

Dear Parent and Carers,

After an unusual end to last week, I hope all of our families were safe and well following the storm which grasped Glasgow. I'd like to thank our staff and our families for all of the flexibility shown last week to provide and participate in activities through SEESAW.

Over the coming weeks, we have a variety of parent events ahead of us. I have highlighted some of these in the body of this newsletter however, for a comprehensive list of dates please refer to the key dates at the end of this newsletter.

On Tuesday, we had a worthwhile and productive Parent Council Meeting where class representatives discussed the planned decant of Milngavie Primary School to our school. Minutes of this meeting are now available on the school website.

This week, I am delighted to see improvements in school uniform. This was discussed at our Junior Management Team meeting. The children will be speaking at a forthcoming assembly about this and raising awareness of the importance of our school uniform.

With this in mind, I'd like to gently remind everyone that uniform should be worn at all times. This consists of a green St. Nicholas sweater/cardigan, white shirt/ polo, grey trousers/skirt. Unbranded items are sufficient.

On gym days, children can come to school in their PE kit, however, this should consist of a St. Nicholas school sweater or unbranded equivalent.

For any families requiring items of pre-loved school uniform, please contact the school office.

If you have any questions about ongoing events, please contact the school office on 0141 955 2222 or office@st-nicholas.e-dunbarton.sch.uk.

Kind regards,

Martyn Glancy

Head Teacher

P5(2) Reading Café

We are delighted to invite our P5(2) parents to their Reading Café on Tuesday 4th February at 2.15pm. We look forward to seeing you then.

Internet Safety/ Social Media Safety Presentation – Wednesday 5th February at 2.15pm

On Wednesday, PC Gary Toner will be leading a parent session focused on internet safety/ social media safety. Internet safety/ social media safety is an area which is highly challenging for many adults as apps change all the time. This session will help to ensure you, as parents, are able to keep your child safe in an online world which is evolving daily.

Please sign up for the session using the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/e/3uaLYsrAa>

Our vision – to inspire a community of Faith and Learning built on our Gospel values to enable everyone to reach their God-given potential.

I would urge as many parents as possible to join us.

First Communion Parent Information Evening – 6th February 2025

We are delighted to welcome parents to the school for an information evening about the preparation for the preparation for First Holy Communion for our Primary 4 pupils. Both parish priests and school staff will be on hand to take you through the process.

This session will begin at 6.30pm. Come along and enjoy a cup of tea/coffee too!

Primary 7(2) Assembly

Primary 7(2) will host their assembly on Friday 7th February at 2.15pm. All parents and grandparents are welcome to join us for this event.

Forthcoming Temporary Changes at St. Nicholas' Primary

From August 2025, St Nicholas' Primary School will temporarily welcome Primary 1- Primary 3 pupils from Milngavie Primary School.

Over the coming months, our school will work with Milngavie Primary School, East Dunbartonshire Council and the Archdiocese of Glasgow to ensure that St. Nicholas' Primary School will continue to deliver excellent faith and learning experiences in the next academic session.

Primary 7 Leavers Mass – change of date!

Please note the provisional change of date for the Primary 7 Leavers Mass. This is now provisionally planned for Thursday 19th June. The date and time will be confirmed in due course.

Attendance

Research shows that attendance at school is essential to ensuring children achieve their potential. Attendance below 90% can have a detrimental impact on pupil progress. Over the coming weeks, the school will be reviewing attendance and looking to support families where this is identified as being low. Our aim is to work with families, where this is the case, to improve attendance.

Free School Meals and Free Clothing Grant

We recognise that circumstances can change very quickly for families. You can check if you are entitled to free school meals and free clothing grant by clicking on this link.

<https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-learning/grants/school-clothing-grant>

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Where your child receives free lunches as part of the Scottish Government's scheme for Primary 1 – Primary 5 children, and you still meet the criteria for Free School Meals/ Clothing Grant, I would urge you to apply if you have not already done so.

Please contact me at the school if you have any questions about this.

Key Dates

January and February 2025

Date	Event
Tuesday 4 th February at 2.15pm	P5.2 Reading Café
Thursday 6 th February at 6.30pm	First Communion Parent Meeting with Fr. Michael and Fr. John.
Friday 7 th February at 9.30am	First Friday Mass with P7 at St. Joseph's
Friday 7 th February at 2.15pm	P7.2 Assembly
Thursday 13 th February at 2.15pm	P7.1 Reading Café
Friday 14 th February at 2.15pm	P6.1 Assembly
Monday 17 th – Wednesday 19 th February	School closed to pupils for the February weekend
Friday 28 th February	Achievement Assembly
Thursday 27 th February	P7 Bikeability Sessions for 4 weeks (every Thursday)
Saturday 1 st March	PTA Family Bingo Night
Wednesday 5 th March	Ash Wednesday Mass
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day (details to follow)
Friday 7 th March	P5 leading First Friday Mass at St. Andrew's