

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,

It has been a busy, yet unusual week as we welcomed the children back to school on Tuesday following the news of the passing of Pope Francis. This is a huge event as our community comes together to mourn the Pope, and pray for the conclave as they deliberate on the next leader of our Church.

In school, we have held a prayer service to reflect on the events this week and remember Pope Francis. Our prayers in school have also been directed to Pope Francis. Next week, we will direct our prayers towards the Cardinals who have the responsibility for leading the Conclave to elect our next Pope.

I would ask you to keep Pope Francis and the Cardinals in your prayers. I have provided a prayer at the end of this newsletter to support you to participate in prayer with your children.

In the coming week, our Primary 7 children will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please keep our children, and their families in your prayers at this time.

Finally, this term is a very busy one and is punctuated with Inservice days and Bank Holidays. Details of these days can be found in this newsletter which will be updated weekly.

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

Praying as a Family

Prayers for Pope Francis:

In the coming days we remember Pope Francis in our prayers. We can do this by praying an Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be or by praying a decade of the rosary as well as praying the traditional Eternal Rest prayer.

*O God, who in your wondrous providence
chose your servant Pope Francis to preside over your Church,
grant, we pray, that, having served as the Vicar of your Son on earth,
he may be welcomed by him into eternal glory.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Lifelink Online Safety Session – Wednesday 7th May

Internet Safety is something that adults can find challenging due to the fast pace of change around social media and wider technology.

We have a parent information session on Wednesday 7th May at 6pm. I would urge all families to attend.

So far, we have 58 families and around 100 adults who have indicated that they plan to attend. This is an excellent response, thank you!

Please complete this form if you wish to attend.

<https://forms.office.com/e/xR4w7EfBRu>

I have attached some links that may be of further use to support you in understanding and supporting your child should they be accessing the internet or social media.

- NSPCC Staying Safe Online
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
- UK Safer Internet Centre
<https://saferinternet.org.uk/>
- Report Harmful Content
<https://reportharmfulcontent.com/child/>
- Snapchat Safety Centre
[Support.snapchat.com](https://support.snapchat.com)

Lent – The Wee Box

Thank you for all contributions to the Wee Box during Lent. This year, we have managed to raise £291.25 for SCIAF.

We also received a substantial number of items for the foodbank following an appeal from our Minnie Vinnie's leadership group. These items will be donated to the Drumchapel Foodbank.

Thank you for your contributions and generosity.

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.

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

Date	Event
Tuesday 29 th April – 6.30pm	Confirmations at St Andrew's
Friday 2 nd May	First Friday Mass with Primary 6 at St. Joseph's
Monday 5 th May	School closed
Tuesday 6 th May	School closed to pupils – INSERVICE DAY
Wednesday 7 th May	Online Safety Session for Parents 6pm-7pm
Thursday 8 th May	Careers Morning
Friday 9 th May	P3 Assembly at 2.15pm
Friday 16 th May	P1/2 Assembly at 2.15pm
Sunday 11 th May at 12pm	First Holy Communion at St. Andrew's
Sunday 18 th May at 11.30am	First Holy Communion at St. Joseph's
Thursday 29 th May at 1.30pm	Ascension Thursday Mass at St. Nicholas' with P2 Parents
Friday 30 th May	Sports Day P5-7 at 9.30am-11am P1-P4 at 1.30pm – 2.45pm
Friday 6 th June	P1 Assembly at 2.15pm
Thursday 19 th June – time TBC	P7 Leavers Mass