



# St Louise Primary

## Winter Newsletter 2019



### School News



As always, it has been a very busy term in St Louise Primary and here is a snapshot of some of the events we have been involved in:

- Children have continued to attend the variety of clubs on offer including Multi-sports, Football, Netball, Athletics and Film
- Our film club was visited by Dr Lisa Cameron (MP) and Intu Film representatives who were very impressed with the club and as a result we were included in an Early Day Motion in the House of Commons – Well done Mrs Docherty for all your hard work with the club
- All pupils attended a performance in the school hall by Hopscotch to enhance our learning about resilience as part of our health and wellbeing curriculum
- Our Junior Road Safety Officers attended an open day in September and are now well equipped to lead the school this year in all things road safety
- We are registered for the First Minister's Reading Challenge and planning lots of activities across the year to support this
- Two of our pupils attended a beautiful Mass at Carfin Grotto to welcome the Relics of St Therese of Lisieux to the diocese
- Four of our P6 pupils attended a Mission Mass at Carfin Grotto in October and are now Missio Ambassadors for the school – they will lead us in our charitable work across the session
- P7 pupils visited the Museum Resource Centre in Kelvin grove as part of their recent studies, they were also highly commended for their active roles in spreading the message around climate control in a positive and respectful way
- Our senior pupils have taken part in the athletics, football and netball festivals and are doing well
- Monsignor Millar and Fr Ivan celebrated our Opening Mass with us and this has set us up well for the coming academic session
- Our P7s have begun their transition events with St Andrew's and St Bride's as they work towards this pivotal point in their school journey – the first Maths Challenge event this year was thoroughly enjoyed by all
- P4-7 visited Our Lady of Lourdes Church for 40 Hours Adoration and Mass
- Our children took part in the annual Road Safety Competition and we are delighted to announce that one of our P4 pupils came third
- Congratulations to our P7 class this year who came second place during Maths Week Scotland's Sumdog Competition
- The council ran a 'Name the Gritter' competition this term and we are delighted to share that one of our pupil's entries was chosen as an SLC overall winner
- Thank you to the Legion of Mary who have come into the school every Tuesday to lead us in a decade of the Rosary
- Monsignor Millar, Father Sean, Father Ivan and Father Charles continue to work with us regularly and have visited the school to take P4-7 for Confession
- We celebrated extra ordinary month of mission during our Little Way Week in October – thank you for your generous donations and the children spent a week thinking about how we can love and help each other

- Thank you to Michael for delivering Handball to the whole school and we look forward to working with him again over the next two terms
- We also had a lovely P1 Blessing to welcome all our new starts officially in to the community of St Louise
- Thank you to all parents and carers who supported the Travelling Books when it was in the school last week – as a result of your generosity we were able to purchase over £500 worth of new books for the children to use in school
- Our infants are once again involved in the tooth brushing programme and we are working closely with our NHS partners
- Thank you to Ms McAneny (Heart Specialist) for showing our P6 and P7 children a lot of information and lifesaving advice
- What a fantastic turnout for the Parent Staff Group Halloween Disco and lots of fun was had by all
- Our whole school attended Our Lady of Lourdes Mass on Friday to celebrate in the Solemnity of All Saints and we thank Fr Charles Coyle for celebrating this with us



### Retirement

Mrs Croser said a fond farewell to our school community having served as the Church Representative on the Parent Council for over 12 years. We thank her for all the hard work and dedication she has shown to this role and we were delighted to be able to present her with the Bishop's Medal for services to Catholic Education.

We would like to welcome Mrs Cathy McCann who will now take up the role as Church Representative and look forward to welcoming her onto the team.



### Parents' Evening

Thank you to all parents and carers who were able to manage along to our recent Parents' Evening. As always, we had an excellent turn out and were able to share some of the developments in recent years because of parental consultation.

To those who were unable to attend, if you feel you need to speak with your child's teacher then please contact the school office to make an appointment.



### Local School Trips

The medical form and extra-curricular forms you fill out at the beginning of the year will be taken on all trips out of the school building and for any after school clubs. Where the children are taken on a local visit to the church, the library or the shops, we will put all information on the school website and school app. If your child's medical information changes over a school session or for any reason your child is not able to attend a visit, please contact the school to inform us.



