St. Catherine's Primary School and Nursery Class

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Head Teacher: Mrs Emma Henry

February 2018 Newsletter

Parent Partnership - Reading Café
Thank you to all that have managed to come along to our Reading Café sessions. It has been very successful and a joy to see our families reading together and socialising over books and stories. If you have not attended please feel free to come along! The children that attend our Reading Café will be invited to help Mrs Henry evaluate the sessions over a slice of pizza in the coming weeks.

School Access / Inclement Weather
Please be aware that during the winter months, pavements around the school may be slippery. The playground areas could also be icy. Everyone is asked to take extra care and use the safest routes and those which have been gritted. The council policy is that only main walking routes/pathways in and out of the building will be treated with grit. A very big thank you to Mr O'Neill for doing more than required to keep our families safe. Mrs Henry is very grateful to have the best janitor in Paisley!

Free School Meals
All children in Primary 1 to 3 across Renfrewshire have the option of receiving a free school meal every day. This is very beneficial to families and you are encouraged to send your child for a school lunch each day. Families of any child in Primaries 4 to 7 who feel they would be entitled to a free meal due to personal circumstances should not hesitate to make application to the Council (forms are available from the school office on request).

Acceptable Use Policy (Internet & Media)
Renfrewshire Council has a policy to ensure that all pupils/parents are aware of the importance of good internet protocols and attitudes. We teach our children about internet safety and their own responsibilities. Please regularly discuss internet safety at home.

Active Schools Programme (extra-curricular activities)
Active Schools Co-ordinator, Mr Dougie Armour, works across a group of schools throughout the session organising extra-curricular activities for pupils. He issues letters about specific opportunities to pupils in appropriate stages and depending on the number of spaces available, places are offered to pupils. Parents are asked to note the information contained in the letter. Mr Armour is responsible for the coaching staff and for all arrangements pertaining to the various activities. Coaching staff have responsibility for the pupils who attend a particular activity. Thank you Mr Armour for providing such excellent opportunities for our pupils.

Physical Education
Pupils must have a PE kit, including soft shoes, on the required days. Participation in PE and physical activity is not an optional aspect of the curriculum. It is very important for your child's health and wellbeing. Children are not permitted to wear jewellery during PE and all items of jewellery should be removed prior to coming to school. In line with school/council policy football strips are not permitted.

Lost Property
Children should be encouraged to look after their belongings both inside the building and in the playground. If your child is missing any item, please remind him/her to look for it right away. If your child brings home any item which does not belong to him/her, return it to the school as quickly as possible. Please ensure all items brought to school have your child's name written clearly on them. Thank you.

Speech & Language Therapy Drop-In Advice Clinics
These are for children and families living in Renfrewshire. The local venue is The Aranthrue Centre (Paisley Road) between 10am and 12noon on the 2nd Friday of the month: 9 February; 9 March; 13 April 2018. For more information contact 0141 314 4601.

Fair trade
We would like to invite you to our school's annual Fair trade coffee event on **Tuesday 27th February at 2pm**. Awareness raising is the theme of this year's Fair trade fortnight and Mr Donaghy's Fair Trade Citizenship Group would like to serve you some delicious goodies for just £1 per family! Please enter the school by the front entrance and we will collect your child to join you for a nice Fair trade cuppa and a treat.

Catholic Education Sunday
Thank you to the families and staff that came along to St Mirin's Cathedral to celebrate Catholic Education Sunday. I was delighted to see so many of you there. A special well done to the children that participated in the Mass as always you made us very proud.

School Holidays
The school will be close to pupils on Friday 9th February and will re-open to staff and pupils on Wednesday 14th February.

January Assembly Achievement Awards
Congratulations to the following pupils!

Primary 1	Matthew Daly, Dorian Gora, Mirren MacDonald, Millie Michie, Ben Parnis Scott, Jack Steel
Primary 2/1	Allan Todd, Sara Shahid, Ethen Njorge, Kayden Coyle, Kacey Orr
Primary 2	Julia Sobanski, Reegan Dick, Clark Williams, Catriona Muir Dunbar, Joshua Dapaah
Primary 3	Lilly-Rose McMahon, Taylor McCormick, Ava Mitchell, Nicole Grady
Primary 4	Ryan Gillespie, Niamh McGarvey, Liam Bruce, Ciara McBride, Sandy Craig
Primary 5	Brodie Blair, Jessica Parker, Laura Hardie, James Brown, Mirrin McIlhargey, John Kearns
Primary 6	Sean Strathearn, Azalan Baig, Adam Johnstone, Kieran Connor, Sam Evans
Primary 7	Russell McCulley, Brooke Brown, all of Primary 7 received an award for excellence in writing.
Head Teacher Award	Scott McLintock, Lyle Amjadi, Ryan Gillespie, Jane Donald, Amy Turnbull, Charlie Gray, Sam Evans, Nathan Muir

Dates for your diary

February

1	P1/P7 Dental Inspections
5	Citizenship Groups
9	In-Service Day (Pupils do not attend)
12	Holiday
13	Holiday
15	Valentine Disco
27	Fair Trade Coffee morning

March

2	World Book Day Assembly
16	ECO Assembly
21	Parents Night/Book Fair
22	Primary 4 Sacrament of Reconciliation
29	Non Uniform Day
29	World of Work Day
29	School closes for Spring Break (Pupil's return Monday 16th April)

Recognition of Achievement

Although we encourage our children to tell us about their achievements out with school we are sure that we don't know about lots of things however big or small, for this reason we would like your help. If you feel that your child has accomplished something for the first time, improved in something, or has achieved an award (yellow belt in Judo, badges at Scouts/Brownies/Boys Brigade etc.) please let us know by completing the tear off slip below. Your child will receive a Head Teacher Award which will be shared at assembly and added to our achievements records.

Please tick ( )

Church	Community	General	Language and Arts	Music	Sport
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Name _____

Class _____

Details of Personal Achievement

_____

_____

Parent's Signature _____

Date _____

You are welcome to provide feedback on any items contained in our newsletter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is ever anything you wish to discuss.
Mrs Emma Henry, Head Teacher
The newsletter is available on the school website
https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/stcatherines/
(If you require a copy with larger print please contact the school office)
You are welcome to provide feedback on any items contained in our newsletter. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if there is ever anything you wish to discuss.