

Successful Learners ✨

Confident Individuals ✨



Responsible Citizens ✨

Effective Contributors ✨

St. John the Baptist Primary School

January & February 2018

Newsletter

Please keep this newsletter in a safe place as it contains vital information regarding the school and remember that information is also available on our website:

www.stjohnthebaptistprimary.org.uk

Twitter: @stjohnthebapps



Parent Council

The next meeting of the Parent Council will be Tuesday 13th March at 7pm.



Parent Council Ceilidh

Our popular Family Ceilidh takes place on Friday 2nd March in the Church Hall. We are looking forward to dancing the night away and seeing our children perform their Scottish songs. Thank you to Mr Joe Tinney, Chairperson of the Parent Council, for organising the Ceilidh and also his Ceilidh Band playing at no cost.



School Gym Shoes

As we are almost three quarters of the way through the school year some of the gym shoes the children are wearing are getting past their best. On Friday 2nd March we will send the children home with their gym shoes so that you can make a judgement as to whether or not your child needs these renewed. We would appreciate if children could return their gym shoes to school as quickly as possible.



Catholic Education Week

Senior school staff and Primary 7 represented the school at Catholic Education Sunday on 4th February. Staff read out a letter giving a wide variety of examples of how our school contributes to the parish and local community. Thank you to our Pope Francis Faith Award candidates from Primary 7 who represented the school on the day. They were SHINING!



Late Coming

I would like to appeal to the parents and carers of the families who are consistently late in the morning to please set your alarm clocks earlier. Whilst I am aware that there may be the odd occasion when people are late, this appeal is for parents and carers whose children come to school late on a

regular basis. Children are unsettled and miss out on valuable teaching time if they consistently arrive after 9am. First thing in the morning is the time when the infants complete a lot of oral work and also when the seniors have mental maths. I have asked the teaching and office staff to be vigilant in marking your child as "late" on class registers. This means that in your annual SEEMiS Attendance Printout you will see how often your child has been late. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.



Primary 1-3 Bookbug Bag Launch

As part of the Scottish Government's Read, Write and Count campaign every pupil in Primary 1, 2 and 3 in Scotland received a Bookbug Bag with books and fantastic activities and resources to help children enjoy reading, writing and counting at home. We will launch this exciting initiative on Thursday 1st March. Parents and Carers are encouraged to attend to support their children with their learning at home.



School Allotment

We are delighted to announce that we have managed to secure a small garden allotment for the nursery and school. This leads on from our Eco Flag Award and we are looking forward to having our pupils grow their own produce which we can sell to parents and the local community to raise more funds for our Eco work. Thank you to Mrs Kathleen Paul (Grandmother of Theo) for all her hard work with this exciting initiative.



Credit Union

Due to popular demand we are re-opening the Credit Union. Applications have been submitted to Primary 6 who will be interviewed, for the variety of positions necessary, on Tuesday 27th February at 11am. The Credit Union will run on a weekly basis every Wednesday morning.



Online Safety Reminder

Once again I would encourage all parents to constantly monitor their children's use of the internet. I would also respectfully remind parents that

Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat all have a minimum age of 13 years. This is because children under the age of 13 are not emotionally mature enough to deal with information and incidents linked to these websites. In the past there have been issues in school with senior pupils using these websites and posting either hurtful or inappropriate comments which then spill into school and damage relationships. Inappropriate and unsupervised use of the internet can lead to cyberbullying, grooming, losing control over photographs and videos as well as increased risk of hacking and viruses. I would urge all parents and carers to visit the following website for further information:

<http://ceop.police.uk/>



Nursery Enrolment for Session 2018/2019

Parents who wish to enrol their child for our nursery class should do so as soon as possible. The closing date for applications is 30th April. Any parent who wishes to apply for a nursery place for their child should contact the school office to make an appointment with Mrs McNulty. Should you require any further information about this or any other matters regarding the nursery, please do not hesitate to contact the school.



Onesie Day

The recent Onesie Day organised by the Pupil Council raised £230 for Water Aid. Thank you for your contributions!



World of Work Week

Week beginning Monday 22nd January was a very busy week for all the pupils in St. John the Baptist Primary. We had a huge array of professionals visiting the school and sharing their experiences with pupils. One of the most successful events was our Careers Fair which was held on the Thursday afternoon. A range of professionals were based in the school Gym Hall and senior classes were given the opportunity to rotate round these people and ask their own questions. Mrs Summers is currently in the process of judging the homework competition and the winners will be announced soon.

Thank you to all the adults who contributed.



The Burns Factor

Friday 26th January was our annual Burns Factor when we celebrated the work of Robert Burns. The whole school was entertained by the class winners from our Burns Competition. We were very lucky to have secured some special guests in the form of Olivia Bruce as Nicole Scherzinger and Sean Johnstone as Louis Walsh, Eva Heenan as Sharon Osbourne and Evan Anderson as Simon Cowell. After great deliberation the overall winner was Megan Robinson who performed "Bonnie Wee Jeanie McColl".

Megan, Pearse, Elsa & Maria represented the school at the Uddingston Music Festival.

