

St Bartholomew's Primary School



March 2024

Dear Parent/Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our pupils, parents and carers for their support completing the Health & Wellbeing surveys that they have recently been completed. This information will highlight any areas of concern, where the school will respond appropriately in terms of putting appropriate interventions in place to support our pupils. Thank you to all who booked and attended our recent parents' evening please see information at back of newsletter.

Our pupils continue to celebrate 10.00 Mass at St Bartholomew's Church on a Wednesday morning.

The faith life of the school and its community is further strengthened by our 'Minnie Vinnie' Group and the Pope Francis Faith Award pupils.

Mass is celebrated on a Sunday at 11.30am where our pupils are regular contributors to the choir. The singing is beautiful and a huge thank you to Mrs MacFarlane for cultivating this group.

The sporting life of the school continues with many opportunities in netball, football and general fitness with our after school clubs. Mr J. Bradley has created opportunities for Gaelic football for our senior pupils.

P5, P6 and P7 enjoy the support of our music tutors this session from Mr Woods, Mr Miller, Mr Couper and also vocal coaching through Kodaly. We have some very talented children in our school who will be able to develop these skills in the future from this wonderful foundation.

Our children's Health & Wellbeing, Literacy, Numeracy continue to be supported by Mr McBriar, Mrs Raitt and Ms Wong across the school.

We move after Easter break to a very busy term in the school calendar, thank you all for your continued support and contribution to the life of the school it is very much appreciated. I wish you all a very restful break and a very Holy and Happy Easter.

Mrs Deirdre Bolland Headteacher

COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS/CARERS

In line with North Lanarkshire Council's aspirations to be a leading digital authority, the main portals that we use for communicating with parents are:

Email and Text – please provide our office staff with your up-to-date details to ensure you receive our most recent updates.

Class Dojo- all parents and carers are invited to join DOJO where they will see regular updates about their child's social and emotional. Learning /progress.

School Website- class pages on the school website provide parents and carers with regular information on their child's learning as well as updated from our weekly school assembly i.e. winning House, Cool Cup and Pupils of the week. <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/stbartholomews/>

X – There is a twitter feed on the home page of our website. We use this to share news of the wide range of activities St Bartholomew's pupils are involved in and to celebrate children's wider achievements

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S PARENT COUNCIL

Thank you to our parent council who have organised our Easter Disco which takes place tonight. Due to their fundraising efforts the children will all be given a Easter egg and they have a fun Easter egg hunt organised for P1-P3 and fun afternoon for P4-P7 today. Monday was the Easter Bonnet parade some wonderful entries check these out on school website and X. They have also been busy looking at places for school trips. We will let you know what Disco and raffle has raised in our April newsletter. If you have a child in the school Parent Council are always looking to new members please contact them through their media or leave your name at school office.

UNIFORM BANK

Our bank of uniform is available for immediate collection in our school music room. Collections can be arranged discreetly by contacting school office. If you have any new or nearly new uniform this can be handed in to the office at any time. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



CHILDREN TAKING PART A few of our P6 children took part in a k'nex competition. Two of our children go through to next competition well done and good luck.

SCHOOL TRIPS

Due to the high cost of hiring coaches we are asking you contribute £4.00 per child for trips to help cover the cost. Thank you in anticipation.

Our P7 Class recently visited the People's Palace they might be one of the last schools to visit before it closes for extensive renovations come April.

P2/3 and P3 have booked a trip to Kelvingrove Museum on 7th May

P6 have opted for Kelvingrove Museum on the 8th May

P1 , P4 and P5 have still to decide on their outing.

COMMUNITY

Our mini vinnies held a cake bake sale and raised £140.00 this will be sent to 'SAVE THE CHILDREN'

Tomorrow 28th March is a dress down day children are asked to donate £1 monies raised will be sent to 'MARY'S MEAL. We will let you know total raised in our April newsletter.

Book Fair raised an amazing £1166.66 a percentage of this is given to school in books which will assist us replacing our novel studies and libraries. Thank you all!

