

St Louise Primary School

Spring Newsletter



School News



- Extracurricular clubs on offer include P3 Multi-sports, Football, Athletics and Film. All classes are getting Handball sessions and our P4 and 5 classes are currently getting cricket with a lunchtime club available to them
- The sports hall athletics has now completed and the children thoroughly enjoyed taking part – thank you to our parent helpers for attending
- All Christmas events went well, the Pantomime was enjoyed by all, the school shows were well received as always and the pupils did us proud with their performances, thank you to the PSG volunteers who helped us with the parties and the contribution of food and drink provided – it is always very much appreciated
- The Christmas Fair was a great success and our P7 pupils did a great job of supporting the crafting stalls
- We finished off the Christmas events with a lovely joint Carol service with Heathery Knowe Primary in the morning and a visit from SSPCA in the afternoon to talk to the children about animals and pets at this time of the year
- We wished Miss Cameron well as she went off on maternity leave and can't wait to hear her good news soon
- We had our P1 enrolment week from 13 – 17 January and we have 21 confirmed places at P1 but this could change over the coming months
- Our charity ambassadors were commended along with our school by St Andrew's Hospice as we raised £393 for them by selling their Christmas items over Advent
- We were also pleased to contribute to the learning community Mary's Meals project by raising £130 over Advent which helped the learning community reach their target
- After some staffing issues with the Youth Music Initiative and a new teacher being sourced, our P5 class will now receive the lessons on a Friday afternoon
- Mrs Higgins has attended the recent Tennis CPD which now means our school will receive great resources to be used across all classes and she will work with P4 on Tennis with a view to presenting pupils to the tournament
- Children who attended the summer club were awarded with Hi5 awards for their participation at Friday's assembly and we are hopeful that the club will run again this year but will find out nearer the time
- Congratulations to Grace in P4 who won the SLC Name the Gritter competition with the outstanding entry – Salt Disnae
- P7 pupils had a great time visiting Kelvin Hall where some pupils took part in a moving image workshop while others enhanced their art skills at the Kelvin Grove Museum
- Both parishes have continued to work with our pupils and their families to prepare for the sacraments in P3 and P4 – all children have been enrolled and we would ask everyone in our school community to keep the children in their thoughts and prayers over the coming months
- Two of our P7 boys (Steven and Francis) represented the school at the recent annual education mass and we are proud of their contribution to the bidding prayers
- Thank you to Fr Sean who held a PFFA enrolment service in the school for our P6 pupils who will now begin their journey towards this award – we were also sad to see Fr Sean move onto his own

parish but we wish him well and thank him for all the support and guidance given to our school community

- Our Missio Ambassadors attended the Patronal Feast Day Mass at St Bride's parish in November and it was a lovely opportunity to come together as a learning community to celebrate this event
- Our parish priests came to the school in December for P4-7 Confessions and will continue to guide us in our faith journey this school session

Adverse Weather

As you know we have now entered the colder months of the year with the possibility of adverse weather. Please refer to the school's adverse weather plan, which is available to download from the school website. We will endeavour to notify parents as soon as possible of any school closures or disruption to the normal school day through our Twitter, school website and app. You can also keep up to date with information relating to schools on South Lanarkshire Council's website and Twitter feed.

Lent

During Lent we will take part in many fundraising activities to support our usual charities of Let the Children Live, SCIAF and Missio. Information will be sent out in relation to each event. We are hoping once again to have a mass in the morning during Lent and will send out more information on this when details are confirmed. All parents, carers, pupils and the local community are welcome to join us.

PSG

Please come along and support the Parent and Staff Group at our next meeting on Wednesday 19th February 2020 at 7pm in the school. Everyone is welcome, and we really do need your help. All parents/carers are considered to be members of the group. We look forward to seeing you there and will make you feel very welcome.

Minutes of all meetings and important dates can be found on the school website under the parents section.

If interested, please contact St.LouisePSG@gmail.com for more information.



Gym Shoes

To ensure children are able to fully participate in PE lessons and from a safety aspect, could I please ask that you check your children's gym shoes throughout the school session and replace them when they have become too small or have become damaged from wear and tear. Teaching staff will also encourage children to bring them home and to let you know when new shoes are needed.

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. Also a gentle reminder that our PE kit is a white t-shirt and royal blue shorts.



Wider Achievement Wall

Thank you for your support in continuing to build our St Louise 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.**



Beat the Street

On Friday 24th January our school was introduced to the Beat the Street game which goes live in East Kilbride on Wednesday 19th February and will run until 1st April. Your child will bring home their pack and extra cards can be collected from other locations like the library. Sign up to our school team and help us to get up to the top of the leaderboard!!



Credit Union

Credit Union is collected every Thursday morning in school. If your child has not already signed up they can collect an application form from the school office.



