


## Newsletter : October Term 1 - Session 25/26 Fordbank Primary and FLR

Our Vision	Our Values	Our Aims
Fordbank Primary provides a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment in which all pupils are supported to reach their potential to lead fulfilling and happy lives. We actively promote a sense of belonging through our trusting relationships and community partnerships and have high expectations for our learners.	<p>OUR VALUES</p>  <p>HOPE EQUITY ACHIEVEMENT RESPECT TEAMWORK</p>	<p>At Fordbank we aim to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create an inclusive ethos that fosters healthy, happy children and celebrates wider achievements.</li> <li>2. Raise attainment and develop lifelong skills by providing a stimulating and accessible curriculum for all.</li> <li>3. Enable and encourage pupils to be actively engaged in and leading their own learning.</li> <li>4. Fostering and nurturing opportunities that develop successful partnerships with families and our wider partners and school community.</li> <li>5. Promote a sense of responsibility, tolerance, resilience and co-operation within our school community.</li> <li>6. Ensure that all children are aware of the opportunities in the wider world of work.</li> </ol>

I hope that you all had a fantastic summer break. It is great to be back for session 2025-26 and as we fast approach our October break we have achieved so much already. Pupils at Fordbank have been very busy from taking part in a sponsored walk, hosting coffee mornings, being active beating the streets, organising and planning in their pupil committees, taking part in visits from scientists, Gaelic music sessions and being involved in lots of afterschool and lunchtime clubs.

Please continue to contact myself, Mr. Mitchell, Mrs. Traynor or Mr. McClelland for any support needed.

Best wishes, Cara

Please see the contents below for what will be shared in this term's newsletter.

### Our Relationships:

- Parental Support Dashboard
- Attendance Policy
- Parent Council

#### **Our Learning & Teaching:**

- Staffing Update
- SIP Update
- Behaviour Conversations
- World of Work week
- Rights Respecting Update

#### **Our School & Community:**

- Values in action
- Beat the Streets
- Education Reform
- Boards Games
- Kitchen Items
- Garden Help

#### **Our Health & Wellbeing:**

- Medical
- Bike and Scooters
- P.E Kit
- Registration of Infant Beginners In Primary Schools Session 2026/2027
- Bullying

#### **Our Successes & Achievements:**

- Wider Achievements
- RNRA Open Day feedback
- Eco Flag award

#### **Reminders:**

- Diary Dates (and Family Diary)

- Reminders
- Have Your Say
- Contact Us

## How Good Is Our School Themes - **We have structured our newsletter around the How Good Is Our School themes:**

<b>Theme 1:</b>	<b>Our relationships</b> This includes friendships, relationships with teachers and other adults who support us, opportunities to influence things, equality and fairness, ethos and culture, feeling supported and cared for.	
<b>Theme 2:</b>	<b>Our learning &amp; teaching</b> This includes the curriculum, the quality of learning experiences, the range of teaching approaches and access to high-quality resources for learning.	
<b>Theme 3:</b>	<b>Our school &amp; community</b> This includes the facilities and environment for learning, availability of digital technology, the range of equipment for play and physical activity and ensuring everyone has good access to what's available. It also includes having positive links between our school and our families and with partner organisations in our community.	
<b>Theme 4:</b>	<b>Our health &amp; wellbeing</b> This includes access to good quality nutritious food as well as support for our emotional wellbeing, mental health and physical wellbeing.	
<b>Theme 5:</b>	<b>Our successes &amp; achievements</b> This includes opportunities for achievement in our school and in the community, being able to achieve the best possible progress, awards and qualifications, skills for employment and lifelong learning.	



### **Theme 1:**

#### **Our relationships**

This includes friendships, relationships with teachers and other adults who support us, opportunities to influence things, equality and fairness, ethos and culture, feeling supported and cared for.



