



St Margaret's Academy

Snippets



6th December 2019

What you need to know...

- 1** S4-6 Tracking reports will be issued to all pupils on Tuesday or Wednesday.
- 2** The S5/6 Prelim timetable is now available - a copy is attached to this bulletin .
- 3** The annual Christmas Concert is on Tuesday - tickets available from the music dept or school office - see flyer attached
- 4** S3 Immunisation letters have now been issued. Please get in touch if you have any issues or concerns.

Your feedback is important to us. Please complete the survey link below
<https://www.esurveycreator.co.uk/s/c40ab39>

S6 Winter Ball



Article 31 (leisure, play and culture) Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

As part of our 25 year anniversary celebration, our S6 pupils organised the inaugural Winter Ball. Thanks to all of the pupils and staff for their efforts in making it a fantastic evening.



Key dates...

- Monday 9th December**
2nd week of S4 prelims
- Tuesday 10th December**
Christmas Concert
- Friday 20th December**
Non-uniform day
All break
- Monday 6th January**
INSET day
- Tuesday 7th January**
Pupils return
S5/6 Prelims begin
- Friday 10th January**
S1-3 Tracking report issued
- Monday 27th January**
Parent Council
- Thursday 30th January**
S4 Parents' evening

School Immunisation programme

Immunisation helps protect our communities from a wide range of illnesses. Thanks to immunisation, diseases such as polio have disappeared in the UK. However, these diseases could come back as they are still seen in many countries throughout the world - which is why it's so important to get your jabs.

The NHS Lothian Community Vaccination Team carries out an annual immunisation programme. The vaccinations will be given in spring term 2019. Consent packs are being issued now. Please discuss the consent pack at home and return the completed and signed consent form to school as soon as you can.

The teenage booster to ensure protection from tetanus, diphtheria and polio will be offered to pupils in S3. This completes the programme, begun in infancy, to give life-long protection. Any pupils in S4 – S6 who have not yet received this vaccination will also be offered this. In addition all S3 pupils are recommended a meningitis vaccine (ACWY). This protects against several strains of meningitis. Any pupils in S4 – S6 who have not yet received this vaccination will also be offered this.



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Young Enterprise Christmas Fair

Congratulations to our Young Enterprise Teams who took part in the Annual Christmas Fair in Edinburgh at the Eric Liddell centre in Morningside. The boys had a good day despite difficult competition and tough trading conditions. Unfortunately my youngest daughter wouldn't let me stand for a photo, hence the reason she is on my shoulders!

You will see our Young Enterprise teams at all of our school events. If you would like to get involved in the Young Enterprise programme and provide support for our young people then please get in touch. We are always looking for people with business, marketing or sales skills to work with a team of young people to support them in taking their ideas forward.



Article 31 (leisure, play and culture) Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

TLC Climate Change Summit

In the TLC we have just finished a project on Climate Change. We spent weeks researching in detail the different aspects of climate change. We watched climate documentaries and looked at some of the prominent climate activists such as Greta Thunberg and David Attenborough. We made posters highlighting the different effects of climate change to try and raise awareness around the school. We wrote letters about how we feel about climate change and included things that we could do to reduce our carbon footprint. We had an opportunity to present and read our letters to Mr McDowall, Ms Brennan and other teachers from around the school. Ms Stone even dressed up as Greta Thunberg! As a grand finale we wrote a song about climate change and performed it at the end of our climate summit. We hoped this song would leave a lasting impact and encourage people to do more to help. We really enjoyed this project and think we developed not only our literacy skills but skills that will help us now and in the future.

Aaron: "Through this project I developed my confidence speaking in front of people which has allowed me to feel more comfortable speaking"

Daniel "I developed my writing skills and my ability to engage the audience by using acting in my presentation"

Imogen "I developed my knowledge of climate change and pushed myself out of my comfort zone by presenting my letter"

Hailie "I developed my confidence and ability to speak in front of people which is something I find really hard. These are things that will help me in my other subjects"

Liam "I developed my talking skills by presenting my letter in front of people that I don't know very well. This will help me in case I ever need to stand up and present again"

Josh "I developed my ability to talk in front of people and I was put under pressure as I stepped in to read someone's letter who wasn't there"



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St. Margaret's Academy

Pupil Bulletin

3rd December 2019



General

ML Paris 2020 Trip

The second instalment for this trip should have now been paid via IPay Impact.

