



ST ANNE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER
October 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:

St Anne's Primary School
Park Drive,
Erskine, PA8 7AL
Tel: 0300 300 0157

email: stannesenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Twitter: @StAnnesPSE

Head Teacher: Nuala Boyd

Depute Head Teacher: Paul Welsh

December – Staffing Update

Unfortunately, Mrs McAllan remains absent from work.

Ms Leanne Humphreys was undertaking supply cover for Mrs McAllan's absence, however, she will not return following the Christmas break as she is allocated to another Renfrewshire school. We are continuing to work with our central team regarding supply cover, and we will update you with information on this as soon as we can.

We say goodbye to Ms Pinkett who has been providing clerical support in our school office. Ms Pinkett leaves us to take up another post in Renfrewshire Council. We would like to thank Ms Pinkett for all of her hard work and support during her time with us and wish her every good wish for the future.

**** REMINDER – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY****

School closes at 2.30pm on Wednesday 22nd of December (Our ELC Class remains open from 23-24th December for children attending on a 52 week basis).

School and ELC Class will reopen to children and staff on Wednesday 6th January 2022

Home/School/Parish Links

We were delighted to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with our P4 pupils and Father David on Thursday 9th of December. The children were wonderful and were an absolute credit to their families – well done, P4!

Father David led our children and staff in a beautiful service to mark the end of term on Wednesday 15th December. At the service, artwork of the Baby Jesus which children had created, and Baby Jesus from home nativity scenes were blessed.

During Advent, we have had a daily "Advent thought for the day" where the whole school community has reflected on the daily Gospel to help us to focus on the true message of Christmas. Children of the school also supported St. Bernadette's parish Outreach work by creating artwork with a Christmas message to send to members of our parish and local community who may be alone or isolated this Christmas. We also ensured that tins collected during "Tintastic Tuesdays" in November were donated to EBI Foodbank.



Trinity High School News

We are delighted to have strengthened our cluster prayer approach during the month of December within our cluster. Each week, Trinity High School prepare information and prayer linked to the feast day of saints and/or liturgical events which occur the following week. This is then sent to each cluster primary school (and adapted to the age and stage of pupils so that Trinity High School and associated primary schools are joining together in prayer.

Trinity High School recently held a parents information session for parents of P7 pupils who will begin secondary school in August 2022.

This information can be accessed on the following link:

<https://trinityhighrenfrew.co.uk/new-s1-pupils-parents-and-carers/>

Or by visiting Trinity High School website, and clicking on the "P7 Transition" tab.

Parent Council

We would like to thank our Parent Council for all of their hard work and fundraising this year, and most recently during December.

We were delighted to receive a cheque from the Parent Council for the sum of £5000. This money will be used to support digital literacy within the school, where we hope to purchase additional iPads for pupil use.

Thank you so much for supporting our Parent Council! It is very much appreciated!

Our next Parent Council meeting will be held (via Google Meet) on Tuesday 11th January 2022 at 7.00pm

**** November/ December Activities – Partner events****

In addition to the home/school/parish events mentioned on page 1, some of our P4-P7 pupils took part in a lunchtime Christmas Choir to learn, perform and record Christmas hymns which will be used on the parish website and recording of Mass, and also shared with Erskine, Bishopton and Inchinnan Unites (EBI Unites) at their Farmer's Market.

Our children worked really hard, and the recording of the children sounds wonderful! Many thanks to Father David for the technical support in recording the choir!

During December, we continued to build partnership links with local business and charities. P1-P3 pupils took part in Morrisons Christmas artwork project, and our older classes created artwork for the "I Am Me" Christmas Card project.

P4 undertook "Operation Crisp Packet" during November and into December, where they collected, washed, sorted and sent off crisp packets to "The Iron Man" charity, who use recycled crisp packets to create emergency blankets. Well done, P4!

Mrs Stevenson and Mrs McAdam continue to help our school on our journey to achieve "Reading Schools Award" status. As part of this, and our ongoing reading development work, we held a very successful Book Week Scotland event in November with our whole school community. P1 took part in the Scottish Book Trust Book Bug Bag project, visiting Erskine Library and having a gifting celebration in school. P2 and P3 held a Scottish Read, Write, Count bag gifting event. Miss Muir and Mrs McDermott have been working hard to develop our school library with the help of Jacquelyn Else-Jack, our Primary Outreach Librarian. Many thanks to everyone for their hard work and efforts!