ParentPay

ParentPay will be rolling out over the next month in East Kilbride schools. Look out for information that will be sent home for activation instructions.

Gentle Reminders

Can I remind you to check your child's hair for head lice on a 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 online. You can access useful advice from www.onceaweektakeapeek.com. Please don't hesitate to contact us if we can provide any further help.

Please note that, if children are bringing scooters or bikes to school, they should dismount at the school gates and walk with their scooter/bike when in the school grounds. When leaving, they should walk their scooter/bike out and only get on it once out of the school gates. This is important for the health and safety of those in the playground. We will reiterate this rule to the children but would appreciate your support in reminding them of it.

You must let us know as soon as possible if your child is going to be absent from school and **no later than 9.30am** on the first day of absence. Please note that we have a 24 hour answering service where a message can be left to alert us to an absence. It is also helpful if you could send in a letter to your child's class teacher to inform us of any pre-planned absences.

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.

Please bear in mind that our breakfast club starts at **8.15am** and there is no adult supervision in the school until this time. Children who are attending breakfast club **must eat breakfast**. Playground supervision also **doesn't start until 8.30am** and for safety reasons, we would ask that children are dropped off or arrive at school as nearest to these times as possible.

All 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.

Road Safety

Thank you for your continued support in making the journey to and from school as safe as it can be for all our children. Please see below all road safety rules the school has put in place to minimise issues. Could you also share this with anyone who drops off or picks up your child.

Engine Idling

All schools in South Lanarkshire Council are 'No Idling Zones' and drivers are not permitted to park in the car park or leave a car with its engine running to drop off or pick up children.

Please support St Louise Primary's No Idling campaign and turn off your car while waiting to drop off or pick up your child. Together, we can make a real difference and improve the quality of air we all breathe.

Parking

Could I please remind you that the staff car park is for staff only and for safety and insurance purposes we only permit school staff to park beyond the designated staff parking sign. I would also ask that you don't stand in the car park or obstruct the entrance as staff need access in and out of the car park at all times.

To further ensure the safety of all children in the school car park at drop off and pick up times, we will be using cones to mark areas that are not designated for parking.

Please note that the area to the front of the school where children use the zebra crossing is not a parking area and because there is a zebra crossing there we need to maintain a safe distance for all children when using the crossing.



As you know pupil safety is a high priority for us and we would ask that you keep this in mind when dropping off or picking up your child at school.

It is essential that parents/carers do not park or wait on the yellow zig-zag lines to ensure the safety of all of our children.

The zig-zag markings are there to indicate the length of road where you should not stop, not even to pick up or drop off children. These markings are provided outside schools to ensure our children can see and be seen clearly when crossing the road.

Please also consider parking out with the school car park and walking part of the journey to help ease congestion. Thank you for your continued support with this.

As you know a number of places for dropping off pupils have been made available at the front of the school car park and the ramp which we open at the end of the school day has enabled us to provide more parking opportunities. Please park as closely as you can to the car in front to maximise space. The gate will be closed at the top of the ramp each day to ensure the safety of children crossing at this entrance.

Please can I ask that you only park in appropriate places and always be vigilant about pupil safety. If you are using the **Disabled Parking bays** at the front of the school please display your **Blue Badge clearly in the front window of your car**.

Please do not walk your child through the vehicular entrance or across the car park. Always use the pathways and zebra crossings. Unless you are parked on the ramp and making your way back to your parked car it is safer to use the main walking entrance next to the main gate.

Could I please ask that whoever drops your child off and picks them up from school follows the safety guidance in place. This includes children following the safest route around the car park and into the school as some children are still being walked across the car park and this is extremely dangerous.

I would also ask that you limit your speed while in the school car park and be mindful of cars coming in or leaving the school. As our entrance is only able to permit one vehicle at a time, we need to adopt a give way procedure here. As you approach the school, I would ask that you stop and look into the car park to ensure that no one is coming out and if they are, you wait until the route is clear before entering the car park.

We have recently received a number of complaints from the residents who live in Whitehills Drive who are concerned about the speed of vehicles, as well as cars mounting the kerbs as it poses a serious risk to the children walking along the pathways. We would ask that all drivers are respectful of the residential areas around the school and road safety consideration given here also.

Staff will politely remind parents and carers if they are parked illegally or in an unsafe manner. If someone refuses to comply then the Police will be alerted.

We would appreciate your support with our road safety measures and school rules regarding parking.



