



St. Fillan's Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

2nd October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your families enjoyed the long weekend and were able to make the most of the beautiful weather we had. Thank you for your continued support and understanding with adhering to the measures we have in place to keep everyone safe. Please be reassured that we are doing everything we can to work with your children to keep them safe, happy and nurtured while learning during these very different times.

Upcoming holiday dates for your diary

Please remember that next week is the start of the October week holiday: School is closed to pupils on Friday the 9th October (Staff In- service Day). The October holiday will be from Monday 12th-Friday 16th October. Pupils return to school on Monday 19th October.

First Holy Communion

A group of our P5 pupils will celebrate their First Holy Communion next Thursday, 8th October at 7pm in Christ the King Parish. Another group of children will celebrate the Sacrament of First Communion on the 29th October also in Christ the King. Others have made their own arrangements within their own parishes. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions on numbers allowed within churches, there will not be enough room for staff members or parishioners to attend. However, these children are in all of our prayers as they prepare for the Sacrament. Please keep them all in your prayers too.

School Uniform

As you know, we have reviewed our uniform policy and have decided that after the October holiday, pupils from Primary 3 upwards can begin to wear their school tie again. Please work with your child to ensure they can put their tie on and take it off independently.

We will ask all children to take their indoor shoes home before the October break. Please check to see if they still fit your child's feet and are in good condition and if so return them after the holiday or replace as required. Thanks for your understanding with this.

Please ensure as we enter the winter months that all children have a warm weatherproof coat with them every day and a change of clothes in school with them. Please also ensure

that all items of clothes are labelled with your child's name as it allows children to be reunited with misplaced items.

Google Classroom

All classes are now set up for Google Classroom and homework will now be set via this platform for all stages from Monday onwards. Google Classroom **must** be accessed via the Google classroom tile on the Glow Launch Pad (and not by searching online for Google Classroom). Please ensure that your child is accessing Google Classroom and completing the homework set. Please also remember that Glow passwords are the same as Sumdog passwords. If your child has lost their log in details please ask them to inform their class teachers as soon as possible.

It is great to see children have engaged in the homework tasks and that they are well supported at home as we adapt to a new way of sharing our home learning.

Please remember that Google Classroom or pupils' Glow email are not platforms to communicate directly with your child's class teacher or to send messages to them. Google Classroom is only for use for matters pertaining to shared home learning. Please see below for guidance on how to communicate with the school should you wish something urgent to be addressed.

Community Neighbours

Please speak to your child about being a good neighbour. We have had complaints from Cathcart Old Parish Church that some children have walked through the gardens/ stepped through the flowerbeds on the way to the café after school or while walking home through the church grounds. Some of the flowers and planted trees are dedicated to loved ones who have passed away so have a lot of sentimental value to families. We want to continue the good relationships we have with the church and the café and it is important that the children show respect at all times. While pupils are wearing our St Fillan's uniform they are representing our school. Thank you for supporting us with this matter.

Mobile Phones

Thank you to you and the children for heeding our rules regarding not using mobile phones within the school grounds. We understand that some families require their child to use a phone for communication with parents/carers after school. We insist that if your child brings a phone to school they **MUST** switch it off before entering the school grounds and not switch on again until they have left the school grounds. Any pupil not adhering to this will have contact made by myself or Mrs Hamilton to their parent to tell them not to bring a mobile phone with them to school any longer. To ensure the safety and protection of all of our pupils we take any misconduct with mobile phones extremely seriously. If any child is

found taking photos or video footage of other pupils this will be considered a serious offence and appropriate action will be taken. The school accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage to devices while they are on school premises.

Internet Safety

Our Internet Safety lessons ensure children are informed about accessing online content safely and support them to use age-appropriate websites. Please be aware of the age restrictions on certain apps such as Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, Tik Tok etc. This site may prove useful to you as a point of reference: <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

Please also speak to your child about the appropriate use of phones/devices and the content they are posting/viewing on social media. Please discuss any group chats they may be part of and ensure they understand that the content they are share or access is appropriate. We always remind our children that once something is posted it is out there forever - even if they delete it others may have a screenshot or saved their post.

Football news

Plans are in place to resume the B team training after the October holiday. Due to Covid restrictions, it is essential that you register your child. A link will be sent early next week. The coaches need contact details and need to know how many children plan to attend.

We send our best wishes to the A Team who play their first game of the season tomorrow morning.

School Car Free Zone

The proposed SCFZ preparations have continued over the few weeks with a survey of driving habits around the school as well as an assessment of the best positions for the proposed new signage that will be installed at the entrance to Crompton Avenue. Please be mindful of safety at the back gate of the school on Kirkwell Road and keep the areas clear of traffic.

Once again I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support in our attempts to keep our roads around the school as safe as possible. We will continue to encourage as many of our children to walk to school where possible thereby both reducing the numbers of cars on the streets as well as encouraging healthy habits such as walking, cycling or taking their scooters. If your child travels to school on a bike/scooter, he/she should wear a cycling helmet.

Microsoft Office Forms System

Thank you for continuing to use our Forms system to facilitate communication rather than contacting through email or phone calls. If there is a matter of urgency that you wish to discuss please use [this link](#) and the matter will be addressed as soon as possible.

You may not always receive a direct response from the SLT if your query has already been answered through either a previous communication or could be answered by your child. We will continue to keep you informed and updated on any significant changes through our usual communication channels. This system is working very effectively so thank you for all your continued support.

I hope that you and your families have a peaceful weekend and look forward to the last week of Term 1.

Kind regards,

Mr Brian Bourke

Headteacher