

*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,

Due to the busy nature of the remainder of this term, many of the items from the newsletter last week remain in this newsletter.

I'd also like to gently remind all families that information about the forthcoming decant of Milngavie Primary into our school building can be found on our website. East Dunbartonshire Council has 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](mailto:office@st-nicholas.e-dunbarton.sch.uk).

Kind regards,

Martyn Glancy

**Head Teacher**

### ***First Confession – Primary 3***

It has been confirmed that Fr. John will lead First Confessions at St. Joseph's Parish Church on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 4.30pm.

St. Andrew's Parish Church will host their First Confession on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March from 10am-11am. This is a drop-in session.

### ***Neurodiversity Celebration Week – 17<sup>th</sup> March to 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025***

Next week is Neurodiversity Awareness week. Neurodiversity is a term which covers needs including autism, ADHD, dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia.

We will be hosting an assembly on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March to recognise the strengths of our children with learning differences. Some of our children have asked to share what being neurodivergent means to them and how we as a community can understand and support all children.

Mrs Murray has been supporting the children to prepare for this opportunity.

More information about neurodiversity can be found by clicking on this link:

<https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/>

### ***Coffee Morning - Sunday 16th March***

Please come along and join St. Andrew's Parish after 10am Mass in the upper hall. This month we are raising funds for Fr Mathew Parumoottil's parish school in India. He runs the school to improve the children's employment prospects and, in India, every penny counts for them.

Many thanks to all who came along and helped us to raise £328 for St Margaret's Hospice at February's coffee morning.

### ***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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

### ***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>

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

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**

Parents Evening will take place on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 5pm – 7.30pm and Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 3.15pm – 5.45pm.

### **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>

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**

Date	Event
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	P5.1 Class Assembly at 2.15pm
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Foodbank drive all week
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Lenten Confessions with Fr. Michael
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Lenten Confessions with Fr. John
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	P4-P7 at St. Joseph's to celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Final Bikeability Session P7(1)
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Final Bikeability Session P7(2)
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	P4 Assembly at 2.15pm
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Lenten Confessions with Fr. Michael
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Lenten Confessions with Fr. John
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Council Meeting at Bearsden Academy (6.30pm-8pm)

*Respect*

*Honesty*

*Forgiveness*

*Achieving*

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

Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	P4 at the Science Centre
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	P4 Beat Buddies Assembly at 9.30am
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	First Confessions at St. Andrew's (10am-11am) First Confessions at St. Joseph's (from 4.30pm)
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Parents Evening 5pm-7.30pm
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Parents Evening 3.15pm – 5.45pm
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	School closes at 2.30pm
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Sports Day P5-7 at 9.30am-11am P1-P4 at 1.30pm – 2.45pm