



**Hard Work  
Fairness  
Inclusion  
Respect  
Faith**



**Education Resources**  
Executive Director **Tony McDaid**  
**Our Lady and St. Anne's Primary School**  
Head Teacher: **Mrs Catherine S Currie**

## **Our Lady and St. Anne's Newsletter Term 2 (Oct – Dec) 2021**

### **Thank you**

I would like to say thank you to all of our pupils, parents and staff for their continuous help and support since the children returned to school in August. I know that life outside of school feels a lot more normal however, within educational settings, we are still operating with significant restrictions and daily challenges. Once again, our children have accepted this and adapted beautifully. They are a constant, welcome reminder of resilience, energy and love.

### **Health and Safety**



As mentioned above, we continue to follow the Scottish Government Guidance for Educational Establishments. This means that children continue to remain in their classrooms with limited movement around the school. There will continue to be enhanced cleaning, hand washing and very limited sharing of resources in the classroom. We ask that children do not bring in toys from home, including fidget toys.

Children in each class will continue to play in allocated zones in the playground. We have also been participating in CO2 monitoring, the results of which are sent to South Lanarkshire Council and the Scottish Government.

We are now able to use cloakrooms to help organise the children's belongings. Please ensure that all of your children's clothing is clearly labelled. We have so many new and used garments which we cannot reunite with owners as they are not labelled. Over the coming weeks and months, we will share plans of how we can support families with school uniform and make use of all clothes that are in good condition.

Adults who are dropping their children off are asked to **continue to wear masks at the school gate** and in the school yard (P1 parents only are allowed in the yard).

We have had an increased number of parents presenting at the school office, we respectfully ask that parents do not enter the school building, this is in line with the current Scottish Government Guidance for educational establishments. If you are collecting your child early for any reason, please press the buzzer but remain outside.

As always, children should not leave school during the day unless absolutely essential. Thank you for your continued help to keep our school community safe.



### **Staffing**

I am sure that you will be aware from the media that there are difficulties in maintaining staffing levels in many areas and industries – education is no different and we have already experienced these challenges in Our Lady and St. Anne's. I would like to thank, personally, all of the staff for their continued efforts throughout these times.

Whilst we always try to minimise the impact on the children, there are times where it is necessary to change timetables and move elements of the school day to manage staffing situations, in particular PE times. We understand that this can be hard for parents to keep up with.

To ease this for everyone, we ask that children bring their PE kits into school on a Monday and take them home on a Friday. This means that they will always have access to a PE kit despite any last minute changes.

Within the classroom, all teachers have visual timetables each day to prepare the children for the day ahead and let them know if there are any changes.

I am also sad to say that Miss Milloy is unwell and, despite having hoped to return to work, is unable to do this at the moment. We are all sending Miss Milloy our love and prayers and look forward to seeing her when she is fit and well.

Mrs Ward and Miss Parker will continue to support Rm 6 in the meantime. I would like to say a huge thank you to the boys and girls in Rm 6, they have been superstars and have adapted to these changes perfectly, always modelling our school values of hard work and respect. Well done Room 6!



## **Leadership Roles**

Our school community has spoken and many of our pupils have been elected into leadership roles. Well done to all the boys and girls who put themselves forward for a range of positions, I am very proud of you all. A special well done to the children below, who were voted by their peers to take forward these areas of responsibility. We are looking forward to working with you throughout the year.

### **P7 House Leaders**

Arran – Brooke Allan, Reece Hamilton and Kaiden Dow  
Iona – Hannah Brown, Oliwia Lewandowska and Christopher O'Connor  
Mull – Kevin Docherty, Ava Findlay and Ellie Wedlock  
Skye – Lacie Reilly, Tilly McMahon and Ailsa Sam

### **Pupil Council**

P1 – Adisha Dilru, Sophia Callaghan  
P2 – Emmie Dempster, Arun Bhasker-Perry  
P3 – Ayushka Dilmli, Carter Wilkinson  
P4 – Jennifer McAllion, Liam Wedlock  
P5 – Marah Stewart, Dylan Stewart  
P6 – Ella Findlay, Zac McFadyen  
P7 – Hannah Brown, Kaiden Dow



### **Eco Committee**

P1 - Lachlan Frew and Lola Mushet  
P2 – Carson Carroll and Phoebe Pearson  
P3 – Darragh Murphy and Abbie Curran  
P4 – Philip McKeown and Erin Lowe  
P5 – Aiden Dempsey and Taylor Laverty  
P6 – Abbie McFadyen and Leona McFarlane  
P7 – Kevin Docherty and Ellie Wedlock

## **Building Resilience**

We are coming to the end of the first term of our new Health and Wellbeing programme, Building Resilience. Thank you to those of you who supported the children with their homework tasks. We will continue on this journey next term with our focus being, Keep Connected. Look out for new information leaflets coming home to you after the Oct break!

## **Sacraments**

Pupils in **P4** who are due to make their Sacrament of Reconciliation this year, will do so on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Oct at 6pm**. Father O'Farrell will confirm particular arrangements nearer the time.

Father will also be in school on Wed 6<sup>th</sup> Oct to say Mass for P6 and P7 pupils in the hall. This will be streamed live to all other classes who will participate virtually. This will be a welcome Mass for the whole school as well as an opportunity to celebrate with P6 pupils as they begin their Pope Francis Faith Award journey.



### **Support for Families**

As part of our discussions with our Participatory Budgeting groups, we talked about trying to provide long-term support for children and families in practical areas such as clothing, uniform and food. We hope to be able to provide a very practical and useful service for our school community in the coming months but will require your help and support to do so. More information will be shared very soon, please look out for more details and information in school bags, online and on Google Classroom.

### **Breakfast Club**

The Breakfast Club operates Mon – Fri 8.15 – 8.45am. Children should enter via the school office where their attendance will be recorded. **Please ensure that your child does not arrive early** as they will be unable to enter the building before 8.15am. All are welcome and there is no need to book / reserve a space.

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

We understand that, at the moment, many of our children are undertaking testing and having to isolate as a result of Coronavirus. Where possible, outside of these restrictions, please encourage your child to have excellent attendance and punctuality. Children should not be routinely arriving at the school office after 9am – they are missing valuable teaching and learning time.



If your child is unwell, please ensure that you contact the school office and let us know. This means that their absence will be recorded appropriately.

### **School Uniform**

Please ensure your child is wearing full school uniform daily (shirt / tie etc.). We are very proud of our school uniform and how smart our children are. It helps to develop and maintain our school community, ethos and identity. It also ensures that all children are the same and no child is left out or made to feel different as a result of what they wear. Please continue to support us in this. If you require help with any aspect of uniform, PE kits or indoor shoes, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Currie, Mrs Carroll or Miss Parker and we will be able to help you discretely and confidentially.

### **Keeping in Touch**



An important reminder that we update our school app and Twitter account regularly to help all our parents keep on top of everything that is going on at school. In the current climate it is essential that parents be on one, if not both, of these platforms. All children should now be using Google Classroom daily for homework, therefore updates will also be shared on there.

Yours sincerely  
Catherine S Currie  
Head Teacher