### PSG

Please come along and support the Parent and Staff Group (PSG) at our next meeting on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm. Everyone is welcome and we would like your help. All parents/carers are considered members of the group. St Louise PSG work extremely hard to support the school in so many different ways. Please consider coming on board. We look forward to seeing you there and will make you feel very welcome.

You can find all current details of our PSG on the school website and contact details are there if you would like more information about the group.



### Positions Vacant – Please Apply!

Over the last two school sessions, we have welcomed a number of parents and carers into the school to support us. Some people give freely of their time to provide valuable support for our children and school. This session we hope to welcome our regulars back and recruit more help.

This session you can help in a number of ways:

- If you are able to accompany our children on any visits out of the school, then please contact the office to provide the days/times you would be available to help.
- If you are able to provide an extra-curricular club at lunchtimes or after school this would extend the variety of options, we would be able to provide for the children.

These are just a few of the ways in which you could help. If you are interested in volunteering for the first time please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 01355 230804 or, by e-mail:

[gw14stlouiseoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14stlouiseoffice@glow.sch.uk) we would love to hear from you!

Please note that all volunteers who wish to work in schools must become a member of the PVG scheme. Please contact the school office for more information on this.

We are always looking at ways to build and strengthen our community links so if you know a member of the community who may be interested in supporting us please encourage them to contact us.



### Labels

Can we ask you to ensure your child's belongings are labelled please e.g. jackets, packed lunch boxes etc. There are many similar, if not identical items, so a label helps them and us to keep track of their belongings.



## Absences

You can help us tremendously by letting us know as soon as possible if your child is absent from school. Please note that if we have not heard from you the school office will contact you asking you to let us know the reason for your child's absence.

Can I also ask that on your child's return to school, following a period of absence, that a note is provided for the class teacher. This is necessary even if you have telephoned while your child was off, as we require this information for our records.

All of these procedures are in place to help ensure the safety of our children and I thank you in advance for your co-operation with these. A copy of the school's attendance information can be downloaded from the school website.



## Safety First

For Health & Safety reasons jewellery should not be worn on gym days. If you cannot remove your child's earrings could I ask that you provide him/her with plasters to cover them.



## Road Safety

Can I ask for everyone's co-operation in ensuring our car park is a safe place for our children. Please park only in designated bays when dropping off and collecting your child. Please also consider parking out with the school car park (**Park and Stride**) and walking part of the journey to help ease congestion. You could make use of the Murray Square Shops, the Stroud or the Murray Centre. If there are a number of you travelling from the same area, you might consider car sharing.

**Please do not walk your child through the vehicular entrance or across the car park. Always use the pathways and zebra crossings.**

We would also like to gently remind you that our staff car park is for staff only and due to the number of staff in the school all spaces can be used up daily. For the safety of all I would like to ask that you do not stand in the car park and that you use the pavements if you are waiting in the school grounds.

At the end of the school day, we have opened up the ramp to ease congestion and provide more opportunities to park, but this is one-way only and we would ask that no one reverse out of the school if they are at the back of the queue.

Our school travel plan was launched last year and we continue to use this to support road safety measures in and around the school. The following measures have been implemented since it began:

- The school continues to publicise advice to all parents/carers about road safety through the school website, newsletters, school app and Twitter
- Signs are used to show the safe way into the school and to promote road safety
- Junior Road safety Officers and their patrollers are on hand in the morning to walk your child in to school by the safest route
- Police have been contacted to assist with difficult situations but are not always able to attend
- Zig-zag lines and the yellow box have been re-painted
- Voluntary one way system at the end of the school day for extra parking continues
- Part time 20mph speed limit signs have been put up on the Murray Road
- Our curriculum includes lessons and opportunities for pupils to engage in road safety discussions

At the end of last term, we tried to implement a Walking Bus but unfortunately, we only had two volunteers who put themselves forward to do this.

We will ask again for volunteers this term and try to see if we can get enough people to set up this option.

Our Junior Road Safety Officers continue to attend all meetings and opportunities to raise awareness of road safety in and around the school.



