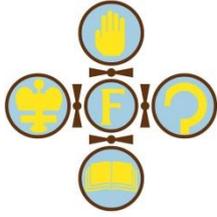


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ST.FILLAN'S P.S.

Newsletter

Friday 22nd November 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

The wintry weather arrived with a vengeance but the freezing temperatures didn't stop us from having a wonderful week. Most especially our P7s who have returned safe and sound from Ardentinn. Please look at our school X (Twitter) account - @stfillansps - for a range of videos and photographs showing what a fantastic experience the outward bound week proves to be. The departure committee who waved our children off on Monday morning set the children up for a brilliant week. Many thanks to all the staff who gave so generously of their time and accompanied them. Thank you Mrs Martin, Ms Fullerton, Mrs Craig, Mrs Brennen, Ms Costello and Ms Mills, it is very much appreciated. All the staff were fantastic at keeping in touch with the school every day and uploading films and pictures for X so we could keep our parents up to date with their adventures.

Catholic Education week 2024

Catholic Education week can be celebrated any time from the Feast of St Margaret of Scotland on the 16th of November until the feast of St Andrew on the 30th of November just before we begin the feast of Advent. This is a very special time of the year for the Catholic Community. It is also an important time for us all to reflect and pray for peace across the world and an end to suffering. We would like to invite our whole school community to send their private prayer intentions to the following link and these intentions will be prayed for during our Friday Prayer service. A link can be found [here](#) .

Please join us for prayers on Tuesday 26th November in the hall and Friday 29th November for our final Rosary in November as we remember all the souls of those who have passed.

Advent Preparations

From Monday 1st December we will have prayers in the hall every Monday and Thursday at 8.50am.

From Friday 6th December Fr Peter will celebrate Mass in the hall every week until the Christmas holidays at 8.30am. All are very welcome.

In addition, all classes will invite parents/carers over the Advent season to celebrate with them. More details will be sent out next week.

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It's time for the Pantomime (oh yes it is!!!) **Jack and the Beanstalk**



P1-3: Thursday 28th November

P4-7: Friday, 29th November

If you have not yet made initial payment of £5 and/or the final £2 contribution towards transport, please send this to school in an **envelope clearly marked with your child's name and class** by Wednesday at the latest.

At this stage, we are still waiting on 14% of Parents/Carers to make payment and complete the consent form.

If you have not yet done so, please complete [this form](#) to give consent for your child to travel by coach and visit Eastwood Theatre. All details about the trip are also on the form link. Many thanks to all who have volunteered to help. We have been in touch with all volunteers and apologise that we can't invite all Parents/Carers who have offered to help.

"Please follow the PTA on the [PTA on Facebook](#) page to find out about other fundraising endeavours. Our PTA meet monthly on the first Monday of every month in Café Voni on Old Castle Road. You can contact our PTA via the Facebook account noted above or via the PTA X (formally known as Twitter) @PTAStFillansPS".

Thank you to all who ordered class calendars and signed up for our Christmas Hamper initiative at Parents Night.

Please save the date: Saturday, 1st February when we have organised a Race Night (7.30pm – midnight) to help towards the cost of new literacy resources.

If you are keen to become involved in either the Parent Council or the PTA and/or have some ideas for community events then, please also make contact via the Parent Council X Account or the PTA Facebook Page.

Please save the date.



Meet Santa -- Bouncy Castle

Raffle Draw -- Candy Floss

A range of stalls selling arts, crafts & Christmas gifts

Hot and Cold Drinks with a variety of Cakes

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Celebrating Success Assembly

A further reminder that our next Celebrating Success assembly will take place on **Friday 6th December**. If you would like to share your child's wider achievement (outside school) please complete this [form](#) before it closes on Wednesday 4th December.

Maths and Muffins

Week 5 of the Maths programme with our families continues this week. A big thank you once all the P1-3 Parents/Carers/Grandparents who are continuing to engage in the Maths & Muffins Parents' Workshop on Monday afternoons. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for week 5. As always, the kettle will be on!

Friday Christmas Jumper Day/Donate to food bank/PTA Christmas discos

Our 'Christmas jumper/Come as You Please' day will start **Friday 6th December** where the children can wear a Christmas jumper or green or red coloured top each Friday in December if they wish. **There is no requirement to purchase a Christmas Jumper.** After the success of last year, we thought we would organise another Swap shop where you can donate any old Christmas jumpers that no longer fit that can be given to another child to save purchasing a new one. Please hand in to Mrs Hamilton or Mrs Gibb.

Every year we collect donations for a local foodbank. This year the PTA are arranging school discos for the children (More information to follow with details next week). There will be no cost for these discos but children will be asked to bring a donation for the foodbank. Any of the items listed [here](#) will be gratefully received by the local food bank. Any toiletries and/or socks will be ideal donations for homeless people in our city.

Social Media Update

Please remind your child of the importance of remaining safe and vigilant when using their devices. Please also ensure your child is on age-appropriate Social Media platforms and are accessing age-appropriate content. Please also remind them of the importance of sending appropriate messages when with their peers in group chats as there have been instances in the past of children experiencing messages of a hurtful kind that could be construed as bullying and could lead to police involvement should it require. Please see the reminder for the age restrictions for social media applications



Reporting your child's absence

The procedure for reporting your child's absence is via the absence line on 0141 471 3710 or 0141 287 0039 or [online](#). Please provide the details requested by the operator.