Christmas Concert

Tickets are currently on sale for the Christmas Concert from Music, Drama or Dance departments.

Adult £5 Child/Concession £3

Concert is on Tuesday 10th December at 7pm in the Atrium.

Advent Project

We will be putting together Christmas Hampers for families in West Lothian through SSdP. Your RE teacher will collect any items for the hamper all donations by 15th December please.

Rag Bag Collection

Thank you for all the contributions so far. All bags should be in by Friday 6th to RE department.

Lockers

A reminder to those pupils who did not renew their locker and had belongings removed from that locker, the belongings must be collected from the school office as soon as possible.

Equalities Club

The Equalities Club now meets in the RE department. Miss McKeown's room will be available every break, Mon-Fri as well as Tues, Wed and Thurs lunchtimes.

Mass

Mass will take place in the Oratory on Thursday morning at 8.20am. It lasts about 15 minutes. If your bus arrives after Mass has started you are welcome to come in late.

Water Coolers

The new mains fed water coolers are finally installed in the atrium and PE department. Please ensure you bring an empty water bottle to school. In order to reduce the amount of plastic waste, there will be no more plastic cups available from the school office.

School Canteen

Students are reminded not to take plated food out of the Atrium. Please take a seat while you eat and place all rubbish in the bins provided. Thank you.

Latecoming

Please sign at the School Office, if you arrive late into school. If you are late due to the school bus please indicate this when you sign in. Thank you.

Bus Tickets

Bus tickets should be purchased from the School Office at break and lunch time only. The cost of a 10 journey ticket is £6.96, please try to bring the exact money with you to the School Office.

School Tie Return

If you have borrowed a tie from the School Office could you please ensure that it is returned by the end of the day.

Procedure for Leaving School for Appointments/Sent Home from Sick Room If you have to leave the school premises for any reason e.g. medical appointment, sent home from sick room please remember to sign yourself out on the black folder at the school office window.

Social Times

Pupils are reminded to remain on school grounds during break and lunch time.

Lost Property

Please be reminded that the lost property basket is located outside the Janitors Office. If you have lost any items of clothing etc. please check this basket in the first instance.

Extra-Curricular Timetable

Please see attached sheet for details.

S1 – S3

S1 Photographs

Please be aware that the completed order forms are to be returned to the school office by no later than Monday 9th December.

Manchester United Football Match Trip

Attention all S1 – S3 Pupils

Please be aware that all money for the football trip is to be paid by the end of this week. If there are any issues please see Mr Cumming in the PE base.

S4 – S6

Sleep in the Park

Attention all S5/S6 Pupils

There will be a short meeting about the Sleep in the Park in U20 at break today. All taking part must attend as important information will be shared.



Christmas by Candlelight

You are invited to join us for our 25th Anniversary Christmas Concert on the 10th December from 7-9pm in the school. There will be a range of musical performances and carol singing with festive refreshments served throughout the evening. We hope you can join us.

Please RSVP to Sharon Rae
(sharon.rae@westlothian.org.uk)

Tickets £5 per adult, £3 per child.



**10th December 7-9pm
St Margaret's Academy**

ST ANDREW'S

Admin Office:

126 Victoria Street
Craigshill
Livingston
EH54 5BJ
T: 01506 432141

ST PETER'S

9 Carmondean Centre
Deans
Livingston
EH54 8PT
T: 01506 438787

ST PHILIP'S

The Lanthorn
Kenilworth Rise
Dedridge, Livingston
EH54 6NY
T: c/o 01506 880918

ST THERESA'S

Kilronan Park
41 Main Street
East Calder
EH53 0ES
T: 01506 880918

Pastoral Team:

Fr Kenneth Owens, Fr Simon Hughes, Fr Peter Krakowiak SAC & Fr John Semnanke

Email: catholic126@gmail.com **PPC Email:** livingstoneastcalder_ppc@hotmail.com

Fr Peter Mobile: 07460 676 278 (text only) **Email:** katolicylivingston@gmail.com

Facebook: Livingston and East Calder Catholic Parishes

Website: www.livingstoncatholicparishes.co.uk

SVDP Contact Numbers:

St Andrew's & St Theresa's: 07342 793611 **St Peter's:** 07796 662264 **St Philip's:** 07502 031701

SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER 2019

Second Sunday of Advent - Year A



In today's gospel we meet the character of John the Baptist. John is in many ways a bridge between the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The description of the way he dresses and of his diet is reminiscent of the figure of Elijah as is his message - "To prepare a way for the Lord". Elijah was expected to return to usher in the messianic times and Matthew in portraying John as the new Elijah clearly wants us to know that Jesus is the Messiah and the fulfilment of the hope expressed in today's first reading

that "A new shoot will spring from the stock of Jesse".

