is a 10 hour course however there will be pre-course learning which will entail a question paper (formalised) and self-assessment of Level 2 manoeuvres (expected to take 3 hours);



# August 2019 Newsletter

- The course itself will last 7 hours and candidates must attend 9 am - 4.30 pm;
- Bikes should be in a roadworthy condition and helmets are required;
- Candidates will be required to register online and will be sent links to Cycling Scotland's website where information will be accessed (this will be co-ordinated through myself to assist candidates);

If you are interested in this training course which would then mean you could help with Bikeability in P6 please contact me as soon as possible as the course is a first come first served basis and has limited numbers!

The date/location for the course is:-

**THURSDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019 - 9 am - 4.30 pm - John Pollock Centre,  
Mainholm Road, Ayr, KA8 0QD**

Sincerely

Mrs Lynsey May  
Head Teacher

# August 2019 Newsletter



The Parent Council / Fundraising Group plays an essential role in the life of St Patrick's Primary School. The role is to support the school in its work with pupils and parents, to represent the views of parents and to promote contact and communication between the school, parents, pupils and the wider community.

Our next Parent Council / Fundraising Group AGM meeting is **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 4.15pm** at the school. It would be great to see as many of you as possible there. New faces are always welcome! Mrs May will update the parents on the priorities for the session and the new reporting system that is being introduced this year!

Please remember if you are unable to make the meeting but wish to get involved or offer any other help or support there are many ways which you can do this. We are in particular need of help and support to run extra-curricular groups and parent helpers in class throughout the day - please get in touch with Mrs May if you are able to support with this - it is much appreciated!



# August 2019 Newsletter

## PARENTAL RESPONSE SHEET - 2019

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

What are the things that are important to you and your child(ren) when at school?

What are the things you would like your child(ren) to achieve this session?

When your child(ren) has a good day at school, what makes it good?

At the Come Share My Learning Hours scheduled throughout the year, it would be good to have information and workshops about.....

	YES	NO
As a parent, I would like to volunteer some free time to help in classes		
I would like to become involved in the Parent Council and Fundraising Group.		
As a parent I would like to volunteer to help at a pupil voice group, held on the first and second Tuesday of each month 9.15-10am. Pupil Voice Groups are as follows: Pupil Council, Digital Technology, Sports Council, Fair Trade/Right Respecting, Junior Road Safety Officers, Health and WellBeing, Eco Council.	<u>If yes please state which group you would like to be involved with.</u>	

Any other feedback you would like to provide on any aspect of our school: