



# St. Peter's Primary School



Education Resources

Executive Director: Mrs C McKenzie

Head Teacher: Miss Claire-Louise Mullen

03.09.2024

## September 2024 Newsletter

St. Peter's Primary School aims to promote a climate of 'excellence' and 'belonging'. I am delighted to have observed our children working hard to settle to learning and to help others feel included in play and socialisation.

### Global Citizenship

The children have worked collaboratively to devise Class Charters for session 2024-2025 in accordance with learning relating to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Class Charters will now be used to develop a whole School Charter for this session. Children are developing a growing awareness of their rights and responsibilities within the school setting and beyond in their communities. Children are aware of the concept of 17 Global Goals and will be supported to recognise their successes and contributions towards achieving this international agenda.

### Pupil Leadership Roles

Congratulations to our new School Captains Kyle and Laaiba who were selected after interview and pupil vote process. In addition, we congratulate our new: House Captains, Vice House Captains, Junior House Captains, House Administrators, JRSOS, Side Kick Play Team, Global Citizenship Committee, Health Committee, Digital Committee, Zen Den Ambassadors, Buddies, and P7 Leaders for this session. It is hoped all representatives will work hard to complete their roles and responsibilities and to contribute meaningfully to sharing the 'pupil voice' for school improvement. Photographs of our Leadership Team will filter to X updates.

### Vision Values and Aims Refresh # IMPORTANT

As part of the School Improvement Plan 2024-2025, the school aims to refresh the 'Vision, Values and Aims' and 'Curriculum Rationale' to ensure currency and relevance to learners, families and the whole school community. Please refer to the flyer on page 6 of the Newsletter for further information. We hope parents/carers will vote on our new values by completing **one adult vote** per family using the Google Form indicated in the follow-up email. This questionnaire is **only** open to parents/carers as the children will vote in school. We hope to collate a fair representation of votes from children and families by **Thursday 5th September 2024 at 3pm**. The children have voted for **Excel, Ambition, Teamwork, Nurture and Kindness**. The staff, Fr King and parental votes will be considered alongside the children's votes. In the event that votes are not consistent across all groups and the overall percentages are evenly split between options the children's vote will take precedence. We are proud of the children for their responsive and conscientious approach to decision making and for demonstrating that they value 'pupil voice' experiences in St. Peter's PS.

### 8th September 2024 Celebration of Our Lady's Birthday

In celebration of Our Lady's Birthday, we hope to make a whole school donation to the local Foodbank on **8th September 2024**. We would be very grateful of any donations of: tins, cans, packaged foods, toiletries or cleaning materials which you feel would be useful for families in our local community. The House Captains will award children donating items with 10 house points towards their House in recognition for their care of the community.

Reminder Annual Data Checks should be returned to the school office ASAP. These are essential in the event of an emergency!!  
Return of photographic permissions will enable the school to upload photographs to online digital platforms.

Access to website, email, app, ParentsPortal and X is recommended for receipt of regular updates!

### **Staffing Update**

The school welcomes Miss Paula Goudie to the school. Miss Goudie will share the class teacher role of Room 3 on a Monday and Tuesday and alternate Wednesdays.

### **School Support**

Pupil learning support is the responsibility of the class teacher. At times, your child may be offered additional support for learning to help them to overtake specific targets for allocated periods of time, staff permitting. This additional support may be provided by Mr J McSorley (P4-7), Mrs Wilson (P1-3), support assistants, Mrs J Cowan (Specialist Support Teacher) and Mr C Waddell (Educational Psychologist) depending on your child's needs and the overall school priorities for assessment and intervention. Please note, although your child may be allocated periods of support, interventions are required to be offered fairly across the school on a needs based basis. Intervention allocations will be reviewed at approximately six weeks intervals. Changes to school priorities can sometimes occur due to the changing needs of learners and circumstances of families throughout the school year. Parents / carers of children with Additional Support Plans will have an opportunity to review these plans at Parents' Evenings. If you wish to raise any issues regarding your child's learning or well-being, please do not hesitate to contact the school office who will forward your communication to the most relevant member of the staff team.

### **Faith Life Update - The Holy Sacraments**

Parents/ carers and families are welcome to join the school community at Holy Masses located in St. Peter's RC on the dates specified. Primary 1 parents are welcome to join the children at their School Blessing on **12th September 2024 at 2pm** just before the Room 1 (P1/ P2) Showcase at 2.20pm. We hope that by running both events back to back, families would be supported to attend given work commitments. Dates for the Holy Sacraments have been confirmed and added to the Annual Calendar.

