St. Mary’s Newsletter

April ‘22

**Cross Country**

Congratulations to our P6 and P7 children who participated in the Clydesdale Cross Country event at Lanark Racecourse.

A special ‘Well Done’ to:

Our P6 girls: Eilidh, who took overall 1st place and Clara who was 8th. Together with Olivia and Rosie, the girls took the silver medal for the team rankings. Clara and Eilidh went on to take silver again for the Clydesdale team in the final at Chatelherault.

Our P6 boys: Ethan, 5th and Zac, 6th. Together with Johnson and Ross, the boys took bronze for the team rankings.

Our P7 boys: Cillian, 2nd and Nico 6th. Together with Joseph and Hari, the boys took bronze in the team rankings. Cillian went on to take silver for the Clydesdale team at Chatelherault.

What fantastic results! We couldn’t be prouder.

**First Reconciliation**

Congratulations to our P3 children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday 31st March. The children were exemplary in every way. A beautiful service, led by Fr. J.P was the perfect end to the term.

**Dance Festival**

Well done to our P6 and P7 pupils who took part in the Clydesdale Dance Festival on Wednesday 30th March, superbly choreographed by Mrs McLean.

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**Transition Days: Nursery-Primary 1**

Our Nursery to P1 transition days will take place on Thursday 19th May and Thursday 26th May from 1.30-2.30 pm. Parents/Carers are invited to attend the first session on 19th. Children only will attend on 26th.

**Lenten Fun Fridays**

Many thanks to all pupils and parents who supported our Lenten Fun Fridays by participation and donations. We raised a total of £350 which will be split between our two chosen charities: SCIAF and the SVDP.

**Fever Pitch Academy**

All classes enjoyed taster sessions in musical theatre from Fever Pitch Academy. Many thanks to Erin and Lisa who have recently launched their Lanark branch of the club!

**Primary 7 Leavers**

Our P7 Leaver’s Mass and assembly will take place on Monday 20th June in the afternoon. We are delighted to welcome our parents/carers to attend this event. Details will follow closer to the time.

**Bikeability**

P7 will commence their Bikeability training this term. Many thanks to our parent volunteers who are undertaking training at the moment.

**Choir – First Holy Communion**

We welcome back our children’s choir for First Holy Communion. Any child wishing to take part should come along on the day – Saturday 14th May at 10.45 am. You have the best seat in the house in the choir loft!

**Cherry Dance Studios**

Cherry Dance Studios will visit all classes on 31st May for a taster session.

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**St. Mary’s Open Afternoon**

We would like to invite our parents/carers to attend an open afternoon from 1.15 to 2.45 pm on Thursday 2nd June ‘22. This will give you an opportunity to visit your child’s classroom and meet other parents for a cup of tea in the school hall. Some artwork by the children will be on sale at this time. This is also an opportunity to meet teachers face to face, though please note pupil progress will not be discussed at this time. We look forward to welcoming many of our parents into the building for the first time. We kindly request that parents/carers wear face coverings when moving round the building.

**Lanimer Committee 2022**

Many thanks to our parents who have already volunteered and joined the new St. Mary’s Lanimer Committee. It is wonderful to have the support of so many of our parents. The entry is now well underway and we cannot wait to see the result on Lanimer day. Thank you!

**School App – main source of communication**

Please download our School App and re-download if you have problems accessing it. This is the easiest way to quickly reach a large number of our parents and will be our main source of communicating with our parents. If you use the app for more than one school, it is useful to log out and login again to ensure you are up-to-date

Username: Skyewalk

Pin: 3480

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**NUT FREE SCHOOL**

May I remind parents/carers that we are a nut-free school and children should not bring snacks or lunches containing nuts. This includes Nutella products.

**Medication**

May I remind parents/carers that should your child be required to take medication during school time, you must fill out the necessary paperwork. Children should not be given medication to administer themselves. Thank you.

**Latecoming and Absence**

If your child is going to be late for any reason and would like a school lunch, we ask that you telephone the school by 9.30 am to place their order. Thank you.

This is a concern within the school and there has been a notable increase in latecoming and unauthorised absence. Our School Improvement Plan aims to improve and address these issues. If you receive a letter, please contact the school to find out how we can support you. Please note if you have not contacted the school to report absence, the following procedures are in place:

**9.30 am** – the main contact will receive a text message asking to call the school

**10 am** – the main contact will receive a phone call

**10.30** – next contact and emergency contacts will receive a phone call

If you have not contacted the school by **12 noon**, you may receive a visit to your house.

**Dates for your diary:**

May Day Holiday: Monday 2nd May

In-Service Day: Thursday 5th May

Tinto Hill Sponsored Walk: Sunday 8th May

First Holy Communion: Saturday 14th May

P7 Residential Trip: Monday/Tuesday 23rd/24th May

Sports Day: Friday 27th May (pm)

Jubilee Holiday: Friday 3rd June

Lanimers: Thursday/Friday 9th/10th June

P7 Leavers: Monday 20th June (pm)

Parents Open afternoon: Thursday 2nd June (1.15-2.45)

School closes: Friday 24th June

**Uniform** - **Pupils should not wear bright coloured sportswear as uniform**.

Children should wear school uniform to school, consisting of shirt, tie, trousers/skirt with P.E. kit underneath or bring kit to change into.

P.E. kit consists of black shorts/leggings/joggers, white T-shirt/polo shirt and appropriate footwear. We have a range of pre-loved uniforms and P.E. kit should you require. Please feel free to have a browse in ‘The Bubble’.

[This Photo](http://www.pngall.com/handicapped-reserved-parking-sign-png) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/)

**Please refrain from parking in the disabled bays. Priority for**

**this space is given to PUPILS who require**

**this space and thereafter to Blue Badge Holders.**

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**Parent Council News/Fundraising Events**

**Sponsored Walk**

The Parent Council have organised a sponsored walk up Tinto Hill on **Sunday 8th May at 2 pm.** All family members are welcome to join in. Please join us if you can.

The event will be sponsored by **‘The Woodpecker’** in Lanark. It is wonderful to have a local business involved. Many thanks to the owner Owen who has offered to provide refreshments on the day!

Prizes will be on offer for: Youngest Participant, Most Extravagant Picture at the summit, Best Fancy Dressed, Most Represented Class.

The next meeting takes place on **Wednesday 25th May’**. Meetings take place online. Please email the Parent Council and they will send you joining details - stmaryslanarkparentcouncil@gmail.com. It is important that the Parent Council is representative of the views of **ALL** of our parents/carers and I would urge you to join in. Attending a meeting does not mean that you have to take on a responsibility or job within the Parent Council but it is a valuable way for you to see how they support the work of the school and represent the views of the entire parent body.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs D Allen

Head Teacher