

Successful Learners ✨

Confident Individuals ✨



Responsible Citizens ✨

Effective Contributors ✨

St. John the Baptist Primary School and Nursery Class

June 2023

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.st-johnthebaptist-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Twitter: @stjohnthebapps

School App: School App for Parents

(Download from either Google Play or App Store)





Parent Council

On your behalf I would like to thank the Parent Council for all their help and support over the year. They have been very generous with their time and have worked hard not only to raise funds but to enhance the school environment so that your child receives the best education possible.

Their most recent project was our joint Summer Fete with Muiredge Primary which as well as being a fantastic fundraiser which gave the town of Uddingston the opportunity to come together in Uddingston Grammar, raised the absolutely tremendous sum of £4,550 for each school!

This money will be used to enhance our resources including purchasing more digital resources.

The date of our Annual General Meeting is:

Monday 28th August 2023 at 7pm in the school.



School Uniform ~ Gentle Reminder

We have a very strong tradition of high standards of school uniform and love to see our children proudly wearing the St. John's colours. If you have not already done so, please order your child's school uniform online. Orders can be placed at:

www.logoxpres-schoolwear.co.uk

School uniform does not have to have the school badge on it and so you are free to purchase uniform anywhere. We would also be very grateful if you could donate any good quality uniform so that we can use in school or re-distribute to anyone who needs it. Uniforms should be washed and handed into the school office, even if it is after the summer. Please also remember we have a rail of pre-loved uniform in the school foyer which is available for anyone to help themselves.

We also have a tradition that the final day of each school year is a non-uniform day so children do not need to wear their uniform on Tuesday 27th June.



Free School Meals and Transport

If you are in receipt of Housing Benefit and/or Council Tax Reduction you are automatically entitled to free school meals. If you do not receive these benefits but feel you are eligible, you should apply online using the South Lanarkshire Council website. Parents will also have to apply for school transport by going online either to the North Lanarkshire Council or South Lanarkshire Council website and searching for school transport.



Primary 7 Disco

Primary 7 literally danced the night away at their traditional end of P7 Disco on Monday 19th June. The children were treated to snacks of burgers and hot dogs thanks to the kind generosity of John and Mhairi Devitt. Thanks also go to Gerry Lyons who provided the music and to the Primary 7 parents who decorated the hall. Final thanks to the Parent Council who provided the children with their ties for their secondary school.



Thanksgiving Mass

The children attended mass on Friday 23rd June which was the feast of St. John the Baptist. Primary 7s ably read and did the offertory procession. Mr Swail provided the music to which the whole school contributed with their hymn singing. Thanks to Father Colum who guided us with the actions to the final hymn!



Charity Donations Total

Thanks to you and your children's generosity, we have been able to donate to a number of different charities chosen by the Pupils Leadership Team this year as follows:

Mary's Meals ~ £353.42

Alzheimer's Society £448

Cancer Research £579.38

Diabetes UK £302

SCIAF £ 132

Fairtrade Foundation £300

Total ~ £2,114.80

I am sure you will agree that this is a fantastic achievement!

We have also made several substantial food bank donations to TESCO and the Viewcare Project which were very gratefully received.

Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way.



Primary Expansion

The school continues to be modernised by South Lanarkshire Council and there are 3 projects planned:

- 1. The extension of the dining hall area*
- 2. The extension and modernisation of the school kitchen*
- 3. The enhancement of the outdoor area of the nursery cabin*

We had hoped that the extension to the dining area would begin over the summer holidays, however, this will now not take place until late September. The other 2 projects will take place over the summer holidays in 2024.



Classes for Next Session

Letters informing you of your child's class next year have been distributed by pupil post or post if pupils are absent. I am aware that this information is coming to you very late in the term but once again we have been inundated by new catchment pupils enrolling. Mrs McNulty, Mrs Clarke and myself have configured and consulted with Class Teachers and I am confident that we have placed each child appropriately. Please be aware, however, that some stages are at their maximum and if more placing requests or children from the catchment area enrol in the school then this will mean we may need to reconfigure classes in August, as has happened previously. Classes for next year are as follows:

<i>Class</i>	<i>Stage</i>	<i>Class Teacher</i>
<i>Room 1</i>	<i>Primary 1</i>	<i>Mrs Brown</i>
<i>Room 4</i>	<i>Primary 1</i>	<i>Mrs Anderson & Mrs Houston</i>
<i>Room 3</i>	<i>Primary 2</i>	<i>Teacher to be appointed</i>
<i>Room 5</i>	<i>Primary 2</i>	<i>Mrs Ellis</i>
<i>Room 6</i>	<i>Primary 3</i>	<i>Mrs Dempsie</i>
<i>Room 7</i>	<i>Primary 3</i>	<i>Miss McPhee & Miss Brady</i>
<i>Room 8</i>	<i>Primary 4</i>	<i>Mrs Gray</i>
<i>Room 9</i>	<i>Primary 4/5</i>	<i>Mr Dickson</i>
<i>Room 10</i>	<i>Primary 5</i>	<i>Miss Rowatt and Mrs Summers</i>
<i>Room 11</i>	<i>Primary 6</i>	<i>Mrs Horne & Mrs Devlin</i>
<i>Room 12</i>	<i>Primary 6/7</i>	<i>Mrs Pitcathley</i>
<i>Room 13</i>	<i>Primary 7</i>	<i>Mr Swail</i>
<i>CCC will be provided by Mrs Vannini & Mr Combe</i>		
<i>Additional Support for Learning will be provided by Mrs Houston, Mrs Summers, Miss Brady & Mr Combe on days when they are not in class</i>		
<i>Mrs Layden will take up the post of acting Deputy Head Teacher at Jackton Primary and Mrs Horne will be acting Principal Teacher.</i>		



Cost of the School Day

As transport costs continue to rise we will host a fundraiser next session to supplement the cost of school trips. Whatever sum is raised will be divided by the number of school pupils so that each child receives an equal amount which will be deducted from the first visit out of school.



Arrangements for Accessing and Exiting the School Next Session.

Rooms	Location	Comments
Primary 1 (& siblings)	Bottom Gate through the car park (which will not be in use at this time).	Parents and carers should stand at the gate and not enter the car park unless directed to do so by school staff.
Primary 2 & 3 (& siblings)	Middle Gate	Parents and carers should stand back to avoid congestion.
Primary 4, 5, 6 & 7	Top Gate	Parents should stand back to avoid congestion and if possible meet your child at an agreed location nearby.
Children who attend Out of School Care	Main Office Door	Out of School Care Staff will collect children from the school office.
Children who use School Transport	Top Gate	Senior Leadership Team will escort children to and from the buses.



Head Teacher Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for supporting the school this year. The partnership between home and school was very evident post covid as we were able to welcome you back into the school to meet the teachers and enjoy showcases of learning.

It has been a pleasure to teach your well behaved, well mannered and hard working children and a privilege to see them SHINE!

I hope that all the children and their families have a sunny and safe summer and look forward to welcoming everyone back at 9am on Wednesday 16th August.

