

Faith

Kindness

Love

Persevere

## *St Elizabeth's Primary School and Nursery Class*

Head Teacher, Miss Christine MacPhee  
William Drive, Hamilton, ML3 7RQ,  
01698 285080



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

**Our School and Nursery Information Newsletter  
August 2021**

Enjoyment

Respect

### **Our vision**

Our vision is for everyone in St Elizabeth's Primary School and Nursery Class to strive to excel in all that we do through working hard and having loving, respectful relationships in a safe, happy and nurturing environment embracing a love for lifelong learning.

**\*All our latest information about our school and nursery is available on our App, available from the App or Google store.**

**\*Please follow us on Twitter - @StElizabetsPS.**

**We also have our website which contains further important information.**

**Dear mums and dads, boys and girls,**

Welcome back to school and nursery, we hope you had a lovely summer, enjoying the fabulous sunshine we have been lucky enough to get this year and taking time to relax. We also extend a very warm welcome to all our new families – we are absolutely delighted to welcome you to our school and nursery and we look forward to getting to know you and your family.

It is lovely starting the year off in more settled times and we are delighted to have our staff and children back safely and looking well and refreshed. We all look forward to another successful year ahead for all our children and to them blossoming in many ways.

**\*\* Welcome to our Team \*\***



We have several new staff joining our team this term and we warmly welcome Miss Lauren Fagan and Miss Marisa Linskey to our school team and Miss Bronwyn Healy and Miss Kelly Ann McCormick to our nursery team. We said a fond farewell to Mrs Stone last term and we wish her all the best as she begins her retirement.

On the subject of farewells and good luck, we wish all our previous nursery and P7 children all the very best as they now begin the next chapter of Primary School and High School. We are sure they will settle in quickly and shine ... good luck boys and girls, be the best you can!

**\*\* Our Classes this Session \*\***

- P1 – 25 children with Miss Brand
- P1/2 25 children with Mrs Hasson (Mon-Wed am) and Mrs McCaig (Wed pm – Fri)
- P2/3 23 children with Mrs Bradley
- P3/4 25 children with Mrs McRoberts (Mon-Wed am) and Miss Costello (Wed pm – Fri)
- P4/5 25 children with Mr Kelly (Mon and Fri pm) and Mrs MacIntyre (Tues-Fri am)
- P5 33 children with Mrs McGuire
- P6 25 children with Miss Fagan
- P7 30 children with Miss Bradley

Miss Linskey and Mr Kelly will be involved in working with a range of classes during the week.

Our nursery children are now able to be grouped in larger pods and we have the following staff allocated to each of our nursery pods.

**3/5 Room Pods**

- Linda .....Orange
- Megan and Helen .....Red
- Debbie and Veronica .....Pink
- Suzanne and Mags .....Blue
- Pauline and Bronwyn.....Yellow
- Emma .....Green
- Gayle and Anne .....Purple

**2/3 Room Pod**

- Stacey.....Red
- Robyn .....Blue
- Carole and Kelly Ann .....Green



We look forward to welcoming our new nursery boys and girls and their families over the coming weeks.

### **\*\* Health and Safety \*\***

In line with guidance, we are maintaining all health and safety procedures we have had in our school/nursery and playground. Regular hand washing is in place in all our classrooms and playrooms, daily and weekly cleaning routines and high levels of ventilation. We are also maintaining 2m distancing between adults and children and all adults are wearing face masks.

**All adults are asked to continue to please wear face masks within our school/nursery vicinity and we thank you for your co-operation with this.**



### **\*\* Nursery Extension \*\***

Our nursery extension is now complete and we are absolutely delighted with it. The lovely new rooms are very spacious and our staff are busy organising our fantastic new resources and getting the rooms ready for our children to use.

As we are not permitted to have parents and families into our nursery as yet, we will shortly be posting videos of our new surroundings for you to see.

Thank you to Jim and his team for all their work in getting our extension completed so painlessly.

### **\*\* Important Information \*\***

Important letters have been sent home this week and we ask that these be returned to school as soon as possible please in order to allow us to update our data and information regarding your child. We are looking to update our nursery care plans over the next few weeks and will be contacting all our nursery parents to discuss important information needed for these plans.

### **\*\* Breakfast Club \*\***

Our breakfast club runs from 8.15 to 8.45am each day and is open to any child to attend. Children should arrive promptly and go to the dining room doors in the playground.

### **\*\* Playground \*\***

We have begun developing our playground and it is looking good! Over the summer we have had several new items painted on the ground – we now have a daily mile outline as well as a dart board in both playgrounds, all chosen and voted on by our children. Mrs Daly, our janitor, also took time to paint some spare tyres and they have really helped to brighten up our playground. Thank you also for the donations of plants – all of them are blooming and looking really, really lovely. We also have a beautiful new hobbit hut which has been given to us as part of our nursery extension and we are all excited about using that. This week also saw the delivery of 2 Reading Huts which we are excited to be using. We will continue to work on our playground this session and we look forward to seeing it developing.