Dates for your Diary

Monday 3 rd February	9.30am P7 Drama with STA&STB's
Wednesday 5 th February	12.30pm Football Festival
Thursday 6 th February	9.20am Find Out Thursday 12.00 Netball Festival
Friday 7 th February	In-service Day
Monday 10 th and Tuesday 11 th February	Holidays
Wednesday 12 th February	In-service Day
Friday 14 th February	P7 Cathedral Visit
Sunday 16 th February	11.00am First Communion Meeting for OLOL parish after 11am Mass
Monday 17 th February	P7 Drama with STA&STB's
Wednesday 19 th February	7.00pm Parent Staff Group Meeting Beat the Street Launch Day 7.00pm PSG Meeting
Sunday 22 nd February	10.30am P3 St Vincent's Parish Reconciliation Day of Preparation 1.00pm – 4.00pm Beat the Street Fun Day – John Wright Sports Centre
Sunday 23 rd February	11.00am P3 Our Lady of Lourdes Reconciliation Meeting after mass
Monday 24 th February	Fairtrade Fortnight 9.30am P7 Drama with STA&STB's
Wednesday 26 th February	1.30pm Ash Wednesday Mass – Our Lady of Lourdes
Thursday 27 th February	3.00pm Family Learning Club
Friday 28 th February	Cross Country – Strathaven Park
Monday 2 nd March	9.30am P7 Drama with STA&STB's
Tuesday 3 rd March	8.30am Mass for Lent 10.00am Fairtrade Café
Wednesday 4 th March	12.30pm Football Festival
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Tuesday 10 th March	8.30am Mass for Lent

	7.00pm St Vincent's Sacrament of Reconciliation
Thursday 12 th March	SCIAF Day of Prayer 12.00am Netball Festival
Sunday 15 th March	11.00am First Communion Meeting for OLOL parish after 11am Mass
Tuesday 17 th March	8.30am Mass for Lent 7.00pm Our Lady of Lourdes Sacrament of Reconciliation
Wednesday 18 th March	11.00am P4&P5 to OLOL for Stations of the Cross 7.00pm Parent Staff Group Meeting
Thursday 19 th March	11.00am P6&P7 to OLOL for Stations of the Cross
Monday 23 rd March	Financial Education Week
Thursday 26 th March	10.45am P4-7 Confessions 3.00pm Family Learning Club
Friday 3 rd April	2.30pm School Closes
Wednesday 22 nd April	12.30pm Football Festival 1.30pm P7 ICT with STA&STB's
Thursday 23 rd April	1.30pm P7 ICT with STA&STB's 3.00pm Family Learning Club
Monday 27 th April	P1, P2, P5 and P7 Handball 9.30am P6 Social Studies with STA&STB's
Tuesday 28 th April	P3, P4 and P6 Handball
Wednesday 29 th April	9.20am Find Out Wednesday 1.30pm P7 ICT with STA&STB's
Thursday 30 th April	1.30pm P7 ICT with STA&STB's
Monday 4 th May	9.30am P6 Social Studies with STA&STB's 10.45am P4 Confessions
Tuesday 5 th May	1.10pm St Vincent's First Communion Practice
Wednesday 6 th May	9.30am P6 Modern Languages with STA&STB's PSG St Louise Feast Day Disco (P1-3 are 6.30-7.30pm) (P4-7 are 7.45-8.45pm)
Thursday 7 th May	In-service Day
Friday 8 th May	Holiday
Saturday 9 th May	10.30am St Vincent's First Communion
Tuesday 12 th May	1.20pm OLOL First Communion Practice
Wednesday 13 th May	9.30am P6 Modern Languages with STA&STB's 1.30pm P& ICT with STA&STB's
Thursday 14 th May	1.30pm P7 ICT with STA&STB's 3.30pm Parents' Evening
Thursday 16 th May	Parents' Evening
Sunday 17 th May	1.00pm OLOL First Communion
Tuesday 19 th May	P7 Parents Information Evening – STA&STB's
Wednesday 20 th May	9.00am P7 Induction Day 1 7.00pm Parent Staff Group Meeting
Thursday 21 st May	9.00am P7 Induction Day 2 11.10am Ascension Thursday Mass – Our Lady of Lourdes (Children need packed lunch)
Friday 22 nd and Monday 25 th May	Holidays
Thursday 28 th May	3.00pm Family Learning Club
Friday 29 th May	1.15pm St Louise Sports Day
Tuesday 2 nd June	P7 to Auchengillan
Thursday 4 th June	1.30pm P4 First Communion Thanksgiving Mass (pupils only)
Thursday 11 th June	10.00am PFFA Mass – St Vincent's Church 11.00am P3 and P7 Confessions
Friday 12 th June	6.30pm PSG Summer Fair
Monday 15 th June	1.30pm P7 Leavers' Mass
Friday 19 th June	P5 Games
Monday 22 nd June	1.30pm P7 Leavers' Assembly
Wednesday 24 th 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**

Holiday

Please note that the school will close on **Friday 3rd April at 2.30pm**. On behalf of all the pupils and staff here at St Louise Primary we wish you a Happy and Holy Easter break when it comes.

Yours sincerely

Siobhan Mooty

Siobhan Mooty
Head Teacher

