

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
November 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,

We hope all families and friends are continuing to keep safe and well. We are all remaining vigilant and safe in school and nursery as we whirl our way towards Christmas.

As always, many thanks for your continued support of the procedures we still need to follow in and around our school. We hope you find our latest newsletter informative and if you should have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact us or speak to us at the gate.

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



We warmly welcome Vivyien Leigh to our nursery team – Vivyien has joined our team as an Early Years Support Worker. We also welcome Mrs Pauline Shields and Miss Kirsty Caffrey to our school team, both ladies are with us on supply for the time being.

**** Welcome to our Children ****



We warmly welcome our new children - Nastazja in our school and Ellie in our nursery.

We are delighted to have them and their families all joining us and we look forward to working closely with your child during their time with us.

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

**** Health and Safety ****

In line with guidance, we are continuing to follow all health and safety procedures in our school and nursery. Regular hand washing continues to be in place in all our classrooms and playrooms, daily and weekly cleaning routines and high levels of ventilation. Whilst we monitor the temperature in classrooms, our children may need to wear their school hoody as well as a jumper to school as winter sets in. We are continuing to maintain 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 very much for your fantastic support with this.



**** Breakfast Club ****

Our breakfast club runs from 8.15 to 8.45am each day and is open to any school child to attend. Children should arrive promptly and go through the dining room doors in the playground. We have a good attendance each morning.

**** Free School Meal ****

From January 2022, our P5 pupils will be entitled to a free school lunch each day, should they wish. This is in line with the Scottish Government's Free Meal Expansion programme.

**** Pupil Responsibilities ****



**** Pupil Engagement ****



Our Captains and Vice Captains have been thinking of active ways we can begin to raise money again for our school. Together with Mrs Wilson, they have come up with a great healthy fundraiser for us to enjoy– the children will run 5 times round the school!

Sponsor sheets have been sent home and we look forward to an active morning on Friday 10th December...this is also our Christmas Jumper Day and the children are welcome to wear any items to add a bit of razzmatazz to our fun run! Good luck boys and girls and thank you to all sponsors for any donations.



**** Houses ****



As you know, we have **4 houses** in our school

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

Our house tokens will be counted next Friday, the first Friday of the month and we look forward to hearing which will be our winning house



**** Congratulations to our CHOIR! ****



Our wonderful choir is back up and running...and with a bang! Under the superb and creative direction of our musical director (also known as Robyn from our nursery) I am delighted to inform you that the children have been shortlisted to the FINAL 10 for a south Lanarkshire Competition! The winning school will be receiving a prize of £500! We are super excited as we believe our choir MUST be the best!!

We need your votes for our song please –please log on to the **Regency Shopping Centre website** (www.regentshoppingcentre.com) and there will be a bar/button for us to click which will then take us to the voting page. You may only vote once but as many family and friends as possible are welcome to vote...fingers crossed! Voting opens from the 26th November and runs until the 10th of December.

Our choir will be performing a medley of Christmas songs on Tuesday 7th December at 11am in the Shopping Centre and you are welcome to come along to support us and sing along with us. (Please remember your mask) We'll let you know how we get on!

Good luck to Daniel, Katie, Aria, Coralee, Lacey, Sophie, Leo, Melissa, Jessica, Mitzi, Teagan, Thea, Devon, Sara, Jessica, Ellie, Lily May, Cayden, Mirryn, Olivia...and, of course, Robyn!



**** School Details ****

**** Christmas Jumper Day ****

This is on Friday 10th December this year, and children are welcome to come to school and nursery wearing something Christmassy. If possible, we would be delighted to take any donations of tins or items for our local foodbank – we greatly appreciate any help you can give us for this as we are hoping to create a few bags of goodies to send from our school family for Christmas.

We are also looking for any donations of Christmas Jumpers that have become too small – these would be most welcome...thank you for any donations we receive.

**** Water Bottles ****

Children are asked to bring a water bottle to school and nursery each day filled with water – **please note diluting or fizzy juice is not permitted in our school or nursery and we thank you for your co-operation with this.**

**** Winter Clothing ****

As the weather is now much colder, we are delighted to see so many of our children in both our school and nursery, keeping warm and cosy and wearing suitable clothing. Many thanks for your continued support with this.

We have been lucky enough to get an amount of money in to our school budget for spending on winter clothing – tights, scarf, gloves, hat, jackets, leggings, etc. If you know of any child/children who would benefit from these items, please let us know at school. We will also be asking our children so please don't be offended if your wee one comes home with a new item, we're delighted to give them to good homes.

**** Fundraising ****

Our recent Crazy Hair Days helped to raised some much needed funds for us and the children enjoyed showing off their groovy hairstyles. Thank you for supporting us with this and for those fantastic hair designs! We raised £94.34 for our school fund and £47.62 for our nursery fund.

We will shortly be selling raffle tickets for some fantastic Christmas Hampers – one for a child and one for an adult. The raffle tickets will be priced £1.00 and will be on sale week beginning 6th December with the drawn being made on Friday 10th December...good luck everyone!

We are also have a Christmas Crafts Fayre on Friday 17th December. Unfortunately we are unable to have parents and families attend this event so will be opening this up to our children who will be welcome to buy any of the wonderful creations that our classes are busy making as we speak.