## \*\* Pupil Responsibilities \*\*



### \*\* Our Head Boy and Head Girl \*\*



Congratulations to **Beth** and **Toby** who have been the successful candidates for our Head Pupil Positions. Here are lovely messages from them both -

**Beth** - In my role as Head Girl for St Elizabeth's Primary School, I want to express ideas to make the school even better. I will listen to the opinions of all other students in the school and do my best to make it a great school for them.

**Toby** - Hi my name is Toby and I am delighted to be Head boy of St Elizabeth's primary school. I am looking forward to working with the Head girl Beth and with the House and Vice captains. I am hoping to bring some new ideas and look forward to the challenges this year. Lastly, I am most looking forward to taking on the responsibilities of Head boy and will do my best for the school.



### \*\* Houses \*\*

We have **4 houses** in our school and these are –



**St Andrew, St Columba, St Margaret and St Mungo.** Every child and member of staff is in one of these houses – we keep families in the same house. The houses have their own particular colour and we encourage children to wear their house colours when it is a House reward day. The colours are

**St Andrew – blue; St Columba – green; St Margaret – red; St Mungo – yellow.**

The children earn house points in school and these are collated and rewards given. This helps to encourage our children to recognise their role as part of a bigger team and we are very proud of how well they respond to this.

Our House Captains and Vice House Captains lead each house. Congratulations to the boys and girls who were successful candidates for these positions this year. They are –

<u>House</u>	<u>Captains</u> (Primary 7)	<u>Vice Captain</u> (Primary 6)
St Andrew	Alix	Sara
St Columba	Keira	Lily May
St Margaret	Lennon	Myafina
St Mungo	Mirryn	Emily

We have a **House Colours Day next Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> August** – children can come to school wearing their house colours (football strips are not permitted). Mrs Wilson will shortly be issuing house colour stickers to each child so you know which house your child is in.

## \*\* School Details \*\*

### \*\* School Hoodies \*\*

Our school children have enjoyed wearing their school hoodies last session and they all look very smart too. Hoody orders will once again be open from this coming Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August and will close on Friday 27<sup>th</sup>. If you would like a hoody for your school or nursery child, please order and pay for this through parent pay. Any questions re sizes, etc, please contact our school or nursery office on 285080/286270 and staff will be very happy to help.

Our P7 children are very excited to now have their Leavers Hoodies and I know they too will be wearing these with pride throughout the coming year. They look so smart.



### \*\* School Uniform \*\*



We would like to say a big thank you to all our families for supporting our school uniform policy so well. The children are absolutely beautifully turned out and are wearing their uniform so proudly. Well done and thank you boys and girls.

### \*\* PE Uniform \*\*

In order to help with consistency across our school we are also looking for your support with our PE uniform. When it is a PE day, children are required to come to school dressed for PE and should wear the following please

**Plain black shorts or leggings/tracksuit bottoms**  
**Plain white t-shirt or school polo shirt**

Branded items, clothing with logos is not permitted to be worn, long hair should be tied up and jewellery needs to be removed.

At the moment, we are all doing outdoor PE however indoor PE will resume from the week beginning 30<sup>th</sup> August and all children will be required to wear black plimsolls for indoor PE.

Again, I know you will support our PE uniform and we thank you very much for doing so.

### \*\* PE Days \*\*

P1	Friday and Tuesday
P1/2	Monday and Wednesday
P2/3	Thursday and Wednesday
P3/4	Monday and Wednesday
P4/5	Monday and Friday
P5	Thursday and Wednesday
P6	Monday and Wednesday
P7	Thursday and Tuesday

**Physical Education**



## **\*\* Parental Engagement \*\***



### **\*\* Meet the School and Nursery Staff \*\***



As we are unable to have you in school or nursery for our Meet the Teacher evenings, we are instead coming to you through virtual introductions! We will be posting videos of our classrooms and playrooms for you to see your child's learning environment, meet the teacher/early years worker and hear important information. Videos will be uploaded week beginning 30<sup>th</sup> Aug.

### **\*\* Homework Consultation \*\***

As we begin another year, we continue to review our procedures and practices. We asked for your opinions about homework towards the end of last term but we were unable to collate responses at that stage due to an IT hitch. We would be really grateful if you wouldn't mind completing the short questionnaire on Google Classroom for us. This will be open from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> August and will close on Friday 27<sup>th</sup>. Your input and feedback is invaluable to us and will help us to plan effectively for this session in line with what best suits our families.

