



Education Resources
Executive Director **Tony McDaid**
Head Teacher **Lorraine Sweeney**
St. Anthony's Primary School

Session 2022/2023 Newsletter 1- August 2022

Dear Parents,

I hope this letter finds you and your family safe, healthy and well-rested after the summer holidays.

We have been delighted to welcome all staff and pupils back to school for this coming session and we are hopeful of a more settled year as we move out of the pandemic.

A special welcome to our P1 pupils and those who have joined from other schools: Kai in P2, Sophia P5, Payton P5 and Cade in P6. We are so pleased to have you all as part of the St. Anthony's family.

As part of our partnership working, please find below details of our communication strategy to enable us to build on the existing positive relationships we have with you and to keep you informed of school/pupil activity.

We will use the following to communicate with you:

- Homework diaries - used to share pupil learning with you which promotes opportunities to reinforce class work. Please sign nightly and use to share any information necessary with the teacher. Homework will resume on Monday 29th August 2022.
- We ask that you use the diary as your first means of communication with the class teacher, however, if your query/concern is more urgent please contact by telephone call to the office where we will endeavour to speak with you or arrange a suitable time to discuss matters. Unless in exceptional circumstances, emails to staff's personal accounts should be avoided.
- We will provide a termly update every term (Aug, Oct, Dec, March). All of which will be shared via our school app. We are providing a paper copy of newsletter 1 to allow everyone time to download and familiarise themselves with our app. Any issues, please contact the school office by telephone ASAP.
- Between newsletters, we will share updates via the messaging service on our school app.
- Over the course of this session we invite you to meet with us so we can share information regarding your child's class, progress and achievements. Dates below:
 - Meet the teacher 7th of September 2022 2.00pm – 2.45pm
 - Reporting Evening 23rd of November 2022
 - Reporting Evening 30th of March 2023
- Written reports will be shared in June 2023.



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Confirmation of Staffing

I can now confirm all our staffing for this session:

- P1/P2 Mrs Smith (Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays) & Mrs Blair (Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays)
- P2/3 Mrs Bell (Mondays, Tuesdays, alternate Wednesdays) & Miss McSorley (alternate Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays)
- P3/4 Miss Ward
- P4/5 Miss Goodwin
- P6/5 Mrs Kirk (Mondays, Tuesdays, alternate Wednesdays) & Mrs Sword (alternate Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays)
- P6/7 Mrs Nicoll
- P7 Miss Barrett
- Non Class Contact Teacher Mrs Martin (Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays)

Please note below some gentle reminders:

Health and Safety

- **Covid 19:** Corona Virus is still very much with us and as such we will continue to encourage pupils to wash/sanitise their hands regularly.
- **Pupil Absence:** Please ensure you contact our school office **by telephone 0141 634 7353** as soon as you know your child will be absent from school. Please give pupil name, class, reason for absence and expected return date.
- **Allergies:** Some of our pupils have severe allergies to nuts, fish, dairy and pulses. Please note for this reason we ask that you avoid sending pupils with snacks or lunches which may or do contain traces of these. Parent(s) of all pupils with allergies must declare these on the annual data form. Some commonly brought snacks containing nuts or traces of nuts are: Kinder Bueno, Cadbury's Brunch Bar, Nutella Dippers, Hazelnut filled crepes, supermarket's own chocolate spreads. Please

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check labelling before sending to school in order to avoid disappointment if the snack can't be eaten.

- **Medicines:** as per SLC Policy, we can only administer **prescribed** medicines following the completion of the appropriate council paperwork. ***Please make sure you request this if necessary from the school office, complete and return by Friday 26th August 2022. Please also ensure that any prescribed medicines to be kept in school are replaced before their expiration date.***
- **Snacks:** pupils are encouraged to bring healthy snacks to school for their morning break, lunch and for fruit time at 2pm each day as part of our Health Promoting School.
- **Free School Meals:** Pupils from P1-P5 inclusive are entitled to free school meals. Please make sure you discuss the menu with your child in advance in order to avoid pupils being upset and/or disappointed at lunchtime.
- **Water:** pupils are encouraged to bring still water (not diluted, fizzy juice or isotonic sports drinks) to school to keep them hydrated throughout the day. Pupils will have opportunities to re-fill their water bottles at lunch time should they need to top up.
- **Drop off/Pick Up:** Our school gates open at 0850 when staff have arrived and are able to supervise pupils. Please do not drop off or send children before this time as there is no adult supervision for them before this time and therefore their safety cannot be guaranteed. If pupils are to be collected at 3pm, please ensure that you arrive in plenty of time to avoid pupils becoming unnecessarily upset and distressed at the end of the day. ***After 3pm, staff are not always available to supervise late pick ups so your punctuality will better ensure pupil safety. As you know drop off and pick up can be very busy with both schools arriving and departing at the same time. We therefore ask that one adult only collects each pupil to avoid unnecessary congestion.***
- **School Uniform:** we are currently in our transitional period (changing from brown to grey). Whichever colour your child is wearing, please ensure full school uniform is worn on non-PE days. Pupils should wear polo shirts on PE days and can wear shorts etc under trousers/skirt/pinafore. If wearing leggings or joggers (black/brown/grey), please ensure they are packed in your child's bag the night before. We politely request that children do not wear football strips or tracksuits at any

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point to school. ***Please ensure all uniform /PE items are clearly labelled with your child's name and class, we already have items in our lost property as items are not labelled.***

- **Makeup/Hair Colouring/False Nails/Extensions-** please save these for fund raising events such as Crazy Hair Day!
- **Mobile phones -** we understand the need for pupils to carry mobile phones. However, they should be switched off or put on airplane mode and kept in their bags between 9am and 3pm. Similarly, any pupil wearing a smart watch should switch their watch to airplane mode during school hours.