Envelopes are home today from our Community Partnership for the latest 50/50 Club Draw. Please return these to school by Wednesday 1st December if you would like to take part. Good luck everyone!

**** Parental Engagement ****

**** Our Curriculum Consultation ****



Many thanks to all school parents and families who managed to complete our School Curriculum questionnaire. We have been working with our older pupils from P3/4 to P7 and with all our staff, reviewing and evaluating our curriculum.

Our aim is to review our Curriculum Rationale and Design to amend this according to the current needs of our school, our learners and our families. We are now in the process of collating all this information and forming our Rationale.

Some samples answers from our parents and families are

****What opportunities do we currently provide for your child to celebrate their successes and achievement in and out with school**

*Star writer, Head Teacher's Award, twitter posts, assembly

What could we do more of?

*Continue to share in class/school achievements with parents via twitter or Google Classroom.

*Provide stars and paper for parents to write achievements outside of school.

*Re introduce the Achievements book at the front of the school

*Good to know about one off achievements in the class for example great reading or excellent effort overall

****What do we currently do to help your child learn how to be a member of the community?**

*Joining Mass online, Beat the Street event, health and wellbeing lessons

*Lunch time and after school clubs and building on the interests of the children

*Religious events within the school and outwith. Pre Covid, coffee morning house system, parental engagement attending Bingo and playing games as a family.

What could we do more of?

*Local community visits such as the library, when COVID rules allow

*Making everyone feel valued.

You will be able to read the full feedback once this has all been collated. For anyone who wishes to complete the Google form, paper copies will be available at the front of the school on Friday 26th November.

We will shortly be asking you to give us your opinion about our Values – we currently have a set of 6 school values and 4 nursery values – we would be delighted if you would give us your opinion and thoughts, it really matters to us.

A Google Form will be posted on Monday 29th November and will close on Friday 3rd. Thank you for taking a few minutes to complete this and we will then move forward in reviewing our school and nursery values.

**** Christmas Celebrations****

As we are still unable to have families in to school or nursery this Christmas, we will once again be winging our way to you! Our children are very busy practising songs which we will then video and share with yourselves. Our P1 and P1/2 classes are performing a nativity called 'Hey Ewe' Our nursery pre school children are performing 'Whoopsy Daisy Angel' while the rest of our nursery children are singing Christmas Songs.

Lots of excitement as we pull all this together and we hope you will thoroughly enjoy singing along to all the songs.

Christmas Lunch Day is on Wednesday 15th December and again children can wear their Christmas jumper or their Christmas clothes.

Our Christmas Parties are taking place on the following days

Tuesday 14th December P4/5 and P5

Wednesday 15th December P1, P1/2, P2/3 and P3/4

Thursday 16th December P6 and P7

Monday 20th December Nursery

Children should come to school/nursery wearing their party clothes on their set day and they will enjoy a party in their class/playroom. We look forward to celebrating and having great fun on those days.

**** St Andrew's Day ****

Our nursery children are going to entertain us on St Andrew's Day with lovely singing and we look forward to celebrating this special day. Nursery parents will be able to log in to see recordings of this through our Learning Journals.

10am Mass will also be streamed from Our Lady and St Anne's on Tuesday and we look forward to joining Fr O'Farrell and the parishioners on this day.

****Improvement Plan for this Session ****

We cannot thank you enough for all donations of books and games we have received in our school – it has been wonderful. In the lead up to Christmas, we continue to accept any further donations. Our library is taking shape and looking good – nearly ready for use!



****Working alongside our Parish ****

**** Education Sunday ****

Many thanks to all families who were able to attend Mass on Sunday 21st November and to our wonderful readers – Lily May and Beth who read so well at each Mass.

The theme for Catholic Education Week is Celebrating and Worshipping and we have been lucky enough to have classes attend Mass this week and actively live this theme. Well done to our boys and girls from P5, P6 and P7 for excellent respectful behaviour at all Masses and for those children who were willing to read. We are very proud of you all.

**** MISSIO ****

Our MISSION Champions - Aidan, Ellie K, Ellie B and Emily – will help to lead us in our Advent Prayers over the coming weeks. Advent begins on Sunday and we will make our advent wreath a key focus of our weekly assemblies for the following few weeks.

Our MISSION Champions also lead Rosary in our school once a week and, due to popular demand, have had to create 2 slots...our P1, P1/2, P2/3 and P3/4 children are welcome to say a decade of the rosary at 12.15pm and our older pupils are invited to join at 12.30pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to participate in a special prayer time and the Champions lead it so beautifully.

****Important Information ****



****Diary Dates ****

Monday 29 th November	Google Form re our Values goes live
Friday 10 th December	Christmas Jumper Day and Fun Run
Tuesday 14 th December	Christmas Party for P4 and P5 pupils
Wednesday 15 th December	Christmas Party for P1, P1/2, P2/3 and P3/4 pupils
Thursday 16 th December	Christmas Party for P6 and P7 pupils
Friday 17 th December	Christmas Fayre for our school children
Monday 20 th December	Christmas Party for Nursery children and Craft Fayre
Wednesday 22 nd December	School and Nursery closes at 2.30pm
Wednesday 5 th January	School and Nursery reopens

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

****...and finally ****

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).

Best wishes everyone,
Miss MacPhee
Head Teacher