A pupil's sickness absence must be reported prior to 09.30 am on the day of the absence.

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Communicating with us

We use [a Microsoft Office forms system](#) to facilitate communication with the Leadership Team. This system is effective in that all the team can access the forms at any time, including out of the normal school hours, allowing us to address any issues that require a prompt response. If there is a matter that you wish to discuss, please use the link above.

Please appreciate that we will do our best to respond to you as soon as possible. Some messages will require a quicker response than others.

Fundraising

The 'CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS' initiative is continuing to grow. It is currently sitting at the phenomenal amount of **£948.13**. We are extremely grateful to all the families who have spread the word and to all those who have chosen our school to benefit from this.

We automatically receive £1 per registration on the 'Asda Rewards' App. All you need to do is select our school by typing in the Postcode G44 5AF. Thank you to all who have encouraged friends, family, neighbours etc to register. Please keep this up as there are still 15 days left to help increase our school 'Cashpot'. In addition, if you shop in Asda, 0.5% from your total spend will also come our way – and this will not affect your personal 'Cashpot'. Thank you!



The Giving Gate



Three years ago our PTA, as well as a number of our Parents and Grandparents, asked if they could support some of our families where children might otherwise go without at Christmas.

In conjunction with our PTA, we set up a 'Christmas Giving Gate' – an initiative that has made a huge difference to a number of our pupils.

How it works:

If you are in a position to do so, please help yourself to a tag/bauble from the Giving Gate. These will be hanging on our school gate from Monday morning.

Each one offers an insight into who is going to receive your gift, and as they're all pupils in our school, you'll be bringing joy to someone local.

Please do not wrap the gift. You may choose to include wrapping paper.

Once you've sorted their gift, pop it in a bag and take it back into the school office with the original tag, by the end of the school day on Friday 13th December.

We'll discreetly deliver the gifts the following week.

If you feel your family could benefit from 'The Giving Gate' please complete this [Form](#).

Many thanks to those have already handed in gifts. Your kindness is truly above and beyond! 😊

Have a lovely weekend,
Mr Brian Bourke,
Headteacher

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Dates for your diary

Please appreciate that dates and times may be subject to change. Additional dates will be added in subsequent newsletters.

Monday 18th-Friday 22nd Nov	P7 Residential to Ardentenny
Tuesday 19th November	P1 Height/weight checks – all consent forms should now be returned, thank you.
Saturday 23rd November	10am Annual Catholic Football League Mass in St Andrew's Cathedral for all A team/Development Team participants
Saturday 23rd November	Christmas Fayre 10-1pm
Monday 25th November	Catholic Education Week
Tuesday 26th November	6.30pm Parent Council
Thursday 28th November	Panto at Eastwood Theatre P1-3, 10am
Friday 29th November	Panto at Eastwood Theatre P4-7, 10am
Monday 2nd December	8.50am Advent Prayers in gym hall all invited
Monday 2nd December	No PTA Meeting due to Christmas Parties
Monday 2nd December	Christmas Parties P 1-2 6.15-7.15pm in school hall * Christmas Parties P6-7; 7.30-8.30pm in school hall *
Tuesday 3rd December	Christmas Parties P3-5 Evening time 6.30-7.30pm <i>*No ticket cost for the above. Children are asked, if possible, to bring along a donation for the local food bank.</i>
Wednesday 4th December pm	P4a and P4b Christmas Performance for Parents/Carers
Thursday 5th December	8.50am Advent Prayers in gym hall all invited
<i>Every Friday in December Christmas jumper day (with school uniform) if pupils wish to opt in.</i>	
Friday 6th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 6th December 8.30am	Community Mass in gym hall with Fr Peter all invited
Friday 6th December	Celebrating Success Assembly
Friday 6th December	Afternoon P5 Christmas Performance for Parents/Carers
Monday 9th December	1.30pm Nativity Dress rehearsal for the whole school
Tuesday 10th December	Morning P1 Nativity for Parents/Carers
Wednesday 11th December	Afternoon P1 Nativity for Parents/Carers
Thursday 12th December	Afternoon P6 and P7 Christmas Performance for Parents/Carers

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Friday 13th December	Afternoon P6 and P7 Christmas Performance for Parents/Carers
Friday 13th December	8.30am Community Advent Mass in gym with Fr Peter. All invited
Friday 13th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 16th December	8.50am Advent Prayers in gym hall. All invited.
Tuesday 17th December	Afternoon P2 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 18th December	Afternoon P3 and P3/2 Christmas Performance for Parents/Carers
Thursday 19th December	8.50am Advent Prayers in gym hall. All invited
Friday 20th December	9.30am Advent Service in school for children and staff
Friday 20th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 20th December	2.30pm Close for Christmas
Monday 6th January	Return to school
Friday 31st January	Celebrating Success Assembly
Thursday 6th February	P7 Confirmation; 7pm in Christ the King Church.
Monday 17th February	February Holiday
Tuesday 18th February	February Holiday
Wednesday 19th February	February Inservice Day
Friday 28th February	Celebrating Success Assembly
Wednesday 19th March	Parents' Night #1
Thursday 20th March	Parents' Night #2
Friday 28th March	Celebrating Success Assembly
Monday 31st March	Reconciliation for P3 pupils; 7pm Christ the King Parish Church
Friday 4th April	2.30pm Close for Easter
Tuesday 22nd April	Return to school
Saturday 26th April	10am and 12 noon Masses First Holy Communion for P4

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