Pupil Voice Groups – Updates

Laudato Si Steering Group

Our Laudato Si Steering Group held their 4th meeting of this session last week. During this meeting, we reviewed progress so far, and identified next actions. Progress included:

- Finding out more about what COP26 is and why this is important and praying daily.
- Throughout COP26, finding out more about what is being discussed/ decisions made.
- Finding out more about the damage we are doing to the earth through consumption.
- Liaison with our Soft FM Services regarding ways we can improve school meal service to be more sustainable.

As we move into Term 2, we will further develop our understanding of how our consumption affects the earth, through interdisciplinary learning:

(P1) – food waste

(P2-P4) – plastic consumption

(P5-P7) – clothing industry and fashion

Although each stage will look at these broad themes, each individual class will have their own specific focus.

How Good Is OUR School (Pupil Council)

Our How Good is OUR School pupil group conducted a survey on School Meal provision with our children. From this, the group shared information with Soft FM Services area Coordinator (Mrs Allan) and Manager (Mrs Brown) during their visit to St. Anne's Primary in late November. The group also met with Mrs Moore from the School Meal team regarding consultation on school meal menu development.

Gardening Group

In late October, our gardening group met with James Richardson from St. Bernadette's parish to plant spring bulbs in our garden areas. As we move into Term 2, our gardening group have plans to develop the remaining garden areas in the school grounds.

Pupil Voice Groups – Updates (continued)

Reading Schools Award Steering Group

Our Reading Schools Award Steering group very successfully planned events for Scottish Book Week celebrations in November, really helping to make this event special and important to our children. During their second meeting, the Reading Schools Award Steering Group viewed and reflected on examples of good practice on developing reading from across Scotland, and from this, developed ideas and actions to help our school on our journey to become a Reading Schools Award school. The steering group also met with our Primary Outreach Librarian, Jacquelyn Else-Jack regarding both our school and class libraries, and how these could be further developed.

Digital Schools Award Steering Group

In January, we will begin work with our Digital Schools Award Steering Group, looking at ways we are being digitally literate, and what more we can do. One of our first actions is to move away from hard copy newsletters, and instead make use of SWAY to send information to our families (this has already been piloted in our ELC Class with good feedback received). We will also look to set up a Coding Club during Term 2.

Junior Road Safety Officer (JRSO) Group

Our JRSO group were very busy during Term 1, running a successful competition in school to promote walk/bike to school week, and led an assembly during Road Safety Week in November. As we move into Term 2, the JRSO group will again work to increase awareness of road safety with our children, responsible road use (parking) with our families.

Mary's Meals



During December, and specifically on our Christmas Lunch/Jumper day, we ran a fundraising appeal for Mary's Meals.

Thanks to your generosity, a wonderful £418.50 was raised. This amount will be match funded, meaning that a wonderful £837 will be donated to Mary's Meals – or, to put it in another way, 52 chronically hungry children will be fed and educated for a whole year.

Many, many thanks for your generosity and support for our work in helping our children to help others around the world.

Christmas Nativity and Songs

Our P2-P7 children performed their Christmas songs, and P1 their Nativity, which we recorded and posted onto GOOGLE Classrooms.

Children can now log in to view their own classes performance in their GOOGLE classroom. **Please note, in line with IT policy, GLOW login details belong to the child and should not be used by parents.** Rather, children should log into GLOW and share with parents.

This week in school we have ensured that all children are able to login and access their GOOGLE classroom. (However, just to make sure children can access, we have also redistributed GLOW login details to children.)

We hope that you enjoy the children's performances!

Christmas Message from Mrs Boyd

As we draw to the end of Term 1, I'd like to take a moment to thank everyone in our school community for all of the hard work, help and support during what has been another challenging school term.

Although COVID-19 has continued to have significant impact for everyone, all in St. Anne's Primary and ELC Class have risen magnificently to the challenges faced and ensured that our children are safe, happy and achieving.

As parents and carers, you have worked incredibly hard to encourage and support your child in learning and have been so understanding when restrictions meant we could not do things as we would wish to do in the school. For this, I want to thank you most sincerely – it is very much appreciated.

I could not be prouder of all of the children and staff of the school who have been, quite simply, outstanding. Life has been far from normal in school, but our children and staff have approached every challenge with determination, resilience and courage – they truly do show our school values each day.

I am also extremely grateful to our Parent Council, the parish of St. Bernadette's and all our local partners who have helped us to continue our work in providing the best for our children – sincere and genuine thanks to you all.

I truly believe that in the community of St. Anne's Primary School and ELC Class, we are very blessed indeed. I would like to wish all of our children, families, staff and community members, a very peaceful and joyful Christmas and New Year. May God bless you all this Christmas.

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 - December 2021****

Your name: _____

Your child's Name: _____

Class: _____

Comments/Suggestions/

Please return this pro-forma to the School Office by Friday 14th January 2022.