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ST.FILLAN'S P.S.

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 10th January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to everyone across the school community. I hope you all had a restful break and are looking forward to a very exciting year in 2025.

I just want to express the school's gratitude, once again, for the generosity shown by everyone in the community before Christmas. There were unprecedented tokens of gratitude shown to individual staff and the donations sent in to allow us to continue the work of the Giving Gate and provide for the local foodbank. There was an overwhelming spirit of kindness during Advent that showed again the unique and special place the school has in the local community.

Thank you!!!

Calendar Update

Please find attached an updated calendar of events for the next couple of terms which I hope you find useful. Other events will be added as appropriate.

Car Park

We ask, once again, that Parents and Carers **please do not use the school car park at any time for dropping off/collecting children. This includes for children attending Breakfast Club and After School Care.**

Parents/Carers and children **must use either the front or back gate and pedestrian areas** when accessing the school grounds. No one should walk across the car park at any time. We have had a few 'near misses' and have concerns that failure to comply with these requests has the potential to result in an accident. The safety of our pupils must be an absolute priority for everyone in our school community.

Other City Building and Council Service staff drive through the main gate from 7am – 6pm; they will be unaware that some have been incorrectly using this gate as a pedestrian walkway.

The only exemption that applies regarding this is for blue badge holders. We kindly ask that you let us know if you need to use the car park.

Health and Safety Notice

I would like to remind everyone once again about the council's policy regarding dogs on school grounds. **It is not permitted to bring dogs inside the school grounds, even if they are carried.** Also, can I kindly ask that if Parents/Carers choose to bring their dogs near to the school when collecting or dropping off their child that they are kept away from the main school gates. This can be quite disruptive especially when children are being brought to school or when they are exiting the school grounds in the afternoon. There is quite a bottleneck at the gate particularly at the end of the day and children stopping to pat or interact with a dog may result in your pet being overwhelmed and someone being injured inadvertently by a frightened dog.

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Outdoor PE

Please ensure that, on outdoor PE days, children have appropriate clothing to keep them dry and warm. In addition, it is necessary to provide a change of clothes in your child's bag in the event of them getting wet due to a slip, trip, fall etc.. This applies for all pupils from P1-P7. We have a very limited supply of clothes in the school and would struggle to provide changes in clothing for children.

Health and safety

Please ensure that your child do not bring electronic smart watches of any kind to school. Several children have returned after Christmas with watches that can take pictures and/or record/film/facetime. These are not appropriate for use in school. In addition, we are not insured for any damages that may be incurred. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Parking in the school community

The school is still part of the Safer Streets Campaign. Now that the work has been completed for Scottish Water the traffic issues should be alleviated. This means that **NO TRAFFIC IS PERMITTED TO DRIVE ALONG CROMPTON AVENUE BETWEEN 8.30AM -9.15am and 2.45-3.30pm.**

Please note that parking restrictions continue to operate on Crompton Avenue. There are also parking restrictions on Kirkwell Road, at the back gate, which has been highlighted as being a significant issue by local residents. Please be considerate; do not park across our neighbours' driveways or cause traffic disruption on our streets.

I have asked that our partners at the Community Police can attend the school to assist with this. They have supported us with these concerns in the past through driver information sharing and issuing tickets to those who breach these restrictions.

St Fillan's Day

To celebrate our school patron, I am delighted to invite Fr Peter to celebrate Mass with us in the school on Friday 17th January at 11am.

Burns' Day Celebrations

On Friday 24th January we will have our annual assembly to celebrate Burns' Day. Over the next two weeks children will be preparing for this through learning some Burn's poetry, reading about the life and works of Robbie Burns as well as other aspects of Scottish Culture. Children can wear blue and white or tartan on this day (i.e. Non uniform/No Football colours).

Wider Achievement

On Friday 31st January we will be staging our next Celebrating Success Assembly. If you would like to nominate your child for recognition of their wider achievements since our last assembly in December then please complete this [form](#) by **Wednesday 29th January at 1pm.**

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Communicating with the school leadership team

Please remember that we continue to use the form system to facilitate communication. If you need to get in touch or if there is something that you wish to discuss please use the link [here](#) and the matter will be addressed as soon as possible. This form should not be used to report absences as this should be reported to the school office. Our school office closes at 4pm so there is no facility to forward calls to the Leadership Team work beyond this time. However, Mrs Hamilton, Mrs Gibb and myself work beyond this time, so the MS Forms system is the best way to make contact.

Finally, grateful thanks to past pupil, Matthew Gibb, who performed a surprise 'Mr. Bourke's Birthday Concert' for the whole school this afternoon. A fabulous way to finish off our first week of 2025.



Best wishes,

Mr Brian Bourke
Headteacher

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Some important dates for your diary. Please note these are subject to change and more dates will be added throughout the term.

Friday 17th January	Mass for St Fillan's
Friday 24th January	Burns' Day Celebrations (Children can wear blue white or tartan to school -dress down-no uniform)
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
Monday 5th May	May Day Holiday
Friday 16th May	Celebrating Success Assembly
Thursday 22nd May	Inservice
Friday 23rd May	Holiday
Monday 26th May	Holiday
Tuesday 10th June	Holyrood Day 1 Visit for P7
Wednesday 11th June	Holyrood Day 2 Visit for P7
Thursday 12th June	Holyrood Day 3 Visit for P7 Holyrood Information evening for parents of P7
Friday 13th June	Celebrating Success Assembly
Thursday 19th June	2pm P7 Graduation and Leavers Mass
Friday 20th June	Nursery Graduation
Wednesday 25th June	Close 1pm for Summer

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