

Faith

Kindness

Love

Persevere

St Elizabeth's Primary & Nursery School

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Learn Together, Laugh Together, Be the Best You Can!

School Newsletter 9, 8th Feb 2019

Enjoyment

Respect

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much to all our parents and carers who were able to make it along to our Parents Evening. As usual, our turn out was very high and I hope you were pleased with the information you received about your child's learning and progress.

Enrolment Week

We have enrolled many children for our new school year beginning in August and it was lovely to meet them and their parents during our Enrolment Week. Any parent who has not yet enrolled must now do so as soon as possible and should make contact with our school office please as a matter of urgency.

Parent Pay

This is now up and running and, despite a few teething problems, has generally been running successfully for us. We will stop handling cash in our school from the 28th Feb so can I ask everyone to please sign up before that date. If there are any problems, please let our office staff know and they will be happy to help you if they can.

Holy Cross Curriculum Evening

Our P7 children recently attended a Curriculum Information Evening and had a ball! They thoroughly enjoyed having the opportunity to see around the big school and to experience some lessons. Thank you to our Holy Cross colleagues for providing this fantastic opportunity for our children and many thanks to all families and children who made it along. We will be continuing our transition work this term with visits from Holy Cross staff to our P7 children, meetings between staff and parents to share key information and further work with Cluster Schools to help build team skills and individual confidence.

P7 Transition Meetings

On Wed 20th Feb, Fiona Trainer from Holy Cross will be coming to our school to meet with us to discuss our P7 children. If any parent would like to meet with Mrs Trainer on this day, please contact the school office and we will happily arrange an appointment. These meetings are vital to help ensure the smooth transition to secondary school as it helps to pass on important information about our children's achievements as well as any worries or concerns we may have.

Food Tasting - We recently enjoyed a week long food tasting event at school lunches – our children were encouraged to try new fruits and many of them did so. Well done boys and girls! Each child who managed to get 5 stamps on their card will be entered in to the prize draw and could be the lucky winner of a brand new bike. There are 50 bikes to give away across South Lanarkshire...fingers crossed one of our children will be lucky!! Thank you to Janet and our catering team for helping this to run so smoothly and also to our Head Boy, Lewis Carroll and Head Girl, Laura Summers, for giving up their lunchtime to help with the stamping.

Breakfast Club - Our breakfast club is going well and the children are thoroughly enjoying themselves. The Club runs every day from 8.15am and is open to all our school children. Many thanks to our Support and Catering Staff for helping to ensure the club runs so smoothly.

Teaching Students - We warmly welcome 2 Post Graduate Teaching Students to our school. Gillian Murdoch and Thomas McMahon have joined us from Monday 4th Feb and will be with us until 15th March. Miss Murdoch is in P1 with Mrs Sullivan and Mr McMahon is in our P3 class with Mrs McCaig and Mrs Murphy (our Monday teacher). We wish both students a successful placement and hope they thoroughly enjoy their time with us.

Community Partnership - Our Community Partnership is organising a 'Spring Fling' for our children which will take place on Mon 25th Feb, from 6-7pm for our P1-3 children and 7.15-8.15pm for our P4-7 children. Entry is £1.50 per child and tuck shop will be available during the evening so the children can bring additional money. There will also be tattoos, face painting and glow sticks available to buy. We look forward to our children showing off their dancing skills once again! Our Coffee Bar will be available for any of our parents who wish to stay in school and wait for their child. Many thanks to our Community Partnership for organising this event for us.

Parent Helpers - We are keen to get as many parents and families involved in our school as possible. Thank you so much to all parent helpers who are currently involved in helping in our school. I know many of you have expressed interest in getting involved and we would like to develop this and take you up on your offer! If you are keen to get involved, please complete and return the attached consultation form and we will get back to you shortly.

Rag Bag Collection - Our next Rag Bag Collection will be on the 18th March. Any items that can be recycled – clothes, bedding, etc would be very welcome and all donations help to contribute to our school fund.

Bird Week - We took part in events to mark Bird Week during the week of the 21st January. Our children entered a Bird Week Competition and were very creative in their designs which Mrs Emmett has submitted for us. Well done everyone for being vigilant in looking after the little birds.

P3 Visitors - Many of our P3 parents have very kindly given up their time recently to come in and speak to the children about their jobs. This has been fantastic for our children and they have really enjoyed hearing about different jobs and getting an early introduction to the world of work! Thank you very much to everyone who has given an input so far.

University of the West of Scotland - Our P7 and P6/7 classes enjoyed an input from a group of nurses training at the University of the West of Scotland. The nurses spoke to the children about Resilience and talked about ways to show and develop resilience. We have a strong partnership with this University and greatly appreciate their input around important issues such as Resilience, Dementia, etc.

World Book Day - To celebrate World Book Day, we are having a 'Come and Read' time on Thursday 28th Feb. Please come along to our school from 2-3pm, have a cuppa and a goodie and enjoy a bit of time reading with your child. As always, any donations of cakes, etc are most welcome and greatly appreciated.

Good to be Green - We have introduced Good to be Green Charts in all of our classrooms. Each child begins every day on Green and we still use our yellow and red card system for any unnecessary behaviours. Each week we have an 'Over and Above Club' where 2 children from each class who have been green all week are chosen to go along to the Club for a hot chocolate or juice and a goodie. They will receive a certificate to keep and a badge to wear for the following week.