Supporting/Accessing local charities

St Anthony's Foodbank/Uniform Shop

Please feel free to access St Anthony's Parish Foodbank and our school's uniform rails in the church hall on Wednesdays between 10am and 12pm. Similarly, if you are able to donate to one or both of these, please send donations into school and we will ensure it is taken over to church.

Kilbryde Hospice

We will continue to support Kilbryde Hospice this session by taking part in their Sunflower Walk on the 16th June 2023.

School Resources

Reading Books

We have temporarily "lost" some school resources especially reading books. If you come across any school resources at home, please send in to school immediately. Thanks in advance

Digital Devices

All pupils who received a digital device from the school or from South Lanarkshire Council must ensure that they bring them to school every day as they were allocated based on need to support and enhance learning. Responsible Use of Technology permissions were sent home today along with a number of other personal data checks and permissions. Please ensure these are returned no later than **Friday 25th of August 2022.**

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In line with SLC'S Policy, children are not permitted use of technology until these are returned.

Magnetic Boards

Last session P1 and P2 were given magnetic boards and letters to support homework. These should now be returned in order to be cleaned and redistributed to the new P1 and P2 classes.

Home/School Partnership Working

Homework

We encourage the completion of homework assigned by our class teachers to help reinforce pupil learning and also to keep you informed of pupils' weekly learning. It also helps with developing independence and the setting of routines. Homework should take no longer than 20 minutes for P1 to P3 and 30 minutes for P4-P7. If it is, and is due to your child not understanding their homework, please write a short note in the diary for the teacher and ask your child to share it with their teacher the next day so any issues can be addressed in a timely manner. Homework should not cause stress or anxiety for pupils or their families.

Pupils will no longer be assigned or submit homework using Google Classroom. Homework will be detailed in their Homework Diary and written work will be done in homework jotters and or paper depending on task. Please sign your child's pieces of homework and their diary nightly.

Some classes will continue to access a Google Classroom to support teaching and learning within their classrooms and there may be occasions that Google Classroom is used to support digital aspects of homework e.g. online numeracy games, YouTube videos to support learning. Usernames and passwords will be shared with the children in advance of this.

Homework will resume Monday 29th August 2022.

We continue to promote positive behaviour in our school through a "values based approach"; our school values for all of us are Honesty, Endeavour, Aspiration, Respect, Responsibility and Forgiveness. We will report on your child's behaviour in the usual way with the only change being it will be in their homework

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diary on a Friday and not a separate 'Stay on Green' tracker. Please sign each weekend to acknowledge receipt of this information.

We all look forward to a positive, fun and hardworking year in St Anthony's.

We have attached details of our current diary for this school session to assist you with your planning and our partnership working. Please note, however, that these are subject to change.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mrs L. Sweeney".

Mrs L Sweeney
Head Teacher

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Save the Date

Please note all dates below are provisional and based on the needs of our pupils; they are therefore subject to change (short notice); however, we will endeavour to share updates with you as soon as we are in a position to do so.

Parent Council

The first meeting of the Parent Council is Monday 5th September 2023.

Masses: First Thursday of the Month and Holidays of Obligation:

- **1st September 10am** followed by Coffee Morning Fundraiser in Church Hall
- **6th October 10am** followed by Coffee Morning Fundraiser in Church Hall
- (Tues) **1st November 11am All Saints Day Holy Day** of Obligation
- (Sun) **27th November 11.30am** Enrolment Mass for Sacramental Children (P3,P4,P6,P7) followed by Coffee Morning Fundraiser in Church
- **1st December 10am** followed by Coffee Morning Fundraiser in Church Hall
- **Friday 23rd December 1.30pm Christmas Mass**
- **12th January 10am**
- **2nd February 10am** followed by Coffee Morning Fundraiser in Church Hall
- **22nd February 2.00pm** Ash Wednesday
- **2nd March 10am** followed by Coffee Morning Fundraiser in Church Hall
- **4th May 10am** followed by Coffee Morning Fundraiser in Church Hall
- **13th June P7 10am** Leavers' & Feast of St Anthony followed by Coffee Morning Fundraiser in Church Hall

Sacraments:

- Reconciliation for Primary 3 **Thursday 23rd March 2023 6pm** in Church
- Eucharist for Primary 4 **Saturday 13th May 2023 12pm** in Church
- Confirmation for Primary 6 and Primary 7 to be confirmed by Motherwell Diocese.

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Transition: Nursery to St Anthony's Primary School Provisional Dates:

- January 2023 P1 Enrolment
- Induction Days for new P1s - 31st May 2023 10.30am-12.20pm & Wednesday 7th June 1.30pm-2.45pm

Transition: Primary to Trinity High School Provisional Dates:

- Tuesday 6th & Wednesday 7th June 2023 Full Day Visits
(more information to follow when received)

Reporting on Pupil Progress and Achievement

- Parents' Evening Wednesday 23rd November 2022 3.30pm-8pm
- Parents' Evening Thursday 30th March 2023 3.30pm-8pm
- Written reports to parents out June 2023

School Events

- 7th September Meet the Teacher 2pm-2.45pm
- St Andrew's Afternoon Wednesday 30th November 2022 2pm - parents invited for Scottish Sing-a-long
- Christmas Parties week beginning 19th December
- Nativity and Christmas Concert proposed date of Thursday 15th of December

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