### **Parent Partnerships**

The school is working hard to provide a number of distributed opportunities to welcome parents/carers. We welcome all parents /carers to join the PTA for session 2024-2025. The PTA AGM meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday 18th September 2024 at 5pm**. Please encourage others to join the team.

### **Calendar Dates**

Please see a list of provisional calendar dates overleaf to try to provide notice. Please note dates can be subject to change and that changes may be required at short notice depending on a range of factors and school circumstances.

I wish the children a happy and inspiring Autumn term.

Yours Sincerely

*CL Mullen*

Claire-Louise Mullen

Headteacher

# Calendar Dates and Parental Engagement Opportunities

## Learning Showcases

- 12.09.24 Rm 1 at 2.20pm
- 31.10.24 Rm 6 at 2.20pm
- 13.02.25 Rm 4 at 2.20pm
- 24.04.25 Rm 5 at 2.20pm
- 05.06.25 Rm 3 at 2.20pm

## Class Assemblies

- 11.10.24 Rm 4 at 2.20pm
- 29.11.24 Rm 3 at 2.20pm
- 24.01.25 Rm 5 at 2.20pm
- 28.03.25 Rm 1 at 2.20pm
- 17.06.25 Rm 6 at 2.20pm

## Class 'X' Twitter Showcase Weeks

- 19.08.24 Rm 1 P1 Starting School
- 26.08.24 Rm 3
- 16.09.24 Rm 4
- 07.10.24 Rm 5
- 21.10.24 Rm 6
- 04.11.24 Rm 1
- 18.11.24 Rm 4
- 02.12.24 Rm 5
- 09.12.24 Christmas
- 13.01.25 Rm 3
- 03.02.25 Rm 6
- 24.02.25 Rm 3
- 03.03.25 Rm 1
- 17.03.24 Rm 4
- 03.04.25 Talent Show
- 28.04.25 P7 Residential
- 06.05.25 Rm 1
- 02.06.25 Rm 5
- 17.06.25 Rm 6 Leaver's Celebrations

## Leavers' Celebrations

- 23.10.24 Leaver's Celebration Meeting at 4.30pm
- 28.04.25 P7 Dalguise Outdoor Activity Centre
- 17.06.25 Leavers' Mass
- 17.06.25 Leavers' Assembly
- 17.06.25 P7 Celebration Meal / Activity

## PTA Meetings - Provisional Dates

- 18.09.24 AGM Conference Room at 5pm
- 02.10.24 First Meeting of New Group at 5pm
- 27.11.24 Conference Room at 5pm
- 05.02.25 Conference Room at 5.15pm
- 07.05.25 Conference Room at 5pm
- Date of Shorts and Shades Disco tbc

## Faith Life - Provisional Dates

- 06.09.24 First Friday Mass at 10am
- 08.09.24 Our Lady's Birthday Class Charities
- 12.09.24 P1 Blessing at 2pm
- 11.10.24 Mass Month of Mary at 10am
- 01.11.24 All Saints Mass at 10am
- 06.12.24 Advent Mass at 10am
- 20.12.24 Christmas Celebration Mass at 10am
- 07.02.25 New Year Mass at 10am
- 11.02.25 Reconciliation Meeting at 6pm
- 11.02.25 Communion Meeting at 6.30pm
- 11.02.25 Confirmation Meeting at 7pm
- 05.03.25 Ash Wednesday at 10am
- 01.04.25 Reconciliation at 6.30pm
- 17.05.25 First Holy Communion at 10am
- 10.06.25 Confirmation at 7pm
- 20.06.25 End of Term Thanksgiving Mass 10am

## Planned School Events

- 08.09.24 Our Lady's Birthday Food Bank
- 23.09.24 Climate Week
- 07.10.24 Challenge Poverty Week
- 28.10.24 Care Experienced Week
- 31.10.24 Hallowe'en Games
- 01.11.24 UNCRC Coffee Morning 11.30am
- 08.11.24 Photographs
- 11.11.24 Anti-bullying Week
- 14.11.24 Parents' Evening
- 21.11.24 Science Day led by Mr Milwain
- 10.12.24 Christmas Nativity / Show
- 11.12.24 Christmas Nativity / Show
- 13.12.24 P 1, 2 and 3 Party
- 16.12.24 P6 and P7 Party
- 17.12.24 P4 and P5 Party
- 19.12.24 Flu Immunisations
- 30.01.25 World of Work Day led by Miss Keatings
- 07.02.25 Multi-Cultural Day led by Mr Tarrier
- 11.02.25 Safer Internet Day
- 27.02.25 Caring for Climate Coffee at 9.15am
- 06.03.25 World Book Day
- 03.04.25 Talent Show led by Mrs Wilson
- 29.04.25 New P1 Induction 1 at 1.45pm
- 08.05.25 New P1 Induction Lunch at 12pm
- 14.05.25 Health Day led by Mrs Kane
- 21.05.25 Parents' Evening
- 29.05.25 New P1 Induction Day 2 at 1.45pm
- 12.06.25 Sports Day led by Mr McSorley
- 13.06.25 House Treat
- 17.06.25 Leaver's Celebrations
- 18.06.25 Fun Day led by Mrs Goudie
- 19.06.25 Class Transition Switch Day
- 20.06.25 End of Term Mass at 10am
- 20.06.25 Awards Ceremony (children only)