## Parental Support Dashboard

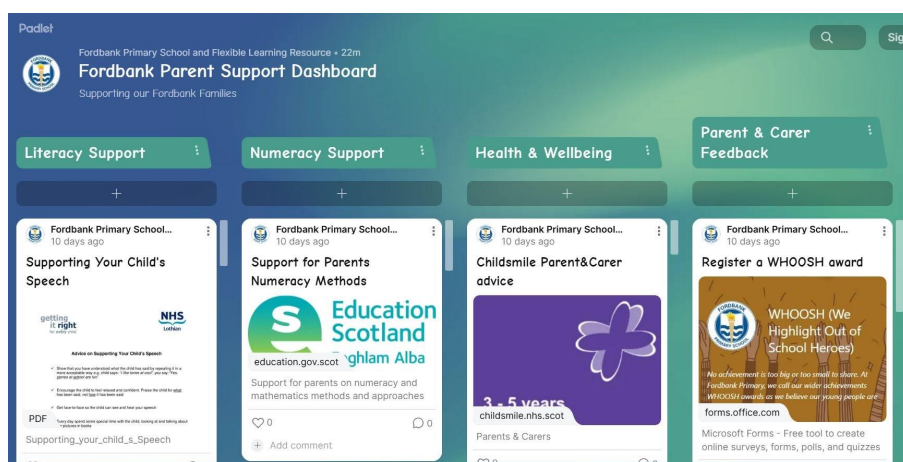


Please find the link below to our Parental Support Dashboard. This can be used by parents to access different supports. Supports on offer to families include; Literacy, Numeracy & Mathematics, Health & Wellbeing and Digital. We have also added additional links which families may find helpful. All our current parental feedback links are also included in the padlet. We will be updating the padlet throughout the year.

Please click below to access the dashboard.

### [Fordbank Parent Padlet](#)

The most up to date version of the family calendar is also available via the Padlet. Dates are subject to change throughout the month.



## Attendance



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*Fordbank Primary and FLR are committed to working with parents and carers, children and other stakeholders to ensure that, wherever possible, all children enrolled receive an education that maximises the opportunity for every child to achieve their full potential. In line with council policy, I'd like to remind you of our procedures for recording absence.*

- 1. If your child is absent from school please phone the school office before 9.30 in the morning. Please do not contact staff through Seesaw to do this.*
- 2. The office will send a text reminder if they have not heard from you and will follow this up with a phone call.*
- 3. If the office have not heard from you they will record the absence as unauthorised.*

*We will continue to monitor attendance on a monthly basis. The management team will monitor your child's attendance and are readily available to discuss ways to support you and your child getting to school.*

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## Parent Council

I am pleased to say that our Parent Council continues to grow in numbers. The group meets on a monthly basis at 5.30pm in the school and we work closely to discuss recent updates, policy and curriculum, new school developments as well as fundraising ideas.

At our recent AGM the following positions were agreed for this year.

Chairperson - Carol Ross

Secretary - Kym Fullarton/ Caroline Smith

Fundraisers – Janine Henry/Jennifer O'Brien

Treasurer – Michelle McNeil.

Our Parent Council have been continuing to meet once a month and have been busy organising our upcoming Hallowe'en disco and applying for grant funding for the school.

**Contact email address:** [Fordbankprimarypta@gmail.com](mailto:Fordbankprimarypta@gmail.com)

## Theme 2:

## Our learning & teaching

This includes the curriculum, the quality of learning experiences, the range of teaching approaches and access to high-quality resources for learning.



## Staffing Update

As well as a welcome back to school to everyone it is also a welcome to the school for a number of new pupils and staff this year. I'm delighted to welcome the following people to the Fordbank Family.

Miss. Aimee Kean who is our NQT teacher and who will be teaching Primary 2

Mrs. Pamela Aitken and Miss. Ana Magee who will be providing targeted support across the school.

Mrs. Sarah Greenaway who joins our support staff team on a Tuesday to Friday.

## School Improvement Plan 2025-26

Our three main improvement priorities this session are:

1. **Raise attainment in literacy with a sustained focus on writing and reading.**
2. **Ensure our curriculum equips our children for the future through high quality learning, teaching and assessment.**
3. **Improve Health, Wellbeing and relationships across the school community.**

A more detailed version has been updated onto the school website along with last year's Standard and Quality report 2024-25.

A copy of Renfrewshire Council's insurance documents can also be found on our website

## Behaviour Conversations

Please be on the look out for your child's behaviour conversation card which will be coming home on Friday 3rd October. These cards are designed to promote a conversation about their effort and behaviour in school and in some cases prompt next steps. Thank you for your support.

## World of Work Week

I am excited to give you advance notice of our intention to host a World of World week on 23rd March. The week will involve all pupils in the school exploring what knowledge and skills are required for the big, bad world of work. Pupils will be able to speak to people in different professions and start to think about future careers they might enjoy.

If you would be interested in lending your talents during this week please reach out to the school office or contact Mrs. Traynor via Seesaw. Thank you for your support.

## Rights Respecting School Update

This year the Rights Committee are working towards achieving the Silver Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA). This is the next step on our journey as a Rights Respecting School and will recognise our school as being committed to upholding children's rights as defined in Scottish law. Mrs MacDonald and Miss Magee will lead the committee in their work throughout the year. Stay posted for more information.

