



# Our Lady of Peace

March 2023 - Newsletter



Faith Learning Respect Safety

Dear Parents/Carers,

Spring has sprung although snow is on the way! You never know what you are getting with the Scottish weather but at least it is getting lighter!

I hope our newsletter finds you well, as we continue our hard work in Term 3.

## Covid-19

We have had a few recently reported cases of Covid -19 amid our school community – please continue to take care and bear in mind that no **one should attend school if symptomatic/feels unwell with suspected Covid-19. The school should be notified, as soon as possible.**

## Breakfast Club

This opens from 8.00am-8.45am. The last entry is 8.40am. The children attending must take breakfast and behave safely. The Breakfast Club is staffed by non-teaching staff.



## Sacraments

Some of our Primary 7 children will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from Glasgow's Archbishop Nolan on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm, at St Thomas' church in Riddrie. Please keep them in your prayers and thank you for helping with their preparations. The children have been much supported by the recent retreat with Fire cloud and current attendance at Circle of Friends.

## Ash Wednesday Mass

Thank you to those who were able to join us at this special Mass to mark the start of Lent. Our children contributed with the reverence expected and helped with readings, hymns and offertory. Thank you also to Mr McKerrall and Miss Holly for the music liturgy and Miss Degan for coordinating. Fr. Francis' welcome and guidance were as warm and appreciated, as ever.

## Children leading clubs

Lots of children ask if they can start a club for their peers and it is important that their enthusiasm to lead is well supported! During lunchtimes, some children already provide fun sessions and recently, more pupils have come forward with ideas. They have completed a 'Club Plan' form. The budding club leaders are being supported by our P7 Head Boy and Girl and Vices.

We hope to have clubs for drawing/colouring, gardening, dance, games, books, etc. over the remainder of Term 3 and into Term 4. Hopefully this can grow from strength to strength!

Some current examples of the children leading include:

- ❖ PE/Sports Leaders for the younger pupils
- ❖ Games club by P7s for the younger children
- ❖ Young Stem leaders
- ❖ Digital Leaders
- ❖ Head Boy, Head Girl and Vices



- ❖ Dining Hall Helpers
- ❖ Tea Party Coordinators
- ❖ Assembly Leading
- ❖ Rights Respecting School representatives

### **Parent Pay- Meal selection**

All lunches must be paid for and pre-ordered via Parent Pay. Hopefully, you will have already activated your ParentPay account. However, if you have not already done so, please do as soon as possible. Advice has already been issued but can be found on [support@parentpay.com](mailto:support@parentpay.com) Please only call the office, if really stuck.

### **Parents' Evenings Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March**

Please look out for the appointment slip issued Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March and return by Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March. Your appointment will be issued on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March. You will be allocated a time if the appointment request slip is not returned.

### **Lenten Fundraising** *Pray, fast and give alms during Lent*

Our wonderful P5 will lead our Lenten Fundraising this year. The plans include



- ❖ A chance to win a P1-3 or P4-7 Easter hampers. All monies raised will go to Sciaf' WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE' 2023 appeal: to help the people of Zambia grow their own food by providing training and tools. Tickets at 50p will be available from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March until Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March, which is when the raffle will be drawn for two lucky winners. Good Luck!
- ❖ Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March– *Out of Uniform/Crazy Hair Day*, again for Sciaf. Please bring £1.

### **Please come along**



Our partnership with you is highly valued and we are always looking at ways to offer support. Please come along to the EAL Parents' coffee mornings (next one 21<sup>st</sup> March) led by Ms. Akhtar, our EAL teacher and/ to the Additional Support Needs Parents' Group sessions (next one 6<sup>th</sup> March) led by Miss Black, Depute Headteacher. Reminders are issued by text/Group call.

### **Lockerbie**

Fundraising by staff has allowed for the cost of the P7 Residential to Lockerbie Manor, in April, to be reduced from an original £215 per child to £130! Mrs Hughes, Principal Teacher, and her formidable 'team' have worked their socks off, so thank you very much!

