



**ST ANNE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER  
August/September 2021**



*"Within our learning community, we will inspire one another to achieve our full potential.*

*Children, families and staff will be supported, challenged and listened to. Rights for all will be respected and promoted, with Christ and love at the centre of everything we do.*

*Working in positive partnerships, highly motivated staff will actively strive to create a nurturing, stimulating and joyful environment - **making learning fun!**"*

**SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS:**

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Twitter: @StAnnesPSE  
Head Teacher: Nuala Boyd  
Depute Head Teacher: Paul Welsh**

**Welcome!**

In this, our first newsletter of the session 2021/2022, we would like to warmly welcome all of our returning children and families back to school – it's great to see you again, especially after such an extended period away from school!

We would also like to extend a special warm welcome to all of our new children and families in Primary 1 - we are really looking forward to working with you!

Each month, we will keep you up to date with events and news in our school via our newsletter and webpage. We also use Twitter and text messages to let you know about day to day activities and information – please ensure you send us your most up to date mobile number and remember to follow us on Twitter - @StAnnesPSE

**\*\* REMINDER\*\***

**September Weekend:**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and Monday  
27<sup>th</sup> September 2021 - Holiday.**

**School reopens on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September  
2021.**

**Home/School/Parish Links**

Each month, we will keep you up to date about how we are working with the parish of St. Bernadette's to support our children on their faith journey.

Father David Boyd is our school chaplain, and, as we begin to return to normal circumstances, will be a regular visitor to the school to help us to prepare for and celebrate class Masses, Liturgies and Sacraments, in addition to supporting our faith formation work.

**On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 10.30 Mass in St. Bernadette's Church, Father David and the parish community warmly invites all children, families and staff to celebrate the beginning of the new school year. Please do come along and join us!** (School uniform can be worn but is not essential!)

With regards to the celebration of the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation, we do not yet have dates for this but will issue this to our P4 and P7 parents as soon as this is confirmed. Once again, our P6 and P7 children are undertaking the Pope Francis Faith Award (PFFA) this year. Further information on this will be sent via separate letter to parents of P6 and P7 pupils



### Trinity High School News

As current restrictions on visitors to schools ease, we look forward to welcoming visiting staff from Trinity High School and other cluster schools during this academic session. The first Cluster HT meeting of session 2021-2022 will take place in St. Anne's Primary on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September.

Mr Gary Bruce, Home Link work for Trinity High School cluster schools will visit each week to help support individual pupils as required.

Mrs Julia Barron will visit St. Anne's Primary each Friday to provide woodwind tuition to some of our P6 and P7 pupils.

### Uniform Update

Many thanks to all of our parents/carers for supporting our return formal uniform – we really do appreciate this!

Can we please ask that if you have not already done so, that you label **all** items of uniform. If at all possible, please can you provide black plimsolls for your child to wear whilst in school – this helps to protect our flooring and carpets.

As always, please do contact us if uniform presents a difficulty to you – we are here to help, and please be assured of our discretion in this.

### Parent Council

**We NEED you.  
Can you HELP?**

The first meeting of our Parent Council for session 2021-2022 will be held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm. The first part of this meeting will be the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Parent Council where Office Bearers roles will be confirmed.

**Please see that attached letter regarding the Parent Council and meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September.**

### **\*\* Health Promoting School\*\***

We are committed to supporting your child's social, emotional and physical well being. We work with a range of partners to help us to do this, including our Active Schools Coordinator, Mr Robert Campbell.

This term, our normal programme of extra curricular activity has been greatly impacted by COVID19, where there is less availability of personnel for extra-curricular clubs. Our extra-curricular clubs will commence week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> September as follows:

**Mondays** – 3.15-4.15pm P4-P7 Hockey

**Tuesdays** – 3.15-4.15pm P4-P5 Running Club

**Thursdays** – 3.15-4.15pm P6-P7 Running Club

Please note, clubs can be booked through Class for Kids website:

<https://ri-stannes.class4kids.co.uk/term/10>

As the year progresses, we hope to be able to increase extra-curricular clubs and opportunities. As always, should you be able to help us in any way with this, please do contact the school office – we would love to hear from you!

We continue to use the PATHS programme throughout all stages of the school (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) to support emotional and social well being, and continue to promote the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) in all aspects of learning and teaching in our school.

**We respectfully ask that children bring a healthy snack to school – PLEASE, NO SWEETS OR CHOCOLATE!**

**We would also remind you that NO NUT PRODUCTS are allowed in our school. Please encourage your child to bring their water bottle to school each day. Please note, ONLY PLAIN WATER IS PERMITTED IN CLASS IN WATER BOTTLES.**



Working in positive partnership with all in our school community is an essential part of the vision of St. Anne's Primary School and Early Learning and Childcare Class.

Each month, we will ask for your views via suggestion/comment pro-forma – please find this attached to this month's newsletter. If you have any suggestions or comments about how we can improve our service, please let us know via the attached pro-forma, or contact us directly at the school to talk to us.