### Theme 3:

### Our school & community



This includes the facilities and environment for learning, availability of digital technology, the range of equipment for play and physical activity and ensuring everyone has good access to what's available. It also includes having positive links between our school and our families and with partner organisations in our community.

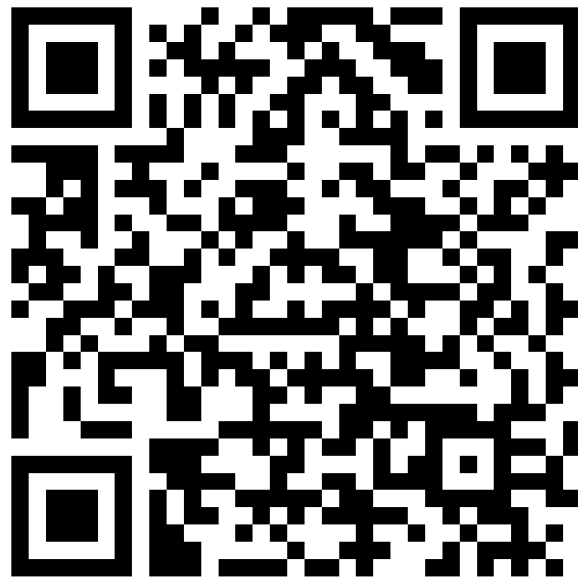
## H.E.A.R.T Values in action

[Values](#)

As you will be aware our school values are an integral part of our school and spoken about and celebrated as our young people develop through the school. Pupils are increasingly becoming more confident in not only naming, defining and identifying the school values in action in both themselves and others. These values are a big part of our school identity and help shape our community. We talk about the values in class and at our weekly assembly.

We are always looking for ways to capture and celebrate these values in action. Using the QR code link below, you will be able to share when these values are spotted by your children at home or outside of school too.

[Our Values in Action](#)





## Beat the Streets



Playing the game is easy. You can use a card, or play via the Beat the Street App (Age 13+).

1. Create your Beat the Street account on our website at **[beatthestreet.me/renfrewshire](https://beatthestreet.me/renfrewshire)** or by downloading our Beat the Street App via Google Play or the App Store.
2. Add family members, and register a card to player profiles. Join your school team.
3. Start your journey. Find your nearest Beat Box using a paper or digital map and hover your card at the contactless Beat Box until it beeps and flashes. If playing with the app, tap the Beat Box icon on your phone and swipe to collect points.
4. Visit 2 Beat Boxes within an hour and collect 10 points for each Beat Box – this is 20 points for the journey.
5. Carry on your journey. Score 10 points for each extra Box you visit.

These points will contribute to individual and school leaderboards that can be viewed by visiting [www.beatthestreet.me](http://www.beatthestreet.me) once the game commences.

## Education Reform



*You may be aware Scotland's education system is being reformed, this includes the creation of a new qualifications body, Qualifications Scotland, and a new education inspectorate, with further changes to national education public bodies occurring throughout the upcoming school year. Improvements to the curriculum and approach to qualifications, and assessment are also planned in the coming years. This work will enhance outcomes for children and young people educated in Scotland with the aim of ensuring excellence and equity by raising standards and giving every child and young person the same opportunity to succeed. Further information can be found on the [Scottish Government's website](#).*

## Garden Help



A great big thank you to Hunter's family in Primary 3 for helping in our school garden area. It was an excellent effort and start to our Autumn clean up.

We are still looking for some able-bodied volunteers to help get our garden looking beautiful especially now the weather is changing. Our pupils from P1 -7 use this garden regularly throughout the week and it is very rarely not in use. If you or a family member could spare an hour or two to help with weeding, painting, planting and maintaining our garden it would be very much appreciated. Please contact me at the school. Cups of tea and biscuits on demand.

## Kitchen Help

Our infant department are on the hunt and looking to add some exciting new resources to their Potions and Mud Kitchen area, and we're hoping you might have a few items lurking in your kitchen cupboards!

If you're having a spring clean or simply have extras to spare, we would gratefully accept any of the following:

Graters Metal kitchen scales

Mortar and pestle

Measuring cups and spoons

Old microwaves or small work top oven/air fryer

Turkey basters

Garlic presses

Muffin tins

Metal teapots and cups

These kinds of tools are brilliant for imaginative, sensory play and help build fine motor skills too. Thank you.



## Board Games

Our Sunshine room is a place where pupils across the school use to develop social skills and hosts our many visitors and specialist inputs. To help make this room welcome and fit for purpose, we are looking for good quality second hand board games such as Frustration, Connect 4, Pop Up Pirate, etc, Snakes and Ladders, etc.



