

**Mary Russell School**  
**Hawkhead Road, Paisley PA2 7BE**  
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**Head Teacher: Mr Liam Coyle**



April 2023

**Be all we can be! Be proud of who we are!**

Dear Parents, Carers and Families

I would like to take the opportunity to welcome back all our pupils for the Summer term and to say well done to all our pupils on settling back in so well after the holiday. This term is extremely important for all our pupils as we near the end of year. It is a great opportunity to work hard and to achieve the best we can before the end of term.

I would encourage you to work together with us to make sure all our pupils give their best this term and achieve to the best of their potential.

### **Family Event – Family Bingo Night – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May – 6.30-8.30pm**

**All our families parents and carers are invited to the above event, it will be the first family bingo night for a number of years and all are welcome to come along, have some fun and raise a bit of money for our school fund.**

### **Working together - Annual Review Meetings**

Our Annual Review Meetings for the session have now been completed and I would like to thank all our parents and carers who engaged in such good numbers. This is a unique system to Mary Russell and is hugely valuable in allowing home, school and our young people to really focus on their learning and development. Through working together we are able to maximise the achievements of our young people.

**Parental Engagement** – Parental engagement is crucial to the progress of our young people at Mary Russell School, and we will be seeking the views of our parents and carers via an online survey on a termly basis. You will be receiving a text message with a link to our parental survey for the Summer term in the next few weeks and I would encourage all our parents and carers to complete this. Your feedback is very important to us and allows us to continue to work in partnership.

### **Staffing Changes**

Our secondary Home Economics teacher Mrs Helen Graham is retiring this month and I would like to take the opportunity to thank Mrs Graham for her fantastic service, professionalism and compassion over her years in Mary Russell and to wish her all the best for the future. We will be welcoming our new Home Economics teacher - Ms Deirdre McBride when she takes up her post on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

Welcome also to our new ASNA colleagues who have recently taken up posts – Ms J Robson in secondary and Ms Anna Kane and Ms Pamela Caveney in Primary.

### **Clothing Grants**

Free school meals are now available for all pupils in Mary Russell school. You can use the link below to access the clothing grants application. Applications for this session end on 31<sup>st</sup> May. Applications for next session will be open in June.

link:<http://renfrewshire.gov.uk/Freeschoolmealsandclothinggrants>

## Parent Pay

You can set up an account at the following link: <https://myaccount.renfrewshire.gov.uk>

If you have lost your Parent Pay details letter and need a note of your parent pay details, please contact our school office who will be happy to help.

## Pupils over 16 – Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

EMA is a means tested weekly benefit of £30 which is paid to any young person over 16 who qualifies.

Applications and further information can be found via the following link:

<http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/3366/Education-Maintenance-Allowance>

If any of our Parents or Carers require support with any of the above applications, please contact your child's Pastoral Care teacher/year head who will contact our Homelink Colleagues for support.

## Social Media

Moving forward we intend to continue to utilise our Social Media as effectively as possible for communication and I would encourage you to follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

Details, information and links can also be found on our School website -

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/maryrussell/>

**As we move through our Summer term, there will be lots of fun events taking place for our pupils including Summer trips, Sports Day, the Awards Ceremony, Primary Well Done day and our Leavers Prom to name a few.**

**We will issue a calendar of June events towards the end of May to keep you informed as events approach.**

With all best wishes.

Kind regards.

*Liam Coyle*

Liam Coyle  
Head Teacher

### Our Values:

**Respect, Achievement, Care, Trust, Responsibility, Co-operation**

**Director of Children's Services: Steven Quinn**

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