

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

Dear Parent and Carers,

I would like to thank our PTA for a wonderful evening on Saturday night raising a total of £550 for school funds. Over the coming months, I will be working with the PTA to discuss the best use of these funds and will confirm in due course how this money has been spent. We are grateful for the generosity of those who were able to contribute.

As we begin this Lenten period of reflection, we have a variety of activities and initiatives that are ongoing in our school. These are listed below. We appreciate any support our families are able to give to these initiatives.

Finally, we have begun the process of preparing the children for the decant of Milngavie Primary School (P1-P3) to our school. Each class has completed a sheet to share what they are looking forward to, any worries they may have and how we can best welcome Milngavie Primary in to our school community.

East Dunbartonshire Council has now produced a Frequently Asked Questions document regarding the forthcoming decant. This can be accessed on our school website (<http://www.st-nicholas.e-dunbarton.sch.uk/news/milngavie-primary-school-decant-faqs/>).

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

Mini Vinnies Lenten Foodbank Appeal

Our Mini Vinnies leadership group has met over the last few weeks and decided to lead a whole school drive to support our local foodbank. Foodbanks are now an essential support for families for a variety of reasons. A list of accepted items can be found at <https://www.drumchapelfoodbank.com/donate-food> . As a general rule, non-perishable items are preferable.

Our Foodbank collection will take place throughout Lent. Children bringing items for this appeal should give these items to their class teacher.

Stations of the Cross – beginning Friday 7th March 2025

Due to the numbers of children wishing to participate in Stations of the Cross, we have moved this opportunity for prayer and reflection to 11.55am-12.10pm on Friday.

Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday during Lent. These are now displayed around our gym hall.

I would encourage you to discuss this opportunity for prayer and reflection with your child at this important time of year.

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Lent – The Wee Box

During Lent, we will raise money for SCIAF through the Wee Box scheme. Each class will have a Wee Box should any family have loose change/pennies that they would like to donate to this worthy cause. Please send any pennies into school with your child.

Beat Buddies – Primary 4 Performance

Our Primary 4 children have been working with Graeme Barclay of Beat Buddies to learn about rhythm in engaging music lessons. They are currently working hard to perfect routine which they will perform to our school. This performance will take place on Friday 28th March at 9.30am. It is scheduled to last for approximately 45 minutes. Our P4 parents are welcome to join us for this event.

We look forward to seeing you there.

God's Loving Plan – Health Lessons

Over this term and next term, classes will be learning from our health curriculum – God's Loving Plan. To ensure you can support your child, I would ask that you click on the link to information about this resource: <http://www.st-nicholas.e-dunbarton.sch.uk/media/14248/gods-loving-plan-vocabulary-guide.pdf>

This link provides an overview of the content of the lessons and key vocabulary that will be used as part of the learning.

Parents Evening

This term, Parents Evening will take place on Tuesday 1st April at 5pm – 7.30pm and Thursday 3rd April at 3.15pm – 5.45pm. Appointment booking system is now live till Wednesday 12th March by clicking on the link:

<https://parents-booking.co.uk/stnicholas>

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

March and April 2025

Date	Event
Friday 14 th March	P5.1 Class Assembly at 2.15pm
Monday 17 th March	Foodbank drive starts
Monday 17 th March	Lenten Confessions with Fr. Michael
Tuesday 18 th March	Lenten Confessions with Fr. John
Wednesday 19 th March	P4-P7 at St. Joseph's to celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph
Wednesday 19 th March	Final Bikeability Session P7(1)
Thursday 20 th March	Final Bikeability Session P7(2)
Friday 21 st March	P4 Assembly at 2.15pm
Monday 24 th March	Lenten Confessions with Fr. Michael
Tuesday 25 th March	Lenten Confessions with Fr. John
Tuesday 25 th March	Parent Council Meeting at Bearsden Academy (6.30pm-8pm)
Wednesday 26 th March	P4 at the Science Centre
Friday 28 th March	P4 Beat Buddies Assembly at 9.30am
Saturday 29 th March	First Confessions at St. Andrew's at 10am-11am
Tuesday 1 st April	Parents Evening 5pm-7.30pm
Thursday 3 rd April	Parents Evening 3.15pm – 5.45pm
Friday 30 th May	Sports Day P5-7 at 9.30am-11am P1-P4 at 1.30pm – 2.45pm