



St Louise Primary

Winter Newsletter 2025

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.
- 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, Fr Kenny and Matthew 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.
- Congratulations to our new P6 Missio Champions who were commissioned at a service in Carfin grotto this term.
- Our Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs) will share 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.
- Thank you to everyone who completed our participatory budget consultation and 'home learning resources' 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 resources for use at home to support learning.
- Thank you to Deacon Joe for leading our P1 class in a blessing for this new school session.
- Thank you to Fr Kenny for a lovely opening mass to mark the beginning of a new school year and to all the children who participated reverently.
- P7 enjoyed a trip to Sky Academy where they took on several roles in the TV industry and focused on very important and current world issues.
- Thank you to Active Schools who have worked with our P7s to train them in games and activities to use outdoors with our younger children.
- P2 are up and running with their toothbrushing programme.
- Thank you to Fr Kenny for meeting with our parents/carers to enrol their children for First Communion. Anyone who was unable to attend should make arrangements to meet with Fr Kenny to enrol their child.
- P5 thoroughly enjoyed a space day in class to celebrate their IDL context of all things space related.
- P7s were invited to a special P7 welcome mass at St Andrew's and St Bride's and it was a lovely opportunity for the children across the feeder primaries to start their year of transition off and we thank Fr Colm for a beautiful mass and celebration.

Parent Council

Our Parent Council 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 2025-26 and they are as follows:

Chairperson: Gillian Bonner
Treasurer: Elena Harris
Assistant Treasurer Natalie Duffy
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 19 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

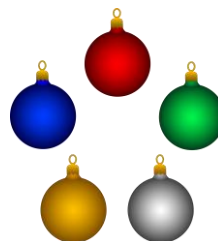
We will issue a Christmas events timetable so that you have information regarding all activities going on and the information needed for these. Contact the school office if you would like a paper copy sent home with your child.



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 15th December – P1 and P2
 Tuesday 16th December – P3 and P4
 Wednesday 17th December – P5 and P6
 Thursday 18th 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 Blue Sky feed @stlouiseprimary.bsky.social

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

Thursday 30 th October	Dress Up / Dress Down Day for Halloween
Wednesday 5 th November	3.45pm P7 Active Schools Event – STA&STBs
Friday 14 th November	Dress Down Day – Parent Council Christmas Fayre Raffle/Tombola Donations 9.15am Find Out Friday Session
16 th – 30 th November	Catholic Education Weeks
Friday 28 th November	3.30-5.30pm St Louise Christmas Fayre
Friday 5 th December	Dress Rehearsals for Shows
Monday 8 th December	P1&2 Nativity morning (10.00am) and evening performance (7.00pm)
Tuesday 9 th December	P3-7 Christmas Show afternoon performance (1.15pm)
Wednesday 10 th December	P3-7 Christmas Show afternoon (1.15pm) and evening performance (7.00pm)
Thursday 11 th December	School Christmas Lunches – Uniform with Christmas Jumper or accessories
Monday 15 th December	Pm P1&2 Christmas Party
Tuesday 16 th December	Pm P3&4 Christmas Party
Wednesday 17 th December	Pm P5&6 Christmas Party
Thursday 18 th December	Pm P7 Christmas Party
Friday 19 th December	2.30pm School Closes
Monday 5 th January	Pupils Return
Week beginning 12 th January	P1 Enrolments for August 2026
TBC	P7 Confirmation – St Vincent De Paul Church
Wednesday 14 th January	P7 Parent/Carer Information Evening – STA&STBs – Parents/Carers Only
Sunday 25 th January	11.00am First Communion (P4) and First Reconciliation (P3) Mass in OLOL
Wednesday 4 th February	7pm Parent Council Meeting in school
Friday 27 th February	PM P6 Swimming Session 1 (12 weeks)
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Tuesday 10 th March	6.00pm P3 Reconciliation – Our Lady of Lourdes Church

Thursday 19 th March	9.15am Find Out Thursday Session
Wednesday 1 st April	7.00pm Parent Council Meeting in school
Thursday 2 nd April	2.30pm School Closes
Monday 20 th April	Pupils Return
Wednesday 29 th April	7.00pm Parent Council Meeting in school
Tuesday 5 th – Friday 8 th May	P7 Auchengillan Residential Trip
Saturday 9 th May	10.00am P4 First Communion – Our Lady of Lourdes Church
Thursday 14 th May	10.00am Ascension Mass - OLOL 3.15pm Parents' Evening
Thursday 21 st May	Dress Down Day – donations for Parent Council Summer Fayre Raffle
Week beginning 1 st June	St Louise Sports Day (Day TBC)
Friday 5 th June	St Louise Summer Fayre
Tuesday 9 th June	1.30pm P7 Leavers' Mass in school
Tuesday 16 th June	1.15pm P7 Leavers' Assembly
Thursday 25 th June	1.00pm Schools close for Summer

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

Please note that the **school closes at 2.30pm on 19th December.**

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas when it comes and best wishes for 2026!

Yours sincerely

Siobhan Mooty
Head Teacher