### Involving You

We want you to be as involved in and informed about your child's learning as far as possible.

**\*Learning Targets** – your child will work with their class teacher to set targets in learning for the coming term. Learning Targets are sent home to you at the beginning of each term.

**\*Learning Target Review** – at the end of each term, your child will discuss their progress in achieving their learning targets with you.

**\*Parents' Evenings** – currently scheduled for Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and Thursday March 24<sup>th</sup> 2022

**\*End of Year Report** – June 2022

**\*Focus Week Involvement** – currently scheduled for Term 2 and 3 such as Health Week and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)

**\* Parental Workshops** – When we can, we will continue to provide opportunities to learn more about our approaches in Literacy, Numeracy and other curriculum areas and activities. Please see letter attached regarding forthcoming Numeracy parent information event.

**\*Additional Support Meetings** - ongoing throughout the year.

**Communication** – newsletters, website, twitter.

Please remember that you can also view your child's learning journey folder at any time – please just contact the school office to do this.

## A message from Father David...

### Welcome to a new Term

I just want to assure you that here at St. Bernadette's we are praying for the whole St. Anne's School community as you begin a new term.

We would also extend an invitation for you to join us for our weekday Masses if you can. We now have Mass at 9.30am on Wednesday and Friday in St. Bernadette's (Tuesday and Thursday at 9.30am in St. John Bosco).

I would respectfully ask that if you are not attending Mass, could you leave the car park as quickly as possible after 9am, to allow those who are attending Mass to park their cars.

I would also ask that you please do not park at the bollards or move them, as they are there for a reason.

I look forward to working with you over the coming term.

God bless you and your family.

Father David



### **Tempest Photography**

**Please note, Tempest Photography will visit the school on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> of September** to take photographs of each class, sibling groups and individuals.

There is no requirement to purchase photographs if you do not wish to do so. Should you wish to purchase photographs, your child will bring home an order form on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September for you to place an order with Tempest directly.



### **Pupil Voice**

We want our learners to be actively involved in their learning and in our school. In addition to Termly Learning Targets (see information on page 3 of this newsletter), we will:

\*Encourage our children daily to think about their “big” termly target, and what they need to do during that particular day’s learning to help them progress towards the “big” target. To help us do this, we will use the **GROW** model in class to help our children identify daily personal targets in learning:

**Goal** – What do I want to achieve today?

**Reality** – how far am I towards reaching my goal?

**Options/Opportunities/Obstacles** – What can I do to reach my goal? What might help me? What do I need to consider or avoid?

**What next?** – What do I need to do next in my learning to help me reach my “Big” termly target?

### **What can you do to help?**

Each day, discuss with your child what their “Big” termly target is, and what they did during learning to help them move towards this.

Encourage your child to have a “growth mindset” – for example, celebrating mistakes as a great opportunity for learning, seeing challenge as important in the learning journey, and using the power of “yet” (I can’t do it – yet!)

Attend our “Numeracy Growth Mindset” parent information event on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September – see letter attached.

### **Pupil Voice – continued...**

As well as use of Termly Learning Targets and daily “GROW” conversations and reflection, we will also increase our pupil’s participation through Pupil Voice Groups which will begin this term, and continue throughout the academic session.

#### **How Good is OUR School (Pupil Council) –**

Led by Mr Welsh, this group will comprise of representatives of P4-P7. The group will use Education Scotland resource “How Good is OUR School”, will work with Mr Welsh take part in self-evaluation activities to help us continue to improve our school.

**Laudato Si Steering Group** -This group, led by Mrs Boyd, comprises of representatives from P4-P7, staff, parents, and parish. Using the Scottish Catholic Education Service resource “Laudato Si Schools”, this group will help to plan and implement actions which will help our school respond to Pope Francis’ call to care for our Common home.

#### **Digital Schools Scotland Steering Group**

Led by Mrs McAllan, this group will help to plan and implement actions which will help our school work towards achieving the Digital Schools Scotland award.

#### **Reading Schools Award Scotland Steering Group**

Led by Miss Robertson, this group will help to plan and implement actions which will help our school work towards achieving the Reading Schools Scotland award.

#### **Junior Road Safety Officers Group**

Led by Mrs Boyd and Mrs McAllan, this group will help our school to find more sustainable ways of travelling to school, and will help to plan Walk to School Weeks, and Road Safety Week and Health Week activities.

#### **Gardening Group**

Led by Mrs McAllan with the help of Mr James Richardson and Mr Martin Bonnar from St. Bernadette’s Parish, this group will help to improve our garden areas around the school. A particular thanks must be given to Mr Richardson and Mr Bonnar who have done so much already to improve our garden at the front entrance of the school – it is looking fabulous!





In addition to monthly newsletters, letters via school bag drop, website and SMS text messages, we also try to make use of Twitter to share some of the learning experiences in our school.

You may have noticed that we have been a little bit quiet on Twitter since returning to school – this is because we are awaiting the return of our ipads which are being registered onto a new management system. We hope to have the ipads back soon and to be able to post more tweets to keep you up to date.