FOR YOUR DIARY

SCHOOL CLOSES 2.30PM TOMORROW

School returns Monday 15th April at 9.00am

May 2024

In-service day: Thursday 2 May 2024 (to coincide with UK Parliamentary elections, but may be subject to change)

May holiday: Monday 6 May 2024

May weekend: Friday 24 May 2024 and Monday 27 May 2024 (inclusive)



Parent/Carer views March 2024

		Strongly agree	Agree	Don't know	Disagree	Strongly disagree	% Positive
1	The school helps my child to be more confident.	46	28	0	3	0	96%
2	My child enjoys learning at school.	44	32	0	1	0	99%
3	My child's learning is progressing well.	49	26	0	1	0	99%
4	My child is encouraged and stretched to work to the best of their ability.	51	26	0	0	0	100%
5	The school keeps me informed about my child's progress.	40	34	0	2	1	96%
6	My child feels safe at school.	52	24	0	1	0	99%
7	My child is treated fairly at school.	48	28	0	1	0	99%
8	I feel staff really know my child as an individual and support them well.	49	24	2	2	0	97%
9	My child is provided with the opportunity to take part in activities provided outside the classroom if they choose to do so.	50	25	0	2	0	97%
10	The school asks for my views.	38	34	1	2	2	95%
11	The school takes my views into account.	34	31	7	5	0	93%
12	The school is well led.	41	23	6	5	1	90%
13	Overall, I am happy with the school.	47	28	1	1	0	99%

Total respondents: 77 families represented from a possible 115 (66.95%)

Analysis of Data

65 out of 77 expressed positive views for all questions. 2 did not answer question 12 and 3. Negative views for questions can be seen in chart above. 5 questionnaires while holding very positive views in all other areas were negative about question 11 and 12. While the school will take these views on board and seek to understand them, it is difficult to correlate poor leadership with a school performing well in all other areas. We would like to clarify areas of strength/dissatisfaction, this will allow us to understand better how we can strive to improve. Average of all positive responses is 96.8%.

The statement below was written at bottom of questionnaire.

'I am confident my children are encouraged and nurtured to promote their well-being and be the best version of themselves.'

Thank you very much to parents and carers for completing the questionnaire. We have responded to the results and are pleased to present them to you. The results will be discussed with staff so we can identify areas that we can improve upon. Parent/carers suggestions will be sought in a further short online survey and will help us identify our school development priorities for the future.

Q1. The school helps my child to be more confident (96%).

A key aim of Curriculum for Excellence is that all children develop as 'confident individuals' who have: self-respect; a sense of physical, mental and emotional wellbeing; secure values and beliefs and ambition. Our aim is that all children have the opportunity to develop these attributes. We will ask children for their views on how the school can help them to be more confident to identify how we can improve in this area.

Q2. My child enjoys learning at school (99%).

Teachers provide children with opportunities to make decisions about their learning, which is guided, as far as practicable, by the children's interests. We will continue to develop our curriculum to ensure we are meeting the needs of children and by asking for their views on their learning.

Q3. My child's learning is progressing well (99%).

Over the last few years, we have seen improvements in attainment and achievement in the areas of Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing. Our school improvement plan (SIP) has consistently focused on these areas to secure demonstrable improvements for our children. Over the past two years, we have overhauled our Writing programme, streamlined our Numeracy programme and introduced new approaches to teaching Health and Wellbeing across the school. This year, we have reviewed our interdisciplinary learning (IDL) programmes, which include History, Geography, Modern Studies, Sciences, Technologies, Expressive Arts and Religious Education, to ensure they remain interesting, stimulating and engaging for children. We are also reviewing how we teach Reading comprehension, with the aim of further improving attainment in this area.

Q4. My child is encouraged and stretched to work to the best of their ability (100%).

We have very high expectations of all children. Teachers have regular opportunities to discuss pupil progress with the Senior Management Team (SMT) at scheduled meetings every term. Parent's/Carer's Evenings in October and March provide parents/carers with opportunities to raise concerns about their child's progress. We will ask the children for their views on how well the school stretches them to work to the best of their ability in order to identify any improvement needs in this area.

Q5. The school keeps me informed about my child's progress (96%).

