



St Joseph's Primary School

Newsletter

Welcome back!

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2021 and I would like to wish you all a (belated!) Happy New Year on behalf of the staff of St Joseph's. 2020 was a challenging year but we also had our share of achievements and happiness in St Joseph's. We hope 2021 will bring light at the end of the tunnel. We are currently anticipating a return to school in mid February, this will be reviewed by the Scottish Government on 2nd February. Until then our teachers will be online every day to continue your child's learning journey. As always in St Joseph's we have the attainment and wellbeing of your children at the centre of everything we do. If you would like to contact us regarding any concerns or questions then please feel free to call the office 0141 570 7380 or email headteacher@st-josephs.e-renfrew.sch.uk.

We are positive and hopeful about the new adventures, opportunities and challenges 2021 will bring us in St Joseph's and we thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Suzanne Martin
Head Teacher

Remote Learning

Over the last few weeks we have had 100% engagement in our Google Classrooms and in live meets. This is fantastic to see and we hope our children will continue to engage with us through this platform. We are aware that there have been a few technical issues with children accessing these platforms through a variety of different devices and we will continue to try and troubleshoot for you.

Please remember to organise your day in a way that works best for your family, the wellbeing of our children is the most important thing. If you are finding it increasingly difficult and stressful for you and your child then leave it! Go for a walk, play some games, bake or read and then go back to it when the time is right. Do what you can, when you can and remember we are all here to support you. Keeping our children safe and happy is the most important thing you can do.

January/February
2021



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Home learning highlights!



Art



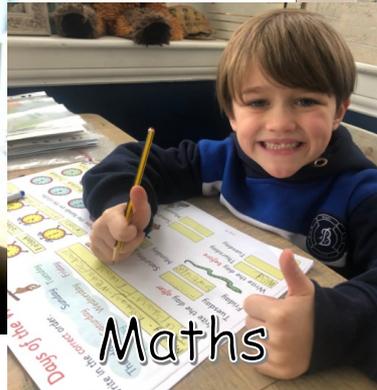
P.E



Topic



Spelling



Maths



Science



PARENT COUNCIL

The next meeting of our Parent Council will be held on Tuesday 23rd February at 7pm via Zoom. All parents are welcome to attend, please email our Parent Council secretary, Ms Adams, to request a link to the meeting.

sjps.pc.sec@gmail.com



We have discussed provisional dates for our Sacramental celebrations this year with Canon Stephen. Please be aware that due to the current situation these dates may be changed at short notice.

P4 Reconciliation

Tuesday 16th March. This celebration will take place in school during the school day. Children and staff only.

P4 First Communion

Saturday 8th May. This celebration will take place in St Joseph's and St Brigid's Churches. Times to be confirmed .

P7 Confirmation

Saturday 22nd May in St Joseph's Church. Times to be confirmed.

Saturday 22nd May.



Whether you need information on school clothing grants and/or meals, budgeting advice, support with benefit applications or getting into work, East Renfrewshire Council and our partners are here to help. Please click on cards below for more information.

The Money Advice and Rights Team (MART)

MART offer expert and confidential advice on money worries, benefits and budgeting. They can help with benefit applications and appeals to make sure you have your household income maximised by making sure you have all the benefits you are entitled to. They can also support you with your debt and they can speak to your creditors on your behalf, whilst helping you understand what the people you owe money to can and cannot do.

Call **0141 577 8420** or email mart@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

There are lots of other specialist services in East Renfrewshire:

Parental Support Fund

MART and Work East Ren work in Partnership to deliver the Parental Support Fund.

The programme will help in meeting the increasing challenge of in-work poverty, targeting support to help parents already in jobs support through the provision of training and employability support to remain active in the workplace and gain progression through a rewarding career. The team will also provide confidential income and money advice support.

To find out more call **0141 577 8438** or email Naomi.Nicol@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

Adult Learning

The Adult Learning Team offer a range of learning opportunities for adults in East Renfrewshire. Courses can help you gain new skills or qualifications, get a new job, go to college or just build confidence with existing skills you already have.

To find out more, visit: www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/adultlearning

Full details on East Renfrewshire's Covid response can be found at :

<https://covid.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/home>

Education

Clothing grants, free school meals and Education Maintenance are available in all our schools for eligible families.

Back to School Bank East Renfrewshire provides brand new school uniforms to families affected by financial hardship. To find out more, visit: www.facebook.com/backtoschoolbankeastrenfrewshire/

Free school meal and clothing Grants check eligibility at <https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

Children who are entitled free school meal pupils can access a food pack if they are off school due to Covid19 call us on 0141 577 3575.

Free Sanitary Products

Up to 25% of women have had difficulties accessing sanitary products at some point due to financial constraints. To challenge this we've made a variety of sanitary products available in buildings including schools and health centres, Citizens Advice Bureau, Voluntary Action East Renfrewshire and housing associations. These products are available to everyone, regardless of their financial position.

Citizen's Advice Bureau

CAB can help with debt and money advice, completion of benefit application and appeal forms, benefit appeal representation. They also run the Patient Advice Service, Armed Services Advice Project, Helping East Renfrewshire Online (HERO) service, employment advice and assistance with homelessness/evictions.

The team is working from home with advice available over the phone. You can contact CAB on 0141 881 2032 or visit: www.cas.org.uk/bureaux/east-renfrewshire-citizens-advice-bureau where you will find direct mobile numbers for specialist advisers.

Home Energy Scotland

If you need help to stay warm, make best use of energy and save money on fuel bills, contact Home Energy Scotland on 0808 808 2282 or email adviceteam@sc.homeenergyscotland.org

Social Security Scotland

Some benefits are provided by an organisation called Social Security Scotland. There are currently eight with more being added to the list in future. Click the links to find out more and how you can apply for them.

[Carer's Allowance Supplement](#)

[Best Start Grant - Pregnancy and Baby Payment](#)

[Best Start Grant - Early Learning Payment](#)

[Best Start Grant - School Age Payment](#)

[Best Start Foods](#)

[Funeral Support Payment](#)

[Young Carer Grant](#)

[Job Start Payment](#)

[Scottish Child Payment](#)

If you are unsure about what you are entitled to, you can contact the Council's Money Advice and Rights Team or CAB. They can help with anything you need to know about benefits and grant eligibility, health-related issues, redundancy, retirement and pensions, death and bereavement, housing, children, cold weather and winter fuel payments.

Call MART 0141 577 8420 or email mart@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

CAB 0141 881 2032

The Scottish Government's website provides information on other benefits and grants not listed above. To find out more, visit: www.mygov.scot/benefits