We are told by John to prepare, to change, for the Kingdom is close at hand.

The "one who is to come", Jesus, will baptise with the Holy Spirit and with fire, signifying the beginning of a new era.

We who are baptised are reminded today that we have received the Holy Spirit and that God's life is within us. This is what empowers us to bear fruit. Advent is a time to acknowledge and rejoice in all that is fruitful. It is also the time of "the winnowing - fan" when we are given the opportunity to look at our lives and acknowledge the "dead" wood which needs to be cut down and thrown on the fire. Both enable us to recognise Jesus, the Messiah.

Confession:

St Andrew's: Sat 9am & 4.30pm

St Peter's: Sat 10am

St Philip's: Sat 9am

St Theresa's: Sun after 11.30am
Mass

Adoration:

St Andrew's: Tue 10am to 11am

Thu 7pm to 8pm

Sat 4.30pm to 5pm

St Peter's: Sat 10am to 10.30am

St Philip's: Sat 9am to 9.15am

Morning Prayer:

St Philip's: Tue, Thu & Sat
9.15am

Charismatic Prayer Group

St Andrew's: Tue 7.30pm

Parish office opening hours:

Mon, Tue, Wed & Thu

9.30am to 12.30pm

Shared News ...

Advent Hour of Prayer: St Peter's will be open for prayer on the four Sundays of Advent between 3.00pm and 4.00pm. An open invitation is extended to all parishioners in our four parishes to come and experience quietness amidst the noise and busyness.

Christmas by Candlelight: You are invited to join St Margaret's Academy for their 25th anniversary Christmas Concert on Tuesday 10 December at 7.00pm in the school. There will be a range of musical performances and carol singing with festive refreshments served. Tickets £5/£3. Please RSVP to Sharon Rae (sharon.rae@westlothian.org.uk). See poster for more details.

Bereavement Café: The café will be open on Wednesday 11 December from 2.00pm - 4.00pm if anyone wants to pop in for coffee and a chat.

Advent Reconciliation Service: This year, the service will take place in St Peter's on Wednesday 11 December at 7.00pm. Fr Simon, Fr John and Fr Tony will be available for Confession. The penance for everyone is to bring a donation for the Foodbank. The items they require this week are tinned tuna, diluting juice, long life milk, tinned potatoes, tinned meat (cold), tinned rice pudding, cereal. They have very large quantities of tinned soup, beans and pasta shapes so please avoid donating these items where possible. They are also grateful to receive any financial donations to help run the Foodbank.

St Margaret's Community Advent Coffee Morning: You are invited to an Advent Coffee Morning in St Margaret's Academy on Friday 13 December from 11.00am - 12 noon organised by the S6 students. The cost is £2.50 payable at the door, however, if you intend to go could you please add your name to the list at the back of the church to give an indication of numbers. Thank you for your support.

RCIA: Congratulations to our five catechumens who are now formally preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil at St Peter's next year. Please pray for Sam, Sandie, Emilia, Kyle and Declan.

Mrs Elizabeth Bath RIP: As you may know, Fr Jeremy's mother sadly passed away earlier this week. Funeral arrangements to follow. May she rest in peace.

Next Sunday's Readings (15.12.19): Isaiah 35:1-6. 10; Psalm 145; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11.

Recently Deceased: Maria Adeline Long, Catherine Edgar **Anniversaries (December):** David Rennie, Alice McGinlay, Freddie Comerford, Sadie Queen, Brian Cullion

ST PETER'S ...

Rosary Group: Will meet after Mass on Wednesday morning.

Knit & Natter: Until further notice, will meet at 1.00pm on Wednesdays.

SSVP: We would like to thank everyone for their most generous donations to our Christmas appeal this year. Your donations will help towards a brighter Christmas for over 30 children.

Sacristy: Please note that there is no longer one person in charge of the sacristy work. There is now a team of people and if anyone else would like to get involved, you are very welcome, just see Fr Simon. From now on, all enquiries about diary bookings or anything to do with the sacristy should be directed in the first instance to Karen in the parish office or Fr Simon.