### Theme 4:

### Our health & wellbeing

This includes access to good quality nutritious food as well as support for our emotional wellbeing, mental health and physical wellbeing.





## Bike and Scooters

As a recognised Cycle Friendly school, we are delighted that so many of our pupils scooter and cycle to school. It is great to see the new bike shelter in use. We have a stock of bike locks available for any child that needs one. If in need, please speak to myself or Mr. Mitchell.



## P.E Kit



It is preferable to have a change of clothes (shorts, t-shirt and footwear) in order to access their gym session fully and safely. Due to the weather, outdoor shoes are also not always the most appropriate for the equipment that is being used. If you are struggling for P.E kit could

you please get in touch with a member of the management team. Please be mindful that physical fitness contributes positively to how your child learns.

Please ensure that earrings are removed or taped up for P.E. During the gymnastics block (after Jan) earrings will need to be removed for safety reasons.

In line with the Health and Safety Act, “nails should be sufficiently short to prevent injury to self or others” therefore acrylic nails don’t meet this requirement.

## **Registration of Infant Beginners In Primary Schools Session 2026/2027**

Children who reach 5 years of age between 1 March 2026 and 28 February 2027 inclusive should be registered for education in their catchment school as follows:-

You must register your child in only one school, either the denominational or non-denominational school for your area. If you need information on schools for your area please telephone 0300 300 0170 or visit our website [www.renfrewshire.gov.uk](http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk) and search “find it on the map”.

Registration will be live online from 3rd - 7th November through the above website. For those unable to register online we request that you telephone your local catchment school to make an appointment to attend in person during these dates.

# Renfrewshire Council

## Children's Services

### Registration of Infant Beginners

#### In Primary Schools

#### Session 2026/2027

Children who reach 5 years of age between 1 March 2026 and 28 February 2027 inclusive should be registered for education in their catchment school as follows:-

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Registration will be live online from 3rd - 7th November through the above website. For those unable to register online we request that you telephone your local catchment school to make an appointment to attend in person during these dates. Parents/carers must provide satisfactory documentary evidence of the age of their child and that their family reside within the catchment area of the school. This evidence includes:

1	Child's full Birth Certificate
2	Most recent Council Tax Notice or if not currently resident in the property either a concluded missive or a signed and witnessed tenancy agreement/lease.
3	Child Benefit Statement. In the event that a Child Benefit Statement is not available, a Driving Licence or a Bank Statement/utility bill showing transactions over the most recent 3 months and the applicant's address may be accepted.  Or If appropriate to current circumstances - Court Order/Looked After Child/Foster Carer document(s).
4	Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate (if applicable)

The list above is not exhaustive and the Council retains the right to ask for further information when proof of residency is not satisfied. **Original documents must be produced upon request.**

If you want your child to go to a different school you require to register at your catchment school and thereafter make a placing request. The online Placing Request Form is available to complete on our website above and search "Change schools" or by telephoning 0300 300 0170 or your catchment school for advice. Director of Children's Services



Renfrewshire  
Council

[www.renfrewshire.gov.uk](http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk)

## Medical



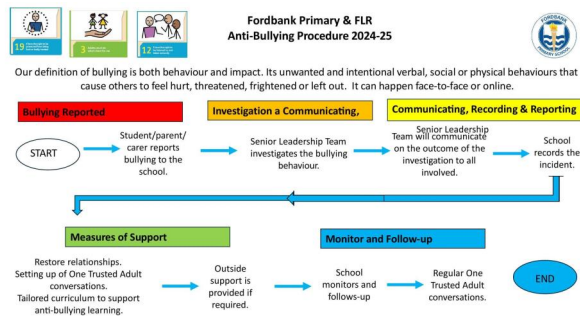
- If your child has an allergy, a meeting must take place between the parent/carer, class teacher and member of Senior Leadership Team.
- If your child develops an allergy through the school year then please let the school know as soon as possible so we can update your child's records and arrange a meeting.
- As a health promoting school, we encourage children to have healthy snacks. Please avoid giving your child sugary snacks to eat at school. All children are encouraged to drink water throughout the school day and should bring a named water bottle. Please note juice is not allowed in water bottles.

**Fordbank Primary School and Flexible Learning Resource is a Nut Free School.** Please continue to check packaging of products.

## Bullying Pathway

Our definition of bullying is both behaviour and impact. It's unwanted and intentional verbal, social or physical behaviours that cause others to feel hurt, threatened, frightened or left out over a period of time. It can happen face-to-face or online. Sadly, these incidents can happen unexpectedly and without warning. At Fordbank, we treat every incident seriously and follow the clear procedures highlighted in the following flow chart.





