**St Monica’s Primary School Newsletter**

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***Learners today - Leaders tomorrow***

***We Love, We Teach, We Care***

**September 2019**

 to our first monthly newsletter of 2019/2020. We have had a great start to our new session with many exciting experiences and opportunities planned for the coming year. We began our year by attending Mass for our patron, St Monica’s, Feast Day. The children were all so well behaved and sang beautifully. Thank you to those of you who were able to join us. We also had an amazing time last Thursday when visitors from NASA came to the school. The children listened well to the astronaut Rick Hieb about his adventures in space! There are plenty of pictures and videos on our twitter page. The visitors were amazed at how knowledgeable our children were and commented on their excellent behaviour and attitude.

This will be another busy year for us and the calendar with important dates for you has already been sent out. If you did not receive one you can contact the school office. Thank you to everyone who attended our recent ‘Meet the Teacher’ evening and for all the positive comments we received.

Our Primary One pupils have had an excellent start to their primary career and are busy getting into the school routines.

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**Parent Council**

St Monica’s Parent Council is very active and helps the school in improving outcomes for our children. The Parent Council will have its **Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 3rd September at 6.30pm** in the school. We would be delighted to welcome any parent/carer who is interested in joining the Parent Council or if you would just like more information please come along.

**School Improvement Plan**

On the 18th September you will have the opportunity to come to the school to our annual Information Evening. You will receive information about our plans for improvement this year. We hope you will join us on this evening so you can keep up to date with what is going on in school. It is also an opportunity for you to share your views.

**Health and Wellbeing**

Having healthy bodies and minds helps to raise attainment in children. As we are a health promoting school we ask that you provide your child with a healthy snack for playtime. Children are encouraged to drink plain water during class time and have access to this in school. Fizzy/energy drinks are not allowed in school and due to health and safety issues we would ask that products containing nuts are not brought into school this includes nutella. We also ask that birthday cakes/goodies are not brought into school.

**School Uniform**

It is great to see the children looking so smart in their uniforms. I wish to thank you for the effort you have put in to this. The uniform should consist of **plain** **navy skirt/pinafore/trousers, navy cardigan or jumper, white shirt and tie, plain school shoes. No blue/yellow shirts or grey/black uniform and no brightly coloured trainers.** All P4-7 pupils are expected to wear their shirt and tie every day. P1-3 pupils can wear their white polo shirt on PE days.

**Consent Forms**

Annual data checks are being sent out for you to update. It is vitally important that we have your correct contact numbers in case of emergency. Please ensure these are filled out/updated, signed and returned to the school as soon as possible. We will be sending home consent forms for you to give your child permission to go on trips throughout the year within Glasgow. Finally we sent out a form for you to complete to give consent to photographs and videos to be taken of your child. As stated in the letter if you do not return the form your child will not be in any photos/videos whether it is for in school or social media purposes. Please return this form as soon as possible.

**Safety at School**

Road markings outside the school are visible and there to protect

children and adults. Please do not park on or near the zigzag lines. Double

parking also increases the risk to our children when they are crossing the road, please refrain from doing this. We also ask that parents/carers avoid standing near the car park entrances as this can make it difficult for staff to enter the car parks. Car parks are for the use of staff only. Please do not use car parks when dropping children off in the morning or when picking them up at the end of the day.

I would like to remind all parents/carers that **no dogs are allowed in the playground** and there should be **no smoking** in the playground. It would be helpful if dogs were also kept away from the entrances as a number of children in the school are frightened of them. Parents are welcome into the infant playground but should stand behind the white line so that all of the children have the opportunity to see their parents/carers as they leave the school. Parents of P4-7 children should refrain from entering the playground, allowing your child to be more independent. If you need to pass a message to the teacher please come to the school office.

**Pupil Absence Reporting Line**

Please remember to report your child’s absence or medical/dental appointments to the Pupil Absence Reporting Line on 0141 **287 0039.** You can now inform the school of an absence/appointmentonline. The email address is [www.glasgow.gov.uk/pupilabsence](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/pupilabsence)

On return to school we also ask that you provide a note or copy of appointment card.

**Message from GCC - School Crossing Patroller Vacancies**

The school crossing patrol is a valuable service that ensures the safety of our children and other pedestrians using the crossing point at the beginning and end of each school day. If you or someone you know would be able to work short shifts and would like to become a valuable member of our team please contact 0141 287 8566 for more information. The rate of pay is £9.38 per hour with full training and uniform provided.

Diary Dates for September

Wednesday 4th September – P1 parents/carers are invited to maths/language workshops at 9.10am. Please drop children off at 9am as normal then come to the front entrance.

Wednesday 4th September - P1 classes to have photographs taken for the Evening Times. All P1 children should be wearing full uniform with shirt and tie on this day. If you have not returned the photographic consent form your child will not be in the picture.

Tuesday 10th September – Rag Bag Collection

Thursday 12th September – Scottish Parliament Outreach to visit P5a & P7 classes

Thursday 12th September – Interim Reports to Parents/Carers

Wednesday 18th September – Information evening for Parents/Carers

Friday 27th and Monday 30th September – School closed for the holiday weekend

Classes for Session 2019/20

P1a - Miss Caldwell

P1b - Miss Doherty

P1c - Mrs McLaughlin

P2a - Miss Dawson

P2b - Miss Connolly

P3a - Miss Cusack

P3b - Miss Duffy

P4a - Miss Rooney

P4b - Mrs Sheridan

P5a - Miss Maguire

P5b - Mrs Downie PT

P6 - Miss McDonald

P7/6 - Miss Leavy

P7a - Mrs Whyte PT

NCCT - Mrs Pollock, Mrs Lynn, Mrs Clark, Mrs Coyne,

Mrs Morgan PT – Glasgow’s Improvement Challenge, Numeracy and Maths

Mrs Jack PT – Literacy for All, Health & Wellbeing

Mrs Roberts – Acting Depute Head Teacher

We look forward to a happy successful year in St Monica’s and we thank you for your continued support.

Thank you,

Mrs D McGeever