### Wider Achievement Wall

Thank you for your support in the previous session for helping to build our Wider Achievement Wall. The children are enjoying seeing the wall being built brick by brick every time one of their achievements is put on. We are all very proud of their achievements. **Remember if your child has done something out with school, which you feel deserves recognition please see the office for an achievement form.**



### Promoting Positive Behaviour and Relationships

St Louise positive behaviour policy encourages pupils to aim for high standards in behaviour, work and effort - in class, in the playground, in the cafeteria and when representing St Louise as part of a team or on a class trip.

The system also encourages the children to follow our three basic school rules:

- **Do as you are asked**
- **Be kind, respectful and helpful**
- **Keep your hands, feet and objects to yourself**



### Gentle Reminders

#### Head lice

Can I remind you to check your child's hair for head lice on a fairly regular basis? The guidance suggests that parents/carers should aim to check their children's hair once a week during normal hair washing. Information leaflets with useful advice and guidance are available at your local pharmacy. You can also access useful advice from [www.onceaweektakeapeek.com](http://www.onceaweektakeapeek.com). Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide any further help.

#### Holidays

Can I ask you to avoid taking your child out of school for holidays during term time please? This can be very disruptive to your child's education as they miss valuable teaching input when they are absent. These absences are recorded as 'Unauthorised' (except in very exceptional circumstances) and do not help us present a positive picture in relation to our annual absence data.

#### Screw on Water Bottles

We want to encourage children to drink water throughout the day as we are aware of the potential benefits of doing so. Children can bring their own full water bottle into school with them and we do have a water





## Christmas Activities

The children will take part in a variety of activities during this season and further information will be provided to those involved.

Dates for the school shows are:

**P1 & 2 Nativity – Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00am and 7.00pm**

**P3 – 7 Christmas Concert – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 1.15pm**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 1.15pm and 7.00pm**



**Doors open approximately 20 minutes before each show**

**Please Note: Tickets will be on sale from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November and will be issued through pupil post. Please send completed order forms and money in an envelope to class with your child and teaching staff will return tickets purchased to pupils.**

## Christmas Parties

All parties will take place in the afternoon:

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – All Primary 1, 2 and 3 pupils.

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – All Primary 4 and 5 pupils.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December – All Primary 6 and 7 pupils.



Children can be picked up, taken home for lunch on the day of their party, and brought back after lunch dressed in their party clothes all alternatively, you can send your child's party clothes into school that morning and they can get changed at lunchtime.

## School Pantomime

This year the children will attend Mother McGoose in the school hall on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 9.30am. On this day, children can wear Christmas themed clothing or a Christmas jumper.



## Election Day – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December

**On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December, our school will be open as usual.**

We will have our Christmas Lunch on this day and menus will be issued nearer the time. All children can wear a Christmas jumper or Christmas themed clothing and fun activities will take place that day. We would ask children to donate to our Advent charities on the day.



## Christmas Cards

Again this year, the school has taken part in SLC's Christmas Card Design. Templates were sent home in October and can I remind you that the deadline for all orders is **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November**.



## Parent Staff Group Christmas Fair

Our school Christmas Fair will take place on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November from 6.30-8.30pm and there will be lots of stalls and activities on offer. Please come along and support our fair and any donations for the tombola and raffles would be greatly received. These can be handed in to the school office or pupils can bring these into school via their classes.

## Termly Learning Newsletter

Each term, class teachers will issue parents/carers with a newsletter containing information on what the children will be looking at over the term. Please use this as a guide when encouraging your children to extend their homework further and when using the 'opt in' part of the guidelines.



## St Louise Website

A range of information concerning school life is available via our school website [www.st-louises-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk](http://www.st-louises-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk) you can also follow our school life on our Twitter feed @stlouiseprimary. Almost all communication is now done via the school app and please contact the school office if you require a paper copy of events.