Sacristy Supplies: If anyone would like to give a gift of a bottle of sherry for the sacristy that would be a lovely Christmas gift to the parish!

Cleaners: Urgent, we need more helpers to clean the church on Friday after Mass. If anyone can help please contact Fr Simon.

Last Sunday's Collection: £984.76; **Church Stall:** £67.70; **Catholic Education:** £336.17; **200 Club:** 1st Patricia Greenhorn, 2nd James Burns, 3rd Margaret Strachan, 4th Gilbert MacLellan. Thank you to all members of the 200 Club for your continued support and wish everyone a Merry Christmas - Tricia Hart

ST ANDREW'S ...

Baptism: Please pray for Mateo Urban who will be baptised this afternoon.

Fairtrade: Stall next weekend, 14 & 15 December. Why not buy Fairtrade treats as stocking fillers? That way you are giving twice.

Christmas Nativity Cribs: Available from Joe & Jenny McDermott (Tel: 779 871).

Last Sunday's Collection: TBC; **Building Fund:** TBC; **Church Stall:** £114.48; **200 Club:** No 27 & No 99 (10.11), No 17 & No 65 (17.11); No 34 & No 42 (24.11); No 53 & No 68 (01.12);

Sanctuary Candle: Deceased members of Neally & Campbell Families

ST THERESA'S...

West Lothian Foodbank: We received a letter thanking everyone for their kind donation to their Combined Harvest appeal. Copy on the notice board for those interested.

Rosary: The rosary will be recited every Monday morning after 9.00am Mass. Everyone is welcome.

Last Sunday's Collection:
£556.61; **Building Fund:**
£167.67; **Bonus Ball Winner:** No 51 P Gibb

ST PHILIP'S ...

St Ninian's Primary: Are having 'Cake & Carols' on Friday 13th at 11.15am. Everyone is welcome.

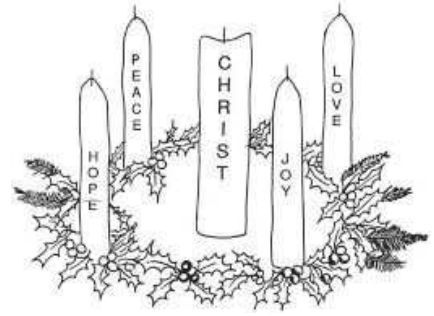
Carol Service: Livingston South Community Church is having a Carol Service in Murieston Hall on Sunday 15 December at 6.30pm and everyone is welcome.

PVG Co-ordinator: Our parish PVG Co-ordinator, Frances Laing, has decided to step down from the role. Thank you to Frances for her many years of service carrying out this task which is very much appreciated.

Last Sunday's Collection:
£486.28; **200 Club:** No 18 J Farquhar (10.11); No 44 J Carr (17.11); No 58 R Mauchline (24.11); No 14 E Douglas (01.12); **Sanctuary Candle:** Netta Hood



Last Saturday a small group of women from the cluster attended St Peter's for a 'Martha and Mary Day' led by Nancy and Frances.



After an initial prayer we were led into the 'Martha' part of the day involving us creating beautiful Christmas cards and gifts, or in my case attempting to create!

We were then served a beautiful lunch of home-made soups before starting the 'Mary' part. This had been beautifully created for us in that there were 5 "stations" with reflections to read and pictures to contemplate. This part of the day commenced with a "stilling" exercise and was then conducted in complete silence. One station asked us to look at how we, especially women, are sometimes so busy preparing for Christmas Day we don't take time to reflect on the real joy of Christmas. Another was a poem asking us to consider a "female" concept of God and how "her tenderness enfolds our brokenness through all generations".

We therefore were allowed time to stop and think and as one participant said "time to listen to the spirit." In all, the day was a wonderful shared experience.