If any child in our school receives 3 red cards in one week, we will send a letter to you to inform you of this. In the very unlikely event of a child receiving 5 red cards, a meeting with his/her parents would be necessary. We will be issuing a leaflet explaining our Behaviour and Relationship System further for your information, this will be in bags shortly.

Multi-sports - We are delighted to have a Multi-Sports after-school club running in our school every Thursday from 3-4pm. The first block is for children from P1-3 and the second block is open to our P4-5 children. The second block begins on Thurs 7th March. The cost is £1 per week.

Staff Development Day - As you know, Wed 13th Feb is our next In-Service Day and our staff will be taking part in self-evaluation activities, as well as receiving an input on Autistic Spectrum Disorder from our Educational Psychologist, Carol McCulloch. We're all back to school and nursery as normal from Thurs 14th Feb.

School Show - We are delighted to let you know we are going to be performing Joseph! There is great excitement in our school as our children audition for parts, learn songs, begin to think about back drops, etc. Our P5-7 children will be performing the show and our P1-4 children will be performing a shorter production which will be linked to 100 years of Catholic Education and an introduction to Joseph. I will let you know the performance dates once we have this finalised. This is an excellent opportunity to build and develop so many skills amongst our pupils and to use the creative arts to enhance their learning and confidence. More info to follow!



More School News – due to our involvement in the 1140 hours nursery introduction, our nursery is continuing to grow and we now have proposals to expand our nursery. I have received confirmation that, subject to Committee approval on 13th February, 2019, as part of the Council's 1140 hours Nursery Expansion proposals, it is intend to expand nursery places at St Elizabeth's Primary School. A Committee Report outlining the proposals will be presented to the Executive Committee Report on 13th February, 2019. This report will be available publically on Friday, 8th February, 2019 and you can obtain a copy through the Council's website. I will keep you updated with further information as we proceed.

Important School Information – a reminder ...

***Car Park** – we have noticed several cars parking inconsiderately outside our school, causing potential difficulties for our children and families and raising the risk of an accident occurring. Please do not park on the zig zag lines outside the school. We are awaiting a delivery of cones from the police to help cordon this area off at key times in order to ensure safety for everyone. The car park at the Sports Hall is able to accommodate many cars and we would suggest that as a safer place to park. Your help in supporting our school with this is greatly appreciated.

***Nut allergies** – just a reminder to everyone **that we are a nut free** school. Children should not bring any snacks or items to school that may contain nuts or nut based ingredients. Thank you everyone.

***Fizzy drinks** – fizzy drinks are not permitted in our school as they contain a vast amount of sugar which we all know affects children's attention and behaviour. This also applies to fizzy sweets.

***Health Promotion** – we are a health promoting school and encourage our children to think about what they eat and drink. This includes snacks at playtime and lunchtime. Milk is available each week at a cost of £1.00 and a biscuit can be bought for each day of the week for the total cost of 10p.

***Absences/Lateness/Leaving Early** - If your child is to be absent from school, please phone our school office as soon as possible to inform us. We have an answering machine for your use. All children should be in the playground before the bell rings at 9am each day and we now have a bell ringing at 8.55am as a reminder to our children that 9am is fast approaching! The legal requirement is that children attend school from 9-3pm each day. If they are required to leave early, please bring your appointment letter to our office staff who will then note this. Lateness, absences and leaving early are recorded daily and if either of these become detrimental to any child's time at school, the council procedure is that an attendance officer will be asked to contact you to discuss further. Thank you for your support in ensuring your child is in school from 9-3pm each day.

***Contact Details** - If your telephone number or e-mail address change throughout the course of the year, please do let our office staff know to allow us to update our records. This also applies to emergency contacts.

***Head Lice** – We ask all parents and carers to please check hair regularly and if there is any case of head lice, please let us know. Many thanks.

***PE Kit**- children need to bring a PE kit with them each week as PE is timetable twice a week. PE kit is- polo shirt/t-shirt, black shorts and indoor shoes. They also require an outdoor kit which should consist of long trousers, a long sleeved top and suitable footwear. PE kits can remain in school each week.

***School Uniform** – at the last Community Partnership meeting, there was a discussion about the difficulty in being able to buy brown school trousers in particular, especially now that Catherine's of Burnbank is closing down. As a result of our discussion, it was agreed we would look at changing the colour of school trousers and skirts and possibly jumpers to make it easier for families to buy. We would be grateful if you would take a few minutes to complete the attached consultation about this.

That's about it for the moment...a brief round-up of key events in our school! Please follow our School App and Twitter Page for constant updates about our school. Next newsletter - Fri 8th March 2019. Best wishes,

Miss C MacPhee, Head Teacher

St Elizabeth's Primary and Nursery School

School Consultation

Parent Helper

1. Please let us know when you would be available to help in our school _____

2. Is there anything in particular you would like to do in our school – run a club, help in classes, knitting, drawing, etc? _____

School Uniform

1. Please circle your preference of colour for trousers and skirts **Navy** **Grey**

2. What about the colour of jumpers/sweatshirts? Please circle your preference

Keep as light blue **Navy** **Grey**

3. What about blazers? Please circle your preference.

Keep as brown **Navy** **Grey**

4. Do you have any suggestions you would like to make regarding colours? _____

Our school tie and badge will remain the same. Thank you for taking time to complete this consultation. Please return to school by Friday 22nd Feb, many thanks.

Name _____ Date _____