



St Louise Primary



Winter Newsletter 2024

School News



- Thank you to all families who attended the parent/carer open evening, it was a great turn out and the children enjoyed showing off their learning environment.
- We had a wonderful turnout at our Halloween disco and a fun time was had by all.
- P6 have now been enrolled into the Pope Francis Faith Award programme and will work over the next two years to complete this. We thank Fr Romanus and Fr Kenny for sharing in this celebration with us.
- Our extra-curricular clubs and festivals have started and will continue throughout the session and we thank all the volunteers who give their time freely to ensure the children can benefit from this extra provision. Please note that low attendance and not meeting the minimum numbers required may result in some clubs having to stop.
- Congratulations to our new P6 Missio Champions who were commissioned at a service in Carfin grotto this term.
- Our Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs) have shared the importance of being bright and being seen in the dark months ahead and will support us with knowing what we can do to make ourselves safe.
- Well done to everyone who took part in the Beat the Street event – we are delighted to announce that St Louise Primary came third in the average points category.
- Thank you to everyone who completed our participatory budget consultation and 'school trips and educational visits' are the winning item and our school will now be able to use this money to support children and families who may struggle to meet the costs of educational trips and visits.
- Thank you to Deacon Bill for leading our P1 class in a blessing for this new school session.
- P6 are studying the Wars of Independence this session and had a wonderful visit from Scott the Historian who shared lots of knowledge and replicas from this time.
- Thank you to Fr Kenny for a lovely opening mass to mark the beginning of a new school year.
- Thank you to Fr Kenny for celebrating a Eucharistic Service with us on All Saints Day and it was lovely to join Our Lady of Lourdes Primary for this special mass in the liturgical year.

PSG

Our Parent Staff Group held their recent AGM and we thank them for all the hard work and support they have given and continue to give to our school community.

Our new office bearers were elected for session 2024-25 and they are as follows:

- Chairperson: Gillian Bonner
- Treasurer: Elena Gill
- Secretary: Louise Gardner
- Church Representative: Marie-Ann Harris



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

If your child is absent for any reason please ensure you call the school first thing in the morning **(01355 230804)**. 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.

Alternatively, you can use the Parentsportal App to register your child's absence.

This term we will start our first round of attendance reviews and will notify any families where attendance is sitting below 85%. **Please note, that in order for a child to finish the school year on an attendance rate of 90% or above, they would need to have no more than 20 days absence across the full school session.**



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

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 hurtful hands, feet and objects to yourself**

We also have three visible consistencies that we are all using to ensure our school is a great place for all. These include:

1. Using our good manners and respectful words when speaking to each other
2. Walking around the school in a safe and quiet manner
3. Listening well to others when they speak to us or visit us



Gentle Reminders

Head lice

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 at your local pharmacy. You can also access useful advice from 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 point where bottles can be refilled if necessary. It would help immensely if you could try and use water bottles with a secure lid that only requires a flip open as many of the younger children are struggling with screw on tops. Unless there is a medical reason why your child needs an alternative to plain water, only plain water is permitted in your child's bottle.

Pets

Please note that pets are not permitted on school grounds except those who are needed for assistance. If you have a pet, and are collecting your child, could we ask you to do so from outside the school gate.

We also have children who are scared of dogs and would ask that you stand away from the main pedestrian gate to allow pupils to leave the school without fear.

Scooters and Bikes

Please note, 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.

Nut Allergies

We have children in school who have a range of medical conditions, and some are of a severe allergic nature. We ask that you do not give your child any products containing nuts, this includes Nutella, peanut butter and chocolate spread.

Please note that lollipops are not allowed in St Louise due to their choking hazard and we would ask that children do not bring these as part of their snack or packed lunch.



Please also refrain from sending in a birthday cake, sweets etc. on your child's special day as some of the children cannot share in this.

Thank you in advance for your support with all of the above.

Christmas Activities

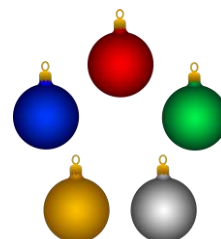
We have issued a Christmas events timetable so that you have information regarding all activities going on and the information needed for these. Contact the school office if you would like a paper copy sent home with your child.