Payment in full should now be made by Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March to allow full settlement with Manor Adventure, thank you.

### **Super Sevens**

Some of our P7s will attend a Super Sevens event in The Emirates Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March to represent the school in athletics, city wide session. Enjoy and always be good ambassadors for OLoP!

### **Riverside Museum**

P2 and P3/2 will have a day out at the river Clyde as part of their Scotland topic. It should be a fun outing with lots of educational purpose! Details have been issued separately. This will be on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

## Library visits

P5 will be the next class to visit the local library in Easterhouse on Friday 24th March. They will walk to and from the venue and hopefully be fully inspired to read, read and read some more!

As an aside, can your child name his/her favourite book and / author? Please help them think about this.



## Litter Picking

Some of the P7s will support a local Litter Picking event led by the Neighbourhood Improvement and Enforcement Officer. We have a role to help our children become responsible citizens. Thankfully, our pupils respect their school environment and playground, which is very well kept.

Litter is an issue around our school boundaries and I reported on the Glasgow City Council App that the litter in the lane running alongside the school, from Hallhill Road to Edinburgh Road and around the school perimeter, is not regularly cleared. This was attended to a few days later. Unfortunately, it builds up quickly again. However, we will keep reporting and if you have time, perhaps you can too and take up the issue with your local councillor.

## Choir

Our wonderful choir is off to the Royal Concert Hall on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March to take part in this year's Glasgow Music Festival. We are so proud of them and wish them lots of luck and a great day out! I am sure that they will return with good news.



## Daffodil Tea- Friday 17th March

Primaries 2, 3/2 and 3 will send out invites soon to their parents and carers to come along to a special Lenten Daffodil Tea. It will be an opportunity to share with the children our honouring of Our Lady and enjoy a cuppa! Please come along.

## Pe entrants

We can't wait to welcome our new Primary 1 children in August. Mrs McPhee, Principal Teacher, has started to liaise with/visit our partner nurseries/family learning centres, to support transition from one sector to another. We have scheduled preliminary dates for May 11<sup>th</sup> and May 18<sup>th</sup> for visits to school. More detail to follow, in due course.

British Science week running from 13<sup>th</sup> March.



We promote lots of STEM learning in Our Lady of Peace primary and have invested in lots of STEM resources. Mrs Momoh is our STEM coordinator. She has been successful in gaining £300 of funding for the Crest Award which we are aiming to achieve, this session. This will help with science experiment resources. More STEM during this British Science week includes:

- 👉 Hour of Code event across the East End of the city and we have enough iPads and devices for everyone to take part.
- 👉 Staff training on programmable devices.
- 👉 St Andrew's Young STEM Leaders are coming to do a chromatography lesson with P6&P6/5.
- 👉 St Andrew's Young STEM Leaders are going to make a video to launch a whole school competition, which they will judge and give a 3D printed trophy to the winner.
- 👉 Our Young STEM Leaders will provide a workshop for two of the infant classes.

## Parent Council

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 29th March from 4.45pm-6pm. The current chairperson, Mrs Boyle, is stepping down from the role after over three, highly supportive years, in the position. I thank her very much for the time dedicated to the role and thankfully she will continue to help us. Please come along to the meeting, if you can. We will try and fill vacant positions and step up to having a continued, mutually supportive Parent Council and school.

Finally, school closes for the spring and Easter holidays on **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 2.30pm**  
Please just get in touch if need be and, in the meantime, I wish you and your families a peaceful Lent.

Sincerely,

Mrs A M McDonald  
Headteacher

Email [gw17olopoffice@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw17olopoffice@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk) Telephone 0141 773 0550

*'While our ordinary commitments compel us to remain in our usual places and our often repetitive and sometimes boring routines, during Lent we are invited to ascend "a high mountain" in the company of Jesus and to live...as God's holy people.'*

From Pope Francis' message for Lent 2023



**We care, we share, for the future, we prepare!**