

Mary Russell School
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Head Teacher: Mr Liam Coyle



6th November 2025

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

Dear Parents, Carers and Families

It is a great pleasure to write to you as we embark on our run up to Christmas, it has been a great start to the new academic session and a special welcome to all our new families, especially in P1 and S1 who are joining us for the first time.

Many thanks to all parents and staff who contributed to our Harvest Service food collection, we have made a large donation to the Renfrewshire foodbank thanks to your generosity. It was great to be able to welcome so many of our primary and secondary parents to our Harvest Service and to be able to enjoy a whole school event together prior to the holiday.

Also thank you for encouraging and supporting our Dress down/Dress up day on Halloween. It was a fun day, with lots of kind donations for our Christmas Fayre handed in and a fun packed Halloween disco in the afternoon!

Parent Council/PTA

We have an active Parent Council/PTA in the school and are always looking for new members. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 2nd December at 6pm in the school. If you are interested or would like more details please get in touch with the school.

Parent Council Christmas Fayre – Saturday 15th November – 10-12noon

Everyone is very welcome to our annual Christmas Fayre which will be going ahead this year on Saturday 15th November. If you are able to donate raffle prizes, offer help on the day or even take a stall please contact Lorna Barr our DHT primary.

I hope as many of our parents and carers will be able to make it along on the day to support the school for what is always a fun morning!!

Citizens Advice

We are again fortunate this year to have Citizens Advice in school every 2nd Monday, the next date will be Monday 17th November. Advice can range over a number of areas including form filling and benefits advice. For more information or to book an appointment follow the link to our website or contact our Pastoral Care team –

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/maryrussell/2023/09/01/citizens-advice-school-support-services/>

Appointments remain confidential and do not have to take place within the school. Use the barcode to book.

Parents Evenings

Parents Evenings are a great opportunity to meet the pupil's teachers and build an understanding of the curriculum and experiences our young people are engaging with on a daily basis. We are very keen to maximise engagement with parents, carers and families as our pupils progress on their Mary Russell educational journey and I would encourage you to make time to attend if at all possible.

Interim Reports

The reports are a snapshot of the excellent work being done by our pupils so far this term. The reports also provide an opportunity to have good conversations with staff on areas which can be improved on if necessary. Reports will be issued to parents prior to the Parents Evenings.

Parents Evening Dates and times:

Primary, S1, S3, S5 – Parents Evening - Wednesday 12th November – 5.30-8pm
S2, S4, S6 - Parents Evening – Wednesday 26th November 5.30-8pm

As always our Pastoral Care staff are available both before and on the night to answer any questions you may have.

Lost and Found Clothing

On Parents Night we will also have a large selection of lost and found and donated items of clothing. Please feel free to take a look and help yourself to any unclaimed items.

Clothing Grants

All Mary Russell pupils now receive free school meals. However if you think you might be eligible for a clothing grant, please make sure you apply for the clothing grant for young people. The application process has moved online, and forms/details can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www1.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/14351/Clothing-grants-for-children-at-school>

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:

<https://www1.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/3366/Education-Maintenance-Allowance-EMA>

If any of our Parents or Carers require support with any of the above applications, please contact your pupils Pastoral Care teacher/year head who will be able to help.

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 Facebook. Details, information and links can also be found on our School website – <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/maryrussell/>

With all best wishes.
Kind regards.

Liam Coyle

Liam Coyle
Head Teacher

Our Values:
Respect, Achievement, Care, Trust, Responsibility, Co-operation

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