

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

Dear Parent and Carers,

I would like to welcome you back to school after a long, warm, summer break. Hopefully, you had a lovely and restful time making memories with friends and family.

Our return to school coincided with the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady. This celebration and the opportunity to worship together provided a lovely spiritual focus as our community reunited after the holidays.

This week, the newsletter provides important information for all families. Over the coming weeks, I will provide a breakdown of key dates for each year group. I appreciate your patience as we collate this information.

Finally, we have welcomed the pupils and staff from Milngavie Primary to our building. This transition has gone smoothly so far with all pupils engaging well. We will continue to communicate with the Milngavie team regularly to ensure that all children continue to benefit from this temporary arrangement.

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

As we return to school, may I take this opportunity to remind you of our prayer to St. Nicholas. We begin with this prayer at school assemblies and events as we reflect and seek guidance and strength from the example of St. Nicholas.

Loving God,
thank you for St Nicholas
who shows us a good way to live.
He fed the hungry,
freed the imprisoned,
cared for those in need
and told people about Jesus.

Make us brave, loving and strong,
so that like St Nicholas,
we may love and serve you
as we help those in need,

Respect

Honesty

Forgiveness

Achieving

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through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

PE Days

Please note that children with earrings in will be unable to participate in PE lessons. Children are required to remove their earrings independently. For further information about this, please see the school handbook on the school website (<http://www.st-nicholas.e-dunbarton.sch.uk/school-info/handbook/>) .

On PE days, children can come to school with their PE kit on. This should consist of school sweatshirt or cardigan (green), white polo shirt and jogging bottoms, shorts or leggings. Pupils will have one indoor session and one outdoor session each week.

The table below provides information of PE days.

Class	PE Days
P1(1)	Tuesday and Wednesday
P1(2)	Tuesday and Wednesday
P2	Monday and Thursday
P3	Tuesday and Friday
P3/4	Thursday and Friday
P4/5	Wednesday and Thursday
P5	Wednesday and Thursday
P6(1)	Tuesday and Wednesday
P6(2)	Monday and Thursday
P7(1)	Tuesday and Wednesday
P7(2)	Monday and Wednesday

P1 Photograph – Evening Times

On Monday 25th August, the Evening Times will visit the school to take a photograph of our new Primary 1 children. This will be a whole class photo. I would politely request that children attend school in full school uniform where possible.

We will keep you updated with information about when the photograph will be published to enable you to get your own copy!

Meet the Teacher Session – Tuesday 2nd September at 3.15pm – 4.15pm

Parents are invited in to the school to see your child's classroom and some of the resources your child will be using. You will be able to meet your child's teacher at this session. Please note, teachers will **not** be sharing pupil progress at this session.

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P1 Welcome Mass

As a community, we will celebrate and welcome our new Primary 1 children to St. Nicholas' Primary on Thursday 11th September at 1.30pm. Primary 1 parents are invited to join us for this Mass.

We look forward to seeing you there.

P7 Parent Confirmation Meeting – Wednesday 17th September

As the Primary 7 pupils prepare to make their Confirmation this year, we have been informed that they will receive this Sacrament on Thursday 4th December at St. Andrew's Parish Church.

A meeting, regarding this, will take place on Wednesday 17th September at 6pm in our school hall.

P7 Lockerbie Information Session

On Monday 8th September at 6pm, we will host an information evening about the forthcoming Lockerbie Outdoor Education trip. Parents and children are welcome!

Pope Francis Faith Awards Service for Primary 6

All Primary 6 pupils will be enrolled in the Pope Francis Faith Awards as part of their curriculum. This award enables children to act out our school values – the gospel values – at home, school and/or in the parish community.

We are currently planning a short service as our Primary 6 Pope Francis Faith Award Candidates embark on this journey. We will inform all parents in due course of the arrangements for this service.

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. Our school reviews attendance regularly as we seek to support families where this is identified as being low or there is regular latecoming.

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.

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

Coffee Morning - Sunday 24th August at St. Andrew's Parish Church

On Sunday 24th August, St. Andrew's Parish will be hosting their next coffee morning in the Upper Hall. This month they are raising funds for Caritas International, which is a confederation working in almost every country in the world, reaching out to the poor, vulnerable and excluded, regardless of race or religion, to build a world based on justice and fraternal love.

St. Andrew's Parish is looking for volunteers! Sign-up Sunday – 4 & 5 October!

St. Andrew's Parish has scheduled a Sign-up Sunday in their Upper Hall to encourage more volunteers across Parish Ministries — especially for the Youth Team and Children's Liturgy. These are vital ministries, and they are hopeful this event will help to sustain them.

The event will take place after each Mass on the 4th (6.45pm) and 5th (10.45am) of October. If interested, please pop in to the hall and the various groups will be available to chat with potential volunteers.

Key Dates

Date/ Time	Event
Tuesday 2 nd September at 3.15-4.15pm	Parent Curriculum Session
Thursday 4 th September at 1.45pm	P1 Parent Numeracy Session
Monday 8 th September at 6pm	P7 Lockerbie Information Evening
Thursday 11 th September at 1.30pm	P1 Welcome Mass
Wednesday 17 th September at 6pm	P7 Confirmation Meeting
Tuesday 23 rd September at 6.30pm	Parent Council AGM
Friday 26 th September	School Closed
Monday 29 th September	School Closed