Christmas Parties

All parties will take place on the following dates and times and children should come to school on these days in their party clothes:

- Monday 16th December – P1 and P2
- Tuesday 17th December – P3 and P4
- Wednesday 18th December – P5 and P6
- Thursday 19th December – P7



St Louise Website

A range of information concerning school life is available via our school website 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 Parentsportal App but please contact the school office if you require a paper copy of any of our documents.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 11 th November	In-service Day – Pupils Do Not Attend School
Thursday 14 th November	Whole School Photographs – Children should wear full school uniform
Friday 15 th November	9.15am Find Out Friday Session
16 th – 30 th November	Catholic Education Weeks
Wednesday 20 th November	3.45pm P7 Transition Event – STA&STBs 7.00pm Parent Council Meeting
Wednesday 27 th November	P7 Confirmation – 7pm OLOL Church
Friday 29 th November	6.00-8.00pm Christmas Fair
Monday 2 nd December	9.30am – Pantomime
Friday 6 th December	Dress Rehearsals
Monday 9 th December	P1&2 Nativity morning (10.00am) and evening performance (7.00pm) 2.15pm P1, P2 & P3 joint play with Heatheryknowe
Tuesday 10 th December	P3-7 Christmas Show afternoon performance (1.15pm)
Wednesday 11 th December	P3-7 Christmas Show afternoon (1.15pm) and evening performance (7.00pm)
Thursday 12 th December	Christmas Lunches
Friday 13 th December	2.15pm P4 & P5 joint play with Heatheryknowe
Monday 16 th December	Pm P1&2 Christmas Party 2.15pm P6 & P7 joint play with Heatheryknowe
Tuesday 17 th December	Pm P3&4 Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 th December	Pm P5&6 Christmas Party
Thursday 19 th December	Pm P7 Christmas Party
Friday 20 th December	2.30pm School Closes
Monday 6 th January	Pupils Return
Week beginning 13 th January	P1 Enrolments for August 2025
Wednesday 15 th January	6.30pm Parent/Carer Information Session – STA&STBs – Parents/Carers Only
Sunday 19 th January	11.30am P3 and P4 Reconciliation and First Communion Enrolment Mass – St Vincent’s Church
Wednesday 22 nd January	7.00pm Parent Council Meeting - Online
Week beginning 27 th January	P1 – P7 NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe Workshops across the week
Thursday 6 th February	9.15am Find Out Thursday Session
Monday 17 th February	Holiday – Schools Closed
Tuesday 18 th February	
Wednesday 19 th February	In-service Day – Children Do Not Attend
Wednesday 26 th February	Parent Council Meeting - Online
Wednesday 5 th March	10.00am Ash Wednesday Mass - OLOL
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day
Friday 7 th March	1.30pm P6 Swimming Session 1 (12 weeks)
Tuesday 11 th March	6.00pm P3 Reconciliation – St Vincent’s Church
Wednesday 19 th March	7.00pm Parent Council Meeting
Friday 4 th April	Talent Show 2.30pm School Closes
Tuesday 22 nd April	Pupils Return
Wednesday 23 rd April	7.00pm Parent Council Meeting
Thursday 1 st May	In-service Day – Pupils Do Not Attend
Monday 5 th May	Holiday – Schools Closed
Thursday 8 th May	St Louise Feast Day Disco

	6.00-7.00pm (P1-4) 7.15-8.15pm (P5-7)
Friday 9 th May	10.00am St Louise Feast Day Mass - OLOL
Wednesday 14 th May	7.00pm Parent Council Meeting
Thursday 15 th May	3.15pm Parents' Evening
Thursday 22 nd May	Dress Down Day – Donations for Raffle and Tombola for Summer Fair
Friday 23 rd May Monday	Holiday – Schools Closed
Tuesday 27 th May	P7 Open Evening – STA&STBs – Parents/carers and pupils to attend
Wednesday 28 th May	9.15am Find Out Wednesday
Thursday 29 th May	10.00am Ascension Thursday Mass - OLOL
Saturday 31 st May	10.00am P4 First Communion – St Vincent's Church
Week beginning 2 nd June	St Louise Sports Day (Day TBC)
Friday 6 th June	6.00-8.00pm Summer Fair
Monday 9 th June – Thursday 12 th June	P7 Auchengillan
Tuesday 17 th June	1.30pm P7 Leavers' Mass – St Louise Primary
Monday 23 rd June	1.15pm P7 Leavers' Assembly – St Louise Primary
Wednesday 25 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**

Please note the changes to the P7 Leavers' Mass and assembly due to the residential trip to Auchengillan.

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 gw14stlouiseoffice@glow.sch.uk or phone the school.

Please note that the **school closes at 2.30pm on 20th December.**

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas when it comes and best wishes for 2025!

Yours sincerely

Siobhan Mooty
Head Teacher

