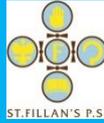


St Fillan's Primary School and Nursery Class



NEWSLETTER

TERM 2
NOVEMBER 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

I cannot believe it is already Term 2 Session 2018/2019. We envisage an extremely busy term with Christmas approaching and we will keep you updated as we move along.

Curriculum Update

We continue to make steady progress undertaking the developments outlined in Our School Improvement Plan which is now available on our website.

Priority 1 - Raise attainment in Literacy

Throughout Term 1 teaching staff have undertaken professional development and detailed dialogue in relation to development of teaching methodology to support raising attainment in Literacy and English. Our main focus is - writing, developing a policy for writing and working with our colleagues across the learning community to develop our writing strategies and formulating an updated writing policy.



Priority 2 - Raising attainment in Numeracy and Mathematics

Throughout Term 2 we will continue to develop 'Glasgow Counts' methodologies to ensure that learning and teaching in Numeracy and Mathematics across the school is in keeping with current research and practice for the purpose of raising attainment. We are focussing in particular on problem solving and working with concrete materials to aid mathematical concept development.



Priority 3 - Child protection policies and procedures

Over the course of this session we have been developing our Child protection policies in line with National Guidance, with Nursery staff working in partnership with Primary Staff on Child protection procedures and processes linked to GIRFEC, SHANARRI, UNRC, Children's Charter Equality Act 2010



Explanation of terminology, familiarisation by staff on use of correct terminology

Priority 4 - Digital Learning We are committed to the Development of a Digital Learning strategy to enhance the overall quality of Learning and Teaching across the school. This session we will introduce key features of an iPad, essential tools and core iPad apps with a view to using it to enhance different curricular areas

Priority with wider school focus

In partnership with our Nursery we are looking to enhance our P1 learning experiences through the development of Play Pedagogy

As a Community of Faith and Learning, we continue our faith journey using the guidance set out in the documents - This is Our Faith and God's Loving Plan.



Since November 2017 - November 2018 we have learned about the historic significance of 100 Years of Catholic Education. We will be culminating this celebration with our Learning Community, our children will be exploring the Past, Present and Future of Catholic schools.



SCHOOL BUSINESS

Meet the Teachers Evening

My first event of this session was our 'Meet the Teachers Evening' which was held on Tuesday 28th August 2018. I was particularly pleased with the turn-out for this event and parents reported positively regarding the opportunity to meet their child's new Class Teacher and find out how they could best support their child in the year ahead.

Thank-you once again for your fantastic support!

P7 Fundraiser Indonesian Appeal



Once again immense credit must go to our Primary 7 children who continued to embrace our school's commitment to social justice during their recent fundraiser for the Indonesian Tsunami appeal. It was a fantastic success raising the grand total of **£750**.

Thank-you must also go to our ever-generous parents for your wonderful support of this event Well done Primary 7 -You should be immensely proud of yourselves.!

Health Promoting / Improving School

At St Fillan's Primary School and Nursery Class we promote the importance of healthy living through the Health and Wellbeing aspect of Curriculum for Excellence and through a positive school ethos which promotes health improvement.



Unfortunately, we have observed that some children are bringing in a significant amount of sticky sweets, chocolate and juice containing high amounts of sugar, salt and other additives for playtime snacks and in lunch boxes.

Consumption of these snacks has been proven to have a definite effect on learning, behaviour and how children perform generally in school.

Please can I ask parents/carers to support us in being a **Health Promoting School** by ensuring that children bring a bottle of water to drink during school hours and snacks/packed lunches that promote healthy choices. Also can you please ensure that children do not bring lollipops or other snacks on sticks into school as they represent a significant choking hazard.

Winter Approaching

Once again we ask that parents/carers label items of clothing. The lost property bags are once again full of blazers, jackets, jumpers, cardigans and items of PE kits which all adds up to a lot of money. Please check that your child has their belongings when they arrive home, especially now that the hats, scarves and gloves will start to be worn as the weather gets colder and the days are darker. We always encourage the children at our school to take more responsibility for their personal belongings as they can be rather careless!

Reporting to Parents Evening

You will already have received correspondence reminding you that Parent's evening will take place on Thursday 8th November 2018 from 3.30-8.30pm. Parents/Carers of P6 and P7 pupils are invited to bring their child to the reporting session in order that they can be part of the discussion - *if they wish to do so*.

Every family will have received one appointment per child. Each parent/carer is given an allocated time which the Class Teacher plans in relation to the number of children in the class. **Should you require additional time to discuss any matter then we will gladly arrange a further appointment at a later date.**

Please do not feel offended as teachers will use timers to keep them on track in order to help avoid running over time and keeping other parents waiting.