The class winners who performed on the day are as follows:

Room 1 ~ P1	Ye canny shove yer Granny aff the bus	Robert, Holly, Caolan, Emilia, Kayden, Sophia & David
Room 2 ~ P1	3 craws	Orfhlaith, Finley, Rose & Mickey
Room 3 ~ P2	The sair finger	Caleb, Elliot, Ethan, Suzy, Carys, Ava & Sophia
Room 4 ~ P2/3	A man's a man for a' that	Keira & Zachary
Room 5 ~ P3	Ma maw's a millionaire	Kai, Nicholas, Aidan, Leo, Caitlin & Amy
Room 6 ~ P3/4	Mister Mank	Orla, Christie, Tino, Sam, Joshua, Zak & Joseph
Room 7 ~ P4	Bonnie wee Jeanie McColl	Olivia, Libby & Megan
Room 8 ~ P4/5	The comin o' the wee malkies	Rosa, Morrin, Abigail, Abbie & Katerina
Room 9 ~ P5	Ally bally bee	Molly, Sophie, Beth, Robyn, Patrick, Myles, Daniel & Aiden
Room 10 ~ P5/6	The red yo yo song	Andrew, Clara, Mark, Reuben, Maya, Shay & Leah
Room 11 ~ P6	Auld lang syne	Mark, Elsa & Maria
Room 12 ~ P6/7	Scunnert wi' school	Jonathan & Pearse
Room 13 ~ P7	3 craws	Madison & Roslyn



Primary 7 Confirmation

Bishop Toal celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation with our Primary 7 pupils on Monday 5th February. The children participated in the mass and sang beautifully. Our thanks go to Mrs Colgan, Mr Combe and Mr Dickson who prepared the children and Mrs McCarvill, Mrs Mallon and Mrs Mackle who tutored the children in their singing. A final thanks to Roslyn Bayley who sang the Responsorial Psalm. The children were SHINING on the night and were a credit to their parents and families. Well done!



Head Lice

I would like to remind all parents and carers to be vigilant of head lice. Parents have reported to the school that their children have been infected with some parents reporting that their child has been reinfected. If you find head lice please ensure that you treat your child's hair according to NHS Guidelines which can be found at:

www.nhs.uk/conditions/Head-lice/

Thank you for your cooperation.



New School App

We are in the process of organising a new school app called "App Central". This is a much easier app to use than our last one and was particularly effective for the schools who used it at the last school closure. More details will follow but please continue to use our website and Twitter for school news and updates.



Attendance

Our pupil attendance rates remain high at 96.9% for last session. This is above both South Lanarkshire Council and national averages. We continue to monitor attendance and any child who has an attendance rate below 90% will be lettered to inform parents and carers that this is the case. Please contact the school should you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's attendance.



Masterclasses

The very popular Masterclasses began on Friday 9th February and will run for 4 weeks. After pupil consultation, children chose to develop their skills and deepen their knowledge from a wide number of subjects. Masterclasses include all pupils in the school so that learning has been extended to include the first 3 levels of the Curriculum for Excellence. Children chose from the opportunities listed below

Lego/Hama Beads	Basketball	Dance	Songs from the Musicals
Tennis	Knitting	Football	Debating
Mindfulness Colouring	Arts & Craft	Lego Movie Maker	Music Composition
Explore the Outdoors	Board Games	Cheerleading	Improving your Drawing
Nursery Games	Healthy Hands and Nail Art	Debating	Computer Games



Books are Brilliant Day & Book Fair

Books are Brilliant Day took place on Monday 26th February. Children dressed up as characters from a book or wore their jammies as if they were reading a bedtime story. They then participated in a variety of literacy activities. Our annual book fair was also launched. Children will be given the opportunity to purchase books or stationary with their class during this time. There are a number of books priced at £1 and £2 and children are encouraged to use their World Book Day tokens to purchase a book.



Open Door Policy

Please remember that we have an "Open Door" Policy whereby a member of the Senior Leadership Team will always try to see a parent or carer if they are worried about something. Please also call the school should you wish to discuss anything relating to your child. We are also present at the school gate before 9am and after 3pm. Please note that the Head Teacher will not respond to anonymous letters, even from "concerned parents".



Dates for Your Diary



<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
<i>Mon 26/02/18</i>	<i>All week</i>	<i>Annual Book Fair Books are Brilliant Day</i>	<i>School</i>
<i>Tue 27/02/18</i>	<i>All day</i>	<i>P4 & 5 Roald Dahl Workshops</i>	<i>School</i>
	<i>1.30pm</i>	<i>P3 First Reconciliation Prayer Service</i>	<i>Gym Hall</i>
<i>Thu 01/03/18</i>	<i>9.15-10am</i>	<i>P1 Bookbag Launch</i>	<i>School</i>
	<i>11-11.45am</i>	<i>P2 Bookbag Launch</i>	<i>School</i>
	<i>2.15-3pm</i>	<i>P3 Bookbag Launch</i>	<i>School</i>
<i>Fri 02/03/18</i>	<i>9.30am</i>	<i>First Friday Mass</i>	<i>Church</i>
	<i>7-10pm</i>	<i>Family Ceilidh</i>	<i>Church Hall</i>
<i>Sun 04/03/18</i>	<i>10am</i>	<i>P4 First Communion Enrolment Mass</i>	<i>Church</i>
<i>Wed 07/03/18</i>	<i>All day</i>	<i>Childsmile for Nursery, P1 and P2</i>	<i>School</i>
<i>Tue 13/03/18</i>	<i>11am</i>	<i>First Reconciliation Service</i>	<i>Church</i>
<i>Thu 22/03/18</i>	<i>3.30-8.30pm</i>	<i>Parents' Night</i>	<i>School</i>
<i>Thu 29/03/18</i>	<i>AM</i>	<i>Nursery Daffodil Tea</i>	<i>School</i>
	<i>9.30am</i>	<i>Thanksgiving Mass</i>	<i>Church</i>
	<i>2.30pm</i>	<i>School closes for Easter Holidays</i>	
<i>Mon 16/04/18</i>	<i>9am</i>	<i>School Re-opens after Easter</i>	
<i>Wed 25/04/18</i>	<i>PM</i>	<i>Nursery Parents' Night</i>	