### **\*\* Twitter/School App \*\***

We use our Twitter page to celebrate achievements in our school and our School App to help share information with our families. Our new families are asked to complete and return the permission slip for photographs and videos to be shared please.

### **\*\* Nursery Learning Journals \*\***

We use learning journals as our main communication with our nursery parents, it is important that you log in throughout the week to keep updated on your child's progress.

The staff will be posting weekly photographs, videos and comments of children to show their fantastic efforts in nursery and to allow you to see them in action.

The journals are also used for sending out newsletters, accident forms and general information.

All parents should now have received log ins, any issues, please call us on our nursery number - 01698 286270

### **\*\* Emergency Contacts \*\***

Should your emergency contact or personal details change at any time throughout the year, please let our school/nursery office know asap in order that we have up-to-date information for your child. If there is anything you feel we can help with, please telephone or email us as early as possible in the day and we will be happy to help in whatever way we can.

### **\*\* Photographs \*\***

We will be having our school photographer visit us on Tues 31<sup>st</sup> August and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September. Children should wear their school uniform please. No indoor PE will take place on these dates as our school hall will be used.

## \*\*Improvement Plan for this Session \*\*

Each year, we have key focuses that we work on developing alongside the day-to-day running of our school and nursery. For this session, and as a result of consultation with yourselves, the children and all staff, we have identified our key focuses as being –

- \*Focus targeted support in Literacy and Numeracy
- \*Embrace and develop Reading for Pleasure across our school and nursery
- \*Embed and develop digital approaches and effective use of online resources
- \*Monitor attendance and lateness across our school and nursery
- \*Increase opportunities for parental engagement
- \*Build on our understanding of attachment
- \*Keep emotional, mental and social wellbeing of all as a key focus
- \*Keep an eye on the cost of school day

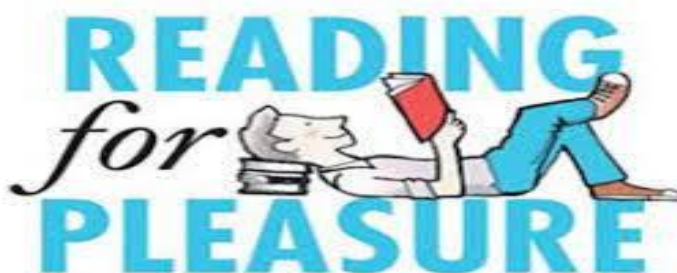
Our **Standards and Quality** Report will shortly be uploaded on our website and I encourage everyone to take a few minutes to read this important document as it reflects our work from last session.

## \*\*Reading for Pleasure \*\*

You will have seen that reading for pleasure is part of our improvement agenda this year. We have 2 staff attending training and leading this development. We have purchased new resources for our classes and will have 4 Reading Champions each week in each class.

Our Head Boy and Girl spoke to Waterstone's the other day and our Reading Champions are about to undertake a book audit for their own class.

Can you help at all – would you have any spare books at home that you would be able to donate to our school and nursery? We would be absolutely delighted to accept them and they will be put to very good use throughout the coming year.



## \*\*Important Information\*\*

### \*\*Welcome to our new families\*\*

We warmly welcome Kai and Daniel and their families to our school as well as our new parents and families joining our Primary 1 class and our nursery.

### \*\*Lunch Menu\*\*

New lunch menus have been sent out this week. Our lunch menu is uploaded to our school app each week. Details for accessing the app are home in bags. Any issues, please contact us at school or nursery and we will be happy to help.



### \*\*Diary Dates\*\*

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September

House Colours Day

School and nursery closed

School and nursery closed

Please remember to check App and Twitter page for updated information.

### \*\*Contact Information\*\*

#### Our Management Team

Head Teacher – Miss Christine MacPhee

Depute Head Teacher – Mrs Ellen Wilson

Principal Teacher – Mrs Elaine Campbell

Nursery Depute Head – Mrs Gillian Hart



#### Contact Details

School Tel no 01698 285080

Nursery Tel no 01698 286270

School email – [office@st-elizabeths-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-elizabeths-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk)

Nursery email – [gw18steliznuoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw18steliznuoffice@glow.sch.uk)

Our school office staff are Mrs Karen Lynch and Mrs Caroline Redmond and Mrs Amanda Holding is in our nursery office. Mrs Elizabeth Daly is our janitor and also heads up our cleaning staff.

### \*\*...and finally\*\*

We are very much looking forward to a more settled year ahead in our school and nursery...fingers crossed! If at any point, you have a concern, a worry or a compliment please speak to myself, Mrs Wilson (Depute Head Teacher) or Mrs Campbell (Principal Teacher).

Many thanks to all our families for your continued support of our work – we greatly appreciate this.

Best wishes everyone

Miss Christine MacPhee, Head Teacher