Please support our PTA in whatever way that you are able. This group of committed parents are always ready to welcome new parents in their mission to ensure that 'all' children benefit from the help and support that their role provides. They will be selling the annual Calendar at the upcoming Parent's Evening and are making preparations for a Christmas Fayre on the 8th of December.

Halloween

The children had a great day in school celebrating Halloween. All children and teachers looked fantastic with creativity in abundance. A fun day was had by all.

M&M Theatre Company

On the first day back to school after the October week holiday the children were visited by the M&M Theatre Company who performed Robin Hood - A quality performance was enjoyed by all children.

Parking - Continues to be a major issue!

Police Scotland have asked us to remind parents of the dangers of inconsiderate parking around the environs of the school. In the past we had incidents which could have resulted in children and parents being injured. Please park your car appropriately and support us in preventing an accident happening outside our school - **IT COULD BE YOUR CHILD!!**

Safety - School Car Park



Please ensure - When entering the school at any time of the day, everyone must walk through the **main pedestrian gates** and **NOT** through the gates at the car park. We are becoming increasingly concerned regarding the number of parents who are walking children through the car park - especially parents of children in the Nursery Class - **This has to stop before someone is injured!**

The gates at the car park are closed at **8.50am - 9.05am and 2.50pm-3.10pm** to ensure that there are no moving vehicles while the children are entering and leaving school premises. Please support us in keeping everyone safe. Please also refrain from coming through the gates into the playground at the back of the school. Collection point for our children is at the front of the school.

Parent Council

Please visit the Parent Council website in order to keep up to date with current newsletters and matters which the Parent Council is taking forward on behalf of the School Community. The next Parent Council meeting is scheduled for Monday the 29th of November 2018.



Parent Concerns

If you have any concerns regarding your child or other school matters then **please do not hesitate** to contact the school and I will arrange to meet with you as soon as possible.

On occasion, parents inform that other parents are unhappy regarding something that has happened in school. I am sure you will appreciate that if parents don't contact us directly regarding any concern/issue then we are unaware and unable to address/resolve matters.

We are here to help at all times!

Regards

Yours sincerely

Mr. Brian Bourke

Headteacher

DATES FOR DIARIES - TERM 2 UPDATE

- 8.11.18 Reporting to Parents Evening (1) 3.30pm-8.30pm
- 11.11.18 P6 and P7 pupils - Armistice Day Service 10.45am Cathcart Old Parish Church
All families welcome.
- 13.11.18 Public Speaking Competition Holyrood Secondary 4.30pm (P7)
- 19.11.18 2018 Catholic Education Week
- 22.11.18 P7 Visual Screening
- 22.11.18 All P6 pupils Badminton Event at Emirates Arena
- 23.11.18 Swimming (Block 2)
- 26.11.18 Badminton heats P7 team at Holyrood Sec
- 27.11.18 Prayer Breakfast for P7 Pope Francis Faith Award Pupils at Holyrood Sec
- 27.11.18 P5a and P5b full day visit to Kelvingrove Art Gallery
- 29.11.18 Karate Club grading
- 30.11.18 Hampden Conga P3,P5 & P7
St. Andrew's Day and Celebrating Success assembly 3
- 3.12.18 ADVENT - Morning Prayers 8.45am - Mon, Tues & Thurs All welcome!
PTA Disco P1-P2 6.30-7.45, P6/5 8.00
- 3.12.18 ***Christmas Parties Nursery Class - P7 will take place between 3.12.18-7.12.18***
Information to be confirmed for each class
- 4.12.18 PTA Disco P3 and P4 7.00-8.15
P3 Christmas Crafts display - PM
- 5.12.18 P7 Pizza Lunch. Nursery Pantomime - details to follow
- 6.12.18 P4 pupil group - Soccer 4 South East Festival @ Toryglen Football Centre
- 11.12.18 P1&P2 Christmas Nativity 10.00am
- 11.12.18 P7 Carols @ Smiddy
- 12.12.18 P1&P2 Christmas Nativity 2.00pm
- 13.12.18 P7 Carols at Asda
- 14.12.18 Nursery Class Nativity 10.00am
Christmas Café P7 2pm
- 19.12.18 Mass for Christmas am Time TBC
- 20.12.18 School closes for Christmas Holiday @ 2.30pm

New information will be added/amended as we progress through the session.

Please refer to school website for holidays and INSET dates

School closes for Christmas Holiday on Thursday 20th December 2018 at 2.30pm

Newsletter - November 2018

Parent/Carer Comments



Committed to working in full partnership with parents/carers, it is therefore, extremely important that we present a variety of opportunities to seek your views, thoughts and opinions which will enable us to ensure continuous improvement. Please add any comments you wish to make, sign and return to the school. These comments will form part of whole school evaluation processes for 2018/2019.

What do we do well?

What would you like to see us do better?

Thank you for your time!

Parent's/Carer's signature

Date.....