## Dates for your Diary

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Final P6 Athletics Club
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	2.15pm P2 Wonderpark Display for Parents/Carers
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	P7 Transition Sports Afternoon
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	12.00 Netball Festival 3.00pm P4 Multi-sports
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	9.20am Find Out Friday
16 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Catholic Education Week
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Book Week Scotland
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Road Safety Week 7.00pm Parent Staff Group Meeting
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	3.00pm P4 Multi-sports P7 Parents' Information Evening – St Andrew's and St Bride's



Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	9.30am Pantomime – Mother McGoose 12.15pm Sports Hall Athletics – John Wright Sports Centre
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	11.00am First Communion Meeting for OLOL parish after 11am Mass
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	3.00pm Final P7 Athletics Club
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	6.30pm PSG Christmas Fair
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	3.00pm P4 Multi-sports Club
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Dress Rehearsals
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	P1&2 Nativity morning (10.00am) and evening performance (7.00pm)
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	P3-7 Christmas Show afternoon performance (1.15pm)
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	P3-7 Christmas Show afternoon (1.15pm) and evening performance (7.00pm)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch/Jumper Day 10.45am P4-7 Confessions
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Pm P1-3 Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Pm P4&5 Christmas Party
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Pm P6&7 Christmas Party
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	2.30pm School Closes
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Pupils Return
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	P1 Enrolment Week Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> drop in between 10.00am – 11.30am Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> drop in between 1.00pm – 2.30pm Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> drop in between 10.00am – 11.30am
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	1.10pm P5 YMI Music
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	12.15pm Sports Hall Athletics – John Wright Sports Centre
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	2.00pm St Vincent's Reconciliation Meeting followed by Enrolment Mass
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	6.30pm Our Lady of Lourdes Enrolment Mass for First Communion
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	7.00pm Parent Staff Group Meeting
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	3.00pm Family Learning Club
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	2.00pm St Vincent's First Communion Meeting followed by Enrolment Mass
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	12.30pm Football Festival
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	9.20am Find Out Thursday
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	11.00am First Communion Meeting for OLOL parish after 11am Mass
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	7.00pm Parent Staff Group Meeting
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Fairtrade Fortnight
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	1.30pm Ash Wednesday Mass – Our Lady of Lourdes
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	3.00pm Family Learning Club
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Cross Country
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	8.30am Mass for Lent 10.00am Fairtrade Café
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	12.30pm Football Festival
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	8.30am Mass for Lent 7.00pm St Vincent's Sacrament of Reconciliation
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	11.00am First Communion Meeting for OLOL parish after 11am Mass
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	8.30am Mass for Lent 7.00pm Our Lady of Lourdes Sacrament of Reconciliation
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	11.00am P4&P5 to OLOL for Stations of the Cross 7.00pm Parent Staff Group Meeting
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	11.00am P6&P7 to OLOL for Stations of the Cross
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Financial Education Week
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	10.45am P4-7 Confessions 3.00pm Family Learning Club
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	2.30pm School Closes
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	12.30pm Football Festival
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	3.00pm Family Learning Club
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	9.20am Find Out Wednesday
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	10.45am P4 Confessions

Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	1.10pm St Vincent's First Communion Practice
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	PSG St Louise Feast Day Disco (P1-3 are 6.30-7.30pm) (P4-7 are 7.45-8.45pm)
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am St Vincent's First Communion
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	1.20pm OLOL First Communion Practice
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	3.30pm Parents' Evening
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Parents' Evening
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	1.00pm OLOL First Communion
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	P7 Parents Information Evening – STA&STB's
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	9.00am P7 Induction Day 1 7.00pm Parent Staff Group Meeting
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	9.00am P7 Induction Day 2 11.10am Ascension Thursday Mass – Our Lady of Lourdes (Children need packed lunch)
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	3.00pm Family Learning Club
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	1.15pm St Louise Sports Day
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	P7 to Auchengillan
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	1.30pm P4 First Communion Thanksgiving Mass (pupils only)
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00am PFFA Mass – St Vincent's Church 10.45am P3 and P7 Confessions
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	6.30pm PSG Summer Fair
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	1.30pm P7 Leavers' Mass
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	P5 Games
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	1.30pm P7 Leavers' Assembly
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	1.00pm School Closes

\*\* Please note that these are proposed dates and may be subject to change. We will endeavour to give as much notice as possible if dates need to be changed\*\*

We always welcome the views of all our stakeholders and if anyone has any ideas or suggestions they wish to raise with us please send these in writing, by email [gw14stlouisepsoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14stlouisepsoffice@glow.sch.uk) or make an appointment to come and speak with us.

Please note that the **school closes at 2.30pm on 20<sup>th</sup> December.**

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas when it comes and best wishes for 2020!

Yours sincerely

Siobhan Mooty  
Head Teacher