Rosalyn Mauchline

Christmas Mass Times

24 December

5.00pm	St Theresa's (Carols at 4.30pm)	Fr Kenneth
7.00pm	St Andrew's	Fr John
7.00pm	St Peter's	Fr Simon
7.00pm	St Philip's	Fr Kenneth
9.30pm	St Peter's (Polish)	Fr Peter
Midnight	St Andrew's (Carols at 11.30pm)	Fr Kenneth/Fr Peter

25 December

9.30am	St Andrew's (Polish)	Fr Peter
9.30am	St Philip's (small chapel)	Fr Kenneth
9.30am	St Peter's	Fr Simon
11.00am	St Peter's (Polish)	Fr Peter
11.30am	St Andrew's	Fr John
11.30am	St Theresa's	Fr Kenneth

26 December

9.30am	St Andrew's	Fr Kenneth/Fr John
11.00am	St Andrew's (Polish)	Fr Peter



Drodzy, Pan Bóg w swojej opatrności daje nam potrójną radość w ten weekend. Adwent, Rekolekcje Adwentowe dla Rodzin i Uroczystość Niepokalanego Poczęcia NMP (w Polsce obchodzone w niedziele, a w szkockim kościele jutro - w poniedziałek 9.12, w ich kalendarzu).

W Adwencie Pan Bóg woła i poszukuje nas na drogach wiary, pytając tak jak Adama: *Gdzie jesteś?* W sakramencie pokuty możemy usłyszeć pytania: *Dlaczego to uczyniłeś?* które uświadamiają nam, że Zły ciągle kusi nas tak, jak kiedyś skusił pierwszych rodziców: *Wąż mnie zwiódł i zjadłam.* W spowiedzi jest również pociecha i pouczenie, jak w liście Pawła do Rzymian: *Bóg, który daje cierpliwość i pociechę, niech sprawi, abyście wzorem Chrystusa te same uczucia żywili do siebie i zgodnie jednymi ustami wielbili Boga i Ojca Pana naszego.*

Najlepszym przewodnikiem na Adwentowych drogach jest Matka Pana, którą w liturgii chwalimy: *Zdrowaś Maryjo, łaski pełna, Pan z Tobą, błogosławionaś Ty między niewiastami. Z pięknego opisu zwiastowania medytujemy to pełne pokory zdanie Maryi **Oto Ja służebnica Pańska, niech Mi się stanie według twego słowa!*** Bez odwagi i zgody Maryi i bez zaufania jej męża – Józefa, nie byłoby cudu na który czekam: *A Słowo stało się Ciałem i zamieszkało między nami.* Módlmy się przez wstawiennictwo Niepokalanie Poczętej i św. Józefa. Ks. Piotr

Poświęcone opłatki wypieczone przez Siostry z Polski są dostępne za dobrowolną ofiarę!
Weźcie zestaw Biało-Czerwonych Świec Caritas na wigilijny stół – celem jst Ghana, Afryka!
W sobotę 14 grudnia odbędzie się koncert charytatywny w Edynburgu – zobacz plakat!

DATE	ST ANDREW'S	ST PETER'S	ST PHILIP'S	ST THERESA'S	FEAST DAY
Sun 8 Dec	9.30am Polish 11.30am Mass JS Mrs Marzella	9.30am Mass SH People of the Parish 5.30pm Mass SH Robert Harris RIP	9.30am Mass KO Thanksgiving Sr Expeditus	11.30am Mass KO People of the Parish	2nd Sunday of Advent Year A
Mon 9 Dec	No Service	No Service	No Service	9.00am Mass JS Gerard Byrne	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tue 10 Dec	9.30am Mass KO Gordon Lilley	No Service	9.30am Mass JS Donor's Intention	No Service	Tuesday 2nd week of Advent
Wed 11 Dec	9.30am Mass KO John & Mary Gorman	9.30am Mass SH Donor's Intention	No Service	6.00pm Mass JS Donor's Intention	Wednesday 2nd week of Advent
Thu 12 Dec	9.30am Mass KO Donor's Intention	9.30am Mass SH Donor's Intention	9.30am Mass JS Donor's Intention	No Service	Thursday 2nd week of Advent
Fri 13 Dec	9.30am Mass KO Donor's Intention	9.30am Mass SH Donor's Intention	No Service	No Service	Memorial of St Lucy
Sat 14 Dec	9.30am Mass KO Donor's Intention 5.30pm Vigil KO	9.30am Mass SH Donor's Intention 6.30pm Polish PK	9.30am Mass JS Mrs Marzella RIP	No Service	Memorial of St John of the Cross
Sun 15 Dec	9.30am Polish PK 11.30am Mass KO Dominic Sweeney RIP	9.30am Mass SH Doreen Markey 5.30pm Mass SH People of the Parish	9.30am Mass JS Harry Cartmill	11.30am Mass JS People of the Parish	3rd Sunday of Advent Year A