## Theme 5:

## Our successes & achievements



This includes opportunities for achievement in our school and in the community, being able to achieve the best possible progress, awards and qualifications, skills for employment and lifelong learning.

## W.H.O.O.S.H (We Highlight Out Of School Heroes)

In Fordbank, we talk about W.H.O.O.S.H awards which stand for (We Highlight Out of School Heroes). These relate to the wider achievements that our young people make when outside of school.

Wider achievement is about the skills for life and work that children and young people gain from hobbies and interests like sport, mentoring, voluntary work or fundraising whether at home, school, college or elsewhere. The skills they gain from these are important for young people for life, and also for their future. (Parent Forum Scotland, 2019)

In order to help us celebrate these, if you have any to share from home please use the link below. <https://forms.office.com/e/QABQ1TT7wS?origin=lpLink>

WE HIGHLIGHT OUT OF SCHOOL HEROES





### [WHOOSH Awards](#)

#### **Eco Flag award**

Well done to our school Eco committee and Ms. Campbell who have secured another Green Flag in recognition of our commitment to being a sustainable school community. They have worked hard to organise local litter picks, ensure a litter free school playground, sorted a new system for recycling paper and also grown their own vegetables!

Well done everyone.

#### **RNRA Open Day feedback**

Before the end of last year, we hosted an open afternoon for RNRA (Renfrewshire's Nurturing Relationships Approach) which showcased the good work that takes place across our school in supporting our learners. This visit highlighted the suite of nurture supports available. Some of the feedback included:

"the schools passion for developing nurturing relationship was evident"

"it was wonderful to hear about the nurturing ethos and approaches in the school"

"it was great to hear about the antiracism work taking place in the school"

Great to see the development of nurture in outdoor spaces"

We will look to continue to build on this positive feedback throughout this and the future.



## Diary Dates



### **October**

Book Fair arrives – 1st October

Macmillan coffee morning – 2nd October

Parent and Carer evenings – 8th and 9th

Talent Show – 10th

October holiday - 13th - 21st

In-service Day– 20th

School opens and pupil return – 21st

Child smile – 21st

Anti-sectarian football tournament – 24th

Maths Is Fun STEM workshops – 27th

Hallowe'en Disco – 30th

Hallowe'en Lunch 31st

**November**

Digital Safety Parent workshop – 6th

P7 Bikeability – 7th

Football tournament - 12th

Open Day – 19th

Parent Council Bingo – 20th

Be Bright Be Seen – 21st

Girls Football tournament – 28th

Sparkle Day – 28th

**December**

St Andrew's day Holiday – 1st

Flu vaccinations – 2nd

Family Fun night 3rd

Christmas Fair – Saturday 6th

Behaviour conversation cards – 12th

Nativity – 17th

Christmas Service – 18th

School closed – 18th at 2.30pm

*School holiday dates can be accessed on the Renfrewshire Council Website here:*

A copy of our Family Diary 2025-26 can be found here.

[Fordbank Parent Support Dashboard 2025](#)

## Reminders

- **Drinks** - Please be advised that Fizzy drinks and energy/sports drinks are not permitted in the school. Most energy drinks and fizzy juice will have excessive caffeine and sugar in them which leads to adverse health risks for our young people.
- **Water** - Water is freely available in the school for drinking throughout the school day and all pupils have the opportunity to fill a water bottle as needed.
- **School uniform** - Uniform helps identify our pupils as belonging to Fordbank and school colours should be met at all times. Fordbank's school uniform consists of grey trousers, skirt or pinafore. White or green polo shirt or shirt and a grey or green school jumper. Please ensure you child has appropriate school uniform and if not please see a member of the SLT who can help.
- **Labels** - All items belonging to your child must be labelled with their name. Where items are labelled, we can return them to your child. Unfortunately, many items without labels are often recycled if the owner cannot be identified.
- **Free School Meals & Clothing Grants** - A gentle reminder to apply for Free School Meals and Clothing Grant. If you think you may be entitled. P1 -P5 are entitled to free meals however we ask that you still apply as this helps the school with appropriate funding/resources. <https://www1.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/14349/Free-school-meals-and-holiday-meal-payments-for-primary-pupils>"

## Have Your Say



If you would like to make a comment or suggestion about anything school related, please click on the link below. We always want to hear your views and act upon them where possible.

Click on the following link: [Have Your Say](#)

## Contact Us



### Contact Us

Head Teacher: Ms. Cara Wadsworth

Phone: 0300 300 0153

email: [fordbankenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:fordbankenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

X (Twitter): @FordbankPS

BlueSky: fordbankprimary.bsky.social

Website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/fordbankprimaryschoolren/>