As always, our staff are working really hard and, whilst they will make every effort to post tweets to share learning with you at home, at times we may be a little quieter on twitter depending on what is going on in the school at that time.

**Please note, the main purpose of our Twitter account is to share learning experiences undertaken by our pupils. We will not be able to respond to comments or queries posted within the twitter feed.** Should you wish to contact the school, please send an email to our enquiries email address or telephone the school office (see page 1 of the newsletter for contact details).



We will continue to try to keep our website as up to date as possible. Please do “have a wee look” regularly, and remember that within the “Parent Zone section, you will find “whole school news” section to keep you up to date.



### **GLOW and Homework**

During the period of school closure, our school worked hard to really make good use of GLOW and Google Classroom) to help learning and teaching continue.

We want to continue the great progress we made using GLOW and Google Classroom during last session, and to continue to build our children and staff’s digital literacy skills.

From early September, all homework for P1-P7 will be posted on Google Classroom by your child’s teacher (s). We are currently working hard in school to ensure all pupils are able to access their Google Classroom independently, prior to “going live” with homework posted through GLOW in September.

To help you to support your child, we will send home information on GLOW, and how your child can access this – please watch out for the text informing you when we have put this information into your child’s bag.

In addition to GLOW (Google Classroom), your child will also have access to Heinemann Active Maths online games to support numeracy and mathematics learning, and Linguascope to support learning in French.

All of your child’s login details will be distributed to them. Please encourage your child to keep their login details safe and in a secure place. Should your child require a reminder of their login details, please contact the school office. *(Please note, as with all login details, these are personal to the individual and should not be shared. Therefore, if your child has lost their login details, we will distribute directly to them rather than to parents/carers).*



### **Diocese of Paisley – Vocations Week, and Vocations Mass for P7 pupils**

Vocations week runs from the 13<sup>th</sup> of September to the 17<sup>th</sup> of September. During this week in school, we will pray especially for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. During this week, please do also encourage your child to pray for vocations during your family prayer time.

P7 pupils from across the Diocese will gather together for a special Vocations Mass with Bishop John. For schools in Renfrewshire and East Renfrewshire, Mass will be celebrated on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September in St. Mirin's Cathedral. A separate letter will be issued to P7 parents regarding this.

### **Staffing Update**

Mrs McAllan (Principal Teacher) is unfortunately absent from school – we wish Mrs McAllan every good wish and look forward to welcoming her back to school as soon as possible. Ms Humphrey's (Supply Teacher) will fulfill Mrs McAllan's class teaching commitments.

Mrs McDermott (P3 class teacher Mon, Tues, Wed and Thurs) is also absent from work at the moment. During the period of Mrs McDermott's absence, Primary 3 will be looked after by Mrs Hamilton.

Ms Fiona Murray (Additional Support Needs Assistant) is based in St. Anne's on a temporary basis whilst recruitment processes for Additional Support Needs Assistant (vacancy) are completed. Ms Murray will work in our school on a Monday and Tuesday morning. We would like to welcome Ms Murray to our school, and look forward to working with her.

### **Important Dates**

We are still working on our annual "Important Dates" document, and will distribute this to you as soon as possible.

In the meantime, here are a few confirmed important dates for your diary for term 1.

**September Weekend** – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> and Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September

**October** – Daily rosary in the upper school playground at 8.45am.

**October Week Holiday** – School closed from Monday 11<sup>th</sup>-Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October.

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October – In-Service day** School and ELC Class are closed to children on this day

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November – Parents' Evening** (3.30-5.00pm and 6.00-8.30pm)

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November – School Review** (Self-evaluation visit to St. Anne's Primary as part of Renfrewshire Councils' on-going quality assurance practices)

**\*\*Please note, we will not have a St. Andrew's Day concert this year, but instead will have "Scottish Concert" in January 2022\*\***

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November – St. Andrew's Day Holiday** School closed to staff and children on this day.

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December** – ELC Class Nativity Concerts (A) and (B)

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December** – School Nativity Concert (A) at 1.30pm

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December** – School Nativity Concert (B) at 1.30pm

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December** – Christmas parties for P1-P3 children

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** – Christmas parties for P4-P7 children. **Please note, school closes at 2.30pm on this day.**

**School and ELC class re-opens to staff and pupils on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

### **Have Your Say**

Your views and opinions **ARE** important to us, and we are always looking for your comments or ideas about how we can improve our service to you and your child. Please do use the pro- forma below to share with us how we can improve.

We are always very grateful for support for the range of learning experiences we try to offer our pupils – if you can help in any way, please do let us know by completing the pro-forma below.

### **\*\* Have Your Say –Aug/Sept 2021\*\***

**Your name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your child's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments/Suggestions/**

Please return this pro-forma to the School Office by 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### **I Can Help!**

**Your name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your child's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class:** \_\_\_\_\_

When we are able to, we would love have parent/carer helpers back in school. We would also love to hear from you if you can help us to provide extra-curricular clubs. If you can help in any way later in the school year, please do let us know in the box below.