Information about pupil progress is available from a number of sources throughout the year:

- Two parent's/carers' evenings per year - one in October and one in March. Every parent/carers can make an appointment with their child's teacher to discuss their child's progress and any areas of concern.
- Two pupil reports per year – a summary report in December and a full report in June.
- Class Dojo – provides daily, instant feedback to parents/carers (who sign up to the App) about their child.
- Daily teacher/SMT availability – teachers, and at least one member of the SMT, are available at departure gates at the end of most school days.
- Monthly Newsletters – these contain information about school events as well curriculum developments and pupil progress across the school.
- Class Assemblies – all parents/carers have the opportunity to attend one class assembly each year where they can hear all about their child's learning in a number of areas.
- Class Events – all parents/carers have the opportunity to visit their child in their classroom at least once per year. Examples include 'Stay & Read' sessions, Sacramental meetings and Parent/Carer information sessions.
- Parent/Carer Information sessions – these are offered to keep parents informed of the development work of the school. Unfortunately, they have historically been very poorly attended.

We will seek the views of parents/carers to establish what else we can do to improve in this area.

Q.6 My child feels safe at school (99%).

We have a very nurturing ethos underpinned by our gospel-based values of kindness, honesty and respect. All children know and understand our values very well and are supported to resolve conflict in a restorative manner. This means accepting responsibility for mistakes, apologising, forgiving and moving on. Adults in the school support children very well and deal with all situations promptly and sensitively. Children know, and accept, there are consequences for poor choices and that unkind behaviour of any kind is dealt with. We are very proud to have a school culture where almost all children feel safe, happy and respected in school.

Q.7 My child is treated fairly at school (99%).

We are a Rights Respecting school and our restorative approach means all children are heard when disagreements arise. Staff are extremely competent at discerning the truth in conflict situations and encourage children to be truthful and accountable for their choices. Staff always ask children if they feel fairly treated before consequences are agreed then everyone is expected to forgive and move on. We understand that a child's perception of events can differ from the facts of a situation and we encourage parents to clarify with the class teacher, when their child reports unfair treatment at school. While we recognise that not everyone will be happy with decisions made by the school, please be reassured that we consistently follow fair and just procedures that preserve the dignity of all children. We will obtain pupil views to identify any further areas for improvement.

Q.8 I feel staff really know my child as an individual and treat them well (97%).

Staff demonstrate, at termly Pupil Progress Meetings, their knowledge of all children as individuals and learners. These meetings, alongside regular analysis and review of school performance data, provide the SMT with in depth knowledge of the progress of each child. Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) data, which is completed annually by teachers, pupils and parents, provides the school with robust information about children's individual social and emotional wellbeing and every child in the school who requires support receives it in a timely manner. We will obtain pupil views to identify any further areas for improvement.

Q.9 My child is provided with the opportunity to take part in activities provided outside the classroom if they choose to do so. (97%)

After school clubs are offered throughout the year in 4 week, 12 week and all year blocks: rugby, netball, athletics, art & crafts, football, running are but a few this year.

Q.10 The school asks for my views (95%).

There are a number of ways that the school seeks the views of parents/carers. The SDQ is distributed annually. It allows parents to tell us about their child and we use this information to provide health and wellbeing support to classes and individual children. Surveys, distributed at both parents/carers evenings, allow parents to provide their views on how we are performing as a school. We use this information to identify areas that we can improve upon. Getting it Right for Me (GIRFMe) plans seek the views of parents/carers with additional needs and Class Dojo allows parents/carers to contact teachers about any classroom concerns. Parent Council, which is open to all, offers a forum for all parents/carers to provide their views and contribute to the life of the school. We always seek to encourage more members to join Parent Council as we welcome parent/carer input and views to inform our decision-making. We appreciate that not all of parents/carers agree that we seek their views and will issue a survey to determine how we can improve in this area.

Q.11 The school takes my views into account (93%)

Importantly, our priority is the children, and we can reassure our parent/carer body that our children's safety, wellbeing, progress and achievements are front and centre of every decision we make.

Q.12 The school is well-led (90%).

A number of parents disagree that the school is well-led. We will seek to understand this by issuing a parent/carer survey where all comments and suggestions are welcomed. We would particularly like to understand what aspects of school leadership are unsatisfactory and what parents/carers think we could do to remedy this. We appreciate that it is not possible to please all of the people all of the time but we aim to try.

Q.13 Overall I am happy with the school (99%)

We are delighted that 99% of parents/carers surveyed are happy with the school. We are proud of our ethos, culture and nurturing staff and, most of all, we are proud of our amazing children!