

Dear Parent and Carers,

As pupils and staff begin to settle into their new routines at the beginning of our first term, I would like to thank you for ensuring the children are dressed in school uniform. Our pupils are looking very smart and ready to learn.

If you require more items of uniform, please contact the school office as we have some pre-loved items that we would like to find a new home. A table of pre-loved items will be available on the bottom floor, along from Mrs Murray's office. Please help yourself!

Many of the items from the newsletter last week remain this week as they highlight forthcoming key dates.

Look out for our new Primary 1s in the Evening Times after they had their photograph taken by the paper last week. It was clear that all the smiling the children practiced on their first day came in useful as the photographer was greeted with huge smiling faces!

I was delighted to hear that the coffee morning at St. Andrew's on Sunday raised £190. This sum will be donated to Caritas. Hopefully, the cakes and coffee were enjoyed by all who were able to attend.

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

Did you say our prayer to St. Nicholas last week? As our school prayer we encourage all staff and pupils to know this prayer, reflect and seek guidance and strength in the presence 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,

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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,
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 (green), white polo shirt and jogging bottoms. Pupils will have one indoor session and one outdoor session each week.

The table below provides information of PE days. I have highlighted the classes where the days are different from the days communicated last week. Please accept my apologies for the confusion with this matter.

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

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.

The meeting 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>

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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.

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