## General Reminders

### School Improvement Plan / Standards and Qualities Report

A summary of the School Improvement Plan 2024 –2025 and a copy of the Standards and Qualities Report 2023-2024 are available to access from the School Publications section of the school website.

### School Uniform

Many thanks to parents/carers for supporting the children to present to school in full uniform. Reminder children should wear white shirt, tie and grey trousers / skirts or pinafores. Polo shirts can be worn on PE days only. Children should wear black or red school shoes. Any trainers worn should be fully black in colour (black self-coloured trainers). Children wearing blazers are reminded to bring a waterproof jacket for inclement weather. Children will be encouraged to engage in outdoor learning. Staff may select any day of the week to offer outdoor learning opportunities. As a result, it is advised that children bring a waterproof jacket to school.

### Parental Collection Notice

Reminder to all families that individuals dropping off and collecting P1-4 from school should be aged 16 or over. The school will not permit children from P1-4 to leave school with an individual under the age of 16. This is a safeguarding measure to ensure children are collected by a responsible adult. Parents/carers of Primaries 5-7 are requested to complete a permissions form to indicate their intentions for their child. The children will not be released to walk home unless the permission form is completed to safeguard the children.

### P1 Change of Clothes

Please could we ask that children of P1 have a change of clothes available in school. Clothes will be kept on their peg and used in the event of a lunch spill, toileting accident etc.

### Notifications of a Change to Medicines

Reminder that all medicines (including over the counter medicines and cough sweets) must be recorded on an Administration of Medicines Form. These must be submitted directly to the school office.

### Notifications of a Change of Address / Emergency Contacts

Reminder to all parents/carers that the school should be notified of any changes of address or emergency contact details. All data should be accurate and up to date to enable the school to respond swiftly and appropriately to any emergency circumstance.

### Mobile Phones

Children are asked not to bring mobile phones or digital devices to school. Mobile phones which are brought to school on parental request should be submitted to the school office at 9am and collected at 2.55pm. Mobile phones will not be permitted to be used in the school environment. Children bringing mobile phones or digital devices to school do so at their own risk. The school will not take any responsibility for loss or damage.

### Monitoring Attendance

The school will continue to promote positive school attendance. The School Leadership Team monitors attendance and seeks to support families when attendance drops below appropriate levels. It is beneficial to the children to maximise attendance to enable them to engage in learning and wider experiences. Improved attendance is a priority. The school will aim to continue to set the percentage threshold for attendance at 90%, in 2024-2025, in line with South Lanarkshire Council data. Any child with: attendance below 90%, patterns of in- attendance which are not substantiated by Health Professionals or exceptional circumstances, late arrivals and late pick-ups at periodic review will automatically be assigned to the school Attendance Monitoring and Tracking Pathway which involves liaison with parents/carers and, where necessary, referral to linked Education or other agencies. In addition, the school continues to set high standards for improvement in the school's overall average for school attendance which will be reviewed regularly.

## **Communications**

Please do not hesitate to contact the school on 01698 281277 or email [office@st-peters-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-peters-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk) if you have any queries. The school office staff will aim to direct your call/ email to the relevant member of staff. I look forward to continuing to work with all children, staff and families, in partnership and in a climate of mutual trust, inclusion, equality and support. As per South Lanarkshire Council, I remind parents/carers that all communications should be conducted cordially and with courtesy. Violence and aggression, either physical, verbal or in writing, towards staff is not acceptable.

## **Calling the School**

If calling to provide information to the school or to collect your child earlier than 3pm, please contact the school before 2.40pm. School office staff are not available to answer the school phones between 2.40 and 3.00pm. If planning an earlier collection time, please ensure your child is collected before 2.40pm as office staff are not available to support collections between 2.40pm and 3.00pm. During these times, support staff support the preparation for safe exit of the children. The Senior Leadership Team monitor requests for early collection. Patterns of early collection which are not relevant to scheduled appointments will be recorded and discussed with parents/carers.



