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ST.FILLAN'S P.S.

Newsletter

Friday 29th November 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

At this week's Parent Council Meeting, the frequency of the newsletter distribution was discussed and whether we need to amend the frequency of the bulletin to fortnightly, monthly or termly. We are conscious that some editions recently have been quite lengthy but necessary due to the vital information contained. We are also conscious that many Parents/Carers are not reading the newsletter as was evidenced in the considerable number of parents being unaware of the link to the panto consent that was in the previous four editions.

Please click [this link](#) to the form for us to gather your views on how we issue our communication.

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.

PTA

Grateful thanks to our PTA for their hard work and effort ensuring that all classes had the opportunity to attend Jack and the Beanstalk at Eastwood Theatre this week. The pupils' feedback was of the highest quality.



The PTA also excelled themselves with another fabulous Christmas Fayre. Many hours were spent organising the event. Special thanks to Mr. Chris Peacock for his unstinting contributions. Thanks to all who attended and everyone who provided prizes. Monies raised covered much of the cost of the eight buses required for the panto trip.

PTA Christmas Parties

Monday 2nd Dec

P 1-2 6.15-7.15pm in school hall

P6-7 7.30-8.30pm in school hall

Tuesday 3rd Dec

P3-5 6.30-7.30pm

Our PTA have arranged school discos for all classes There is no cost for these discos; children are 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.

Parents/Carers of P1 and P2 are asked to collect their children under the infant shelter at 7.15pm.

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Celebrating Success

Our next Celebrating Success assembly will take place on **Thursday 5th 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.

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.

P1 Nativity and P2-7 Christmas Performances

Our Primary 1 pupils are busy rehearsing for the big performances on **Tuesday, 10th December at 9.45am** and **Wednesday 11th December at 2.15pm.**

Tickets are now on sale directly from our school office at £1 per ticket. To ensure everyone has a fair opportunity to see their child perform, each P1 pupil can have up to 3 guests on each day. This allocation will be kept until Thursday, 5th December. From Friday 6th December, tickets will then be available to buy on a first-come, first-served basis.

You may choose to buy tickets directly from our office or send money in an envelope marked with your child's name and the performance day requested.

Times for the P2-P7 Christmas performances are noted below. No tickets will be sold for these dates; however, we ask that you complete [this link](#) to indicate if you plan to attend. This will provide valuable information which will help with catering and seating arrangements. Should you wish to make a contribution, a donation bucket will be available at the school entrance.

**** Something different - Our Eco committee have been discussing paper waste and recycling. They have come up with a very clever suggestion...**

Could you please bring along your own mug/flask when you visit for any of the Christmas performance? We like to provide refreshments, but we use a large amount of disposable cups and agree with the commit that we could aim to reduce this if everyone provides their own cup. Thank you. **

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.

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Thank you



Our back garden is looking so much better thanks to the mum of Dylan in P2A, and her fabulous work colleagues, who very generously gave of their time – on one of the coldest days of the year - to paint and cut back overhanging branches. Thanks once again to the McHugh who kindly offered to cover the cost of paints used.

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 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, 2pm
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	P5 Christmas Performance for Parents/Carers at 2pm
Monday 9th December	1.30pm Nativity Dress rehearsal for the whole school
Tuesday 10th December	P1 Nativity for Parents/Carers
Wednesday 11th December	Afternoon P1 Nativity for Parents/Carers
Thursday 12th December	P6 and P7 Christmas Performance for Parents/Carers at 2pm
Friday 13th December	P6 and P7 Christmas Performance for Parents/Carers at 2pm
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	P2 Christmas Performance at 2.15pm
<u>Wednesday 18th December</u>	<u>P3 and P3/2 Christmas Performance for Parents/Carers 2.30pm</u>
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

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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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