

St Martin de Porres Primary School

January 2025



Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year to everyone, we hope you had a resful Christmas although it now seems like so long ago.

JUBILEE 25 : Pilgrims of Hope

Every 25 years, the Catholic Church holds a Jubilee Year. All members of the Global Church family are called to participate. It is a time to grow deeper in our faith and prayer life. A time too to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another, and with all creation. On 24 December 2024, Pope Francis launched the latest Jubilee; its theme is Pilgrims of Hope. As a school, we began our Jubilee celebrations on Friday 25 January. The Jubilee closes on the feast of the Epiphany, 6 January 2026. During this Jubilee Year, we are asked to remind ourselves that Christ, and the values He taught, are central to who we are and what we do. Following Christ makes us pilgrims of hope. During our Jubilee year Pope Francis encourages us to be signs of hope in the world.



Collection at the end of the day.

Despite sending Parentmails and mentioning in previous newsletters, we still have had a number of children who are not being collected on time at the end of the day. We **do not** have staff available to supervise any children who are not picked up on time after school. Please ensure that all emergency contacts are up to date with us, should they need to be called if you are unable to collect. Please refer to our 'Late collection policy' for further information.

Parking

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the majority of parents who have made a commendable effort to reduce parking issues outside the school. However, we regret to inform you that, even at this early stage of the new year, we have already received several complaints from our neighbours about instances where parents have blocked driveways or, in some cases, parked on private driveways. In light of these concerns, we kindly ask all parents to ensure they park in a safe and considerate manner. Please refrain from stopping or dropping off children in the middle of the road. It is essential to find a safe parking spot and ensure that your child exits the vehicle onto the pavement. As role models, it is important that we all demonstrate positive behaviour for our children to follow. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring the safety and well-being of our school community.

Free School Meals (not to be confused with Universal Infant Free School Meals)

If your circumstances have changed since last completing the form regarding Free School Meals, then please complete a new online form via your local council website to see if you are now eligible. Not only will your child receive a school meal and other benefits, such as subsidised school trips, music lessons and food vouchers to be used over the school holidays, but the school will also receive some extra funding. (If your child is in KS1, Reception or Nursery, you can still claim for Free School Meals).

The school also has some access to vouchers for the Foodbank, coats and shoes. Please contact Miss Williams, our family Worker, if you need any additional support.

Illnesses

If your child has been sick or has diarrhoea, they must be kept off school for 48 hours following the last episode. Please notify us immediately if your child has chicken pox, slapcheek or scarlet fever.



Please report all absences to the school office 01582 617600

Passports

Please be advised that as a school we will not be counter signing passports. If you need a passport form signed, please refer to the other eligible occupations listed. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

Mrs Bassett

Finally, we say goodbye to Mrs Bassett as she begins her maternity leave next week. We wish her and her husband all the best for the future and look forward to hearing the exciting news of their baby's arrival. In the meantime, we warmly welcome Mr Lacey, who will be teaching Tigers during Mrs Bassett's absence.

Upcoming dates this term

| Date | Event |
|----------------|--|
| 5.2.25 | PLSP evening |
| 7.2.25 | Shine Bright, Wear Bright - Non Uniform day |
| 10.2.25 | 5-6pm Internet Safety Information Session to Parents |
| 11.2.25 | 5P SLN at Stockwood Park |
| 17.2.25 | HALF TERM WEEK |
| 25.2.25 | 3.45pm Maths Workshops to Parents |
| 5.2.25 | Ash Wednesday |
| 6.3.25 | World Book Day |
| 25.3.25 | 5-7pm Parents Evening |
| 27.3.25 | 4-6.30pm Parents Evening |
| 28.3.25 | 4+ Mothers Day to Parents |
| 31.3.25 | Year 6 to Alton Castle |
| 2.4.25 | World Autism Day – Wear Blue Non Uniform Day |
| 2.4.25 | 8.50am Y3 Easter Production to Parents 3M |
| 3.4.25 | 8.50am Y3 Easter Production to Parents 3P |
| 4.4.25 | BREAK UP FOR EASTER |

As always we thank you for your support towards the school

Kind regards

A. Barnaville. H. Gallagher

Mrs. A. Barnaville & Mrs, H.Gallagher
Co-Head Teachers

Friday 31st January 2024