## Vision Values and Aims Refresh

### Consultation September 2024

## School Moto—Aspiring Hearts and Minds

### It is time to refresh the School Vision, Values and Aims!

It is important that children, staff, families, Fr King, linked agencies and stakeholders have an opportunity to participate in the consultation aimed at reviewing the 'Vision, Values and Aims' of St. Peter's Primary School.

**Step 1** - The school Staff Team, Support Staff Team and Fr King worked collaboratively to select a range of potential values under five key themes which take account of current school, local and national priorities and the culture and community of the school..

**Step 2** - The Pupil Leadership Team participated in a collaborative activity aimed at refining this list of potential values to three values within five key themes which reflect their pupil led vision for our school.

**Step 3** - All children present on the day of the questionnaire 3rd September 2024 will be offered the opportunity to participate in a child friendly version of this questionnaire in class.

**Step 4** - We invite parents/carers to complete one Google Form per family to help us select our refreshed school values which will form our new visionary drive for 'Excellence' and 'Belonging'. The questionnaire will be available for completion from 3rd September 2024 at 3.00pm to 5th September 2024 at 3.00pm. The link to the form will be sent by email.

**Step 5** - The children will be informed of the selected values on Friday 6th September 2024. Families will be informed in Newsflash update week beginning 9th September 2024. The values will be used to develop new aims and a linked a vision. The school will then use this information to update the Curriculum Rationale and refresh the school celebration of success awards.

**I can, you can and we can make a difference!**

**" Within our dreams and aspirations we find our opportunities". (Ray Leonard)**

**Many thanks for sharing your votes!**



## Health and Safety Update

### PE Health and Safety Notice

For health and safety, children with longer than shoulder length hair should have their hair tied up for PE, unless for any medically specified reason (informed to the school by parent/carer). It is advised that earrings are not worn on PE days. If it is not possible to remove stud earrings, they should be taped up for PE. All drop or loop earrings must be removed for participation in PE and physical activities. All other jewellery should be removed for PE lessons. All children should wear appropriate indoor shoes (plimsolls) when participating in PE indoors. Children will not be permitted to wear Crocs, boots, high heeled typed shoes, slippers or shoes with no covered heels as indoor shoes or for PE due to the safety risk to children. Indoor shoes should be shoes that are not worn outside to reduce wear damage to floors and carpets. In addition, we encourage children not to wear false nails to school. Children will not be permitted to participate in PE, Muga or Trim Trail activities whilst wearing false nails (this includes any type of nail augmentations e.g extensions which are not the child's natural nail) due to the risk of harm or injury.

### Traffic Management Health and Safety Notice

Families are reminded that children are asked to exit the school via the pathways provided. As part of our Traffic Management Systems, children should not cross the car park. It is hugely important that adults collecting children also observe this rule to ensure the children are supported to follow the safety rules. Vehicles blocking or parking at emergency or main gate exits or out with parking bays or the drop off zone will be asked to move their vehicles to a safe location. A consultation meeting has taken place regarding congestion on Hightstonehall Road outside the perimeter fences of St. Peter's Primary School, Neilsland Primary School and Woodlands Nursery with a view to considering measures to reduce parking in the area, eradicate parking on pavements, prevent engine idling and minimise additional safety risks to pedestrians and other road users. A further update will be provided in due course. In the interim, we would join with Neilsland Primary School and Woodlands Nursery to encourage children and families to walk to school, ride bicycles or scooters to keep active, reduce congestion and minimise impact to the environment. In addition, children bringing bikes / scooters to school should dismount and walk with the equipment in the school grounds to avoid accident or injury to themselves or others.

### Inclement Weather Health and Safety Notice

A reminder to families that in the event of inclement weather (ice, snow, high winds) requiring the closure of some school gates the children will enter the building through the main pedestrian access gates and follow gritted pathways to the PE hall where they will be supervised by staff. Risk assessments of the outdoor pathways and playground areas are completed at regular intervals throughout the school day. Updates on the weather forecast or any advance weather warnings are considered.

**Many thanks for all your support!**



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Families may purchase a range of items, insurances, holidays, TV and internet packages over the Christmas period and throughout the school year which could earn the school some extra funds free of charge. The school is funded a percentage of the items or services purchased. Please refer to the [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://easyfundraising.org.uk) website for more details.

To help - google search [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://easyfundraising.org.uk)  
Click on sign up to cause  
Search for St. Peter's-Hamilton (dash is required)  
Create your own account