



St. Catherine's Primary School and Nursery Class

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Head Teacher: Mrs Emma Henry

Renfrewshire
Council

August 2018 Newsletter

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome to the new school session! I hope you had a lovely break with the children.

A special welcome to our new Primary 1 pupils and their families. I am looking forward to working with you and I am confident we will have a very successful year together!

Parent Council

We will be looking for new recruits next session. Our first meeting of the new year is planned for **Thursday 23rd August at 6.15pm**. All welcome!

PE Timetable

P1	Thursday	Friday
P2	Tuesday	Wednesday
P3/2	Wednesday	Thursday
P3	Tuesday	Thursday
P4	Monday	Tuesday
P5	Monday	Wednesday
P6	Tuesday	Wednesday
P7	Thursday	Friday

On the days where your child has PE we ask that they bring/ wear a school polo shirt, shorts and soft shoes. For health and safety reasons no jewellery should be worn during PE including earrings. In the event that earrings cannot be removed please ensure that you cover your child's earrings with tape or send in tape for your child to put over their own earrings. **Teachers are unable to apply the tape.** The children will go outdoors for PE and you will be informed of this through your child's homework diary. It may be that jogging trousers/leggings and a jacket/hoody are required.

School Uniform

The boys and girls are all looking very smart in their school uniform, thank you for your support in this. Please note our school uniform **is blue trousers/skirt/pinafore, blue polo shirt or shirt and tie and a blue jumper or cardigan**. Please ensure your child brings a jacket to school each day, as you know our weather can be very changeable and we try to go outdoors daily. We distributed free school meal and clothing grant forms prior to the summer break. Forms can be found on Renfrewshire Council Website or ask for a copy at the school office.

P1 Meet the Teacher

Parent/Teacher meetings for the year are scheduled for:

Wednesday 12th September 2017 (3:30pm-8:00pm)

Wednesday 21st March 2018 (3:30pm-8:00pm)

Appointment letters will be issued next week for the meetings scheduled for 12th September.

Primary 6 Swimming

As part of the PE curriculum Primary 6 will be attending the Lagoon for 2 swimming sessions. These will take place on: Tuesday 4th September and Tuesday 11th September. On these days pupils will be bused to the Lagoon. Pupils should bring appropriate swimwear, a towel and a bag to carry wet items in.

White Cart Credit Union

The Credit Union will be in school every Thursday. Their first visit to the school will be on Thursday 23rd August.

Non Uniform Days

We try to give you as much notice as possible of up and coming events. Please take note of our planned fund raising events. There will be three fund-raising non-uniform days over the course of the year; the dates of which are listed below. Each pupil should bring £1, or £2 per family, on the day should they wish to take part: **12th October 2017** **20th December 2017** **29th March 2018.**

Parent Partnership

We will shortly issue a letter asking you to inform us of your skills, talents and expertise (I know we have a talented bunch out there!) Last session this resulted in increased parent volunteers across the school including participation in our citizenship groups, school trips and clubs. I will personally respond to each letter with a suggestion as to how we could perhaps utilise your skills in the life of the school community. As always I greatly appreciate the incredible support from our parents/carers and I look forward to working with many of you this year.

Building Works

We are delighted that St Catherine's Primary has been selected to receive a brand new roof. This is major building works and as such a plan has been put in place to ensure minimal disruption to our day and the safety of our school community. The children will be lining up and playing in different parts of the playground until work is complete. Please ensure that you read and follow the signs and the suggested pathways paying particular attention to the car park area. During this time we respectfully request that you do not park in the staff car park. Niree's bench will be temporarily placed inside the school to ensure it is not damaged. It will return to its home when work is complete. If you have any questions regarding this, please do not hesitate to ask.

Twitter/Website

We are always looking for new ways to communicate with our Parents/Carers and through consultation with our Parent Council/Have your Say Box we are now on Twitter! We invite you to follow us

@stcatherinespsy

Please remember to access our school website, 'Whole School News' will provide you with up and coming events and necessary information and 'School Blogs' will showcase our pupil's skills and talents across the curriculum and beyond. You will also find copies of our monthly newsletters, school handbook, school improvement plan and other useful information. We will continue to use our text messaging service also to keep you up to date.

Attendance & Punctuality

It is important that parents contact the school with regard to a child's absence. Parents are requested to telephone the school office between 8.30am and 9.15am at the latest on the first morning of each absence. If no notification is received it is treated as an '*Unauthorised Absence*' and a text message will be sent to the main parental contact. However, parents are respectfully requested to adhere strictly to the school policy.

Parents must ensure that prior to leaving the house in the morning children always know their travel arrangements for the end of each day.

Breakfast Club

Please remember that there is currently a free Breakfast Club available to your children starting at **8.15am** each morning, please note that Mrs McLaughlin does not begin until this time. This is a fantastic way to start the day with a delicious healthy breakfast and sports coaches available Tuesday to Thursday. Our pupils have also requested access to the news and current affairs and we are delighted to take this on board this session, every part of the day is a learning opportunity in St Catherine's Primary! If you would like your child to attend, please collect a form from our school office.

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. The Active Schools Programme will begin week beginning **3rd September**.

Citizenship Groups

Every pupil is provided with the opportunity to develop the school identity through involvement in school Citizenship Groups this not only allows them to grow and develop but also to have a positive impact on school improvements. Your child will be asked to select their chosen groups in the coming week and the first Citizenship Group meeting will take place on **Monday 3rd September**.

Achievements

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.

Termly Coffee Morning

I would like to introduce a termly parent/carer coffee morning. This will be an opportunity for you to not only catch up over a cup of tea or coffee but it will allow me to inform you of the progress of our school improvement plan priorities and to find out your views throughout the year too. The first coffee morning will take place on **Tuesday 4th September at 9.15am**. I hope many of you can come along.

As always if you have any questions regarding this letter or indeed any aspect of your child's education please do not hesitate to contact me at the school office.

Yours,

Emma Henry

Dates for your diary

August

- | | |
|----|---|
| 15 | Pupils return to school
(P1 9.15am - today only)
Mass Feast of the Assumption |
| 23 | Parent Council Meeting 6.15pm
– all welcome |

September

- | | |
|----|--|
| 3 | Citizenship Group Meetings |
| 4 | Coffee Morning 9.15am – all
welcome |
| 10 | Maths Week Scotland |
| 21 | Holiday |
| 24 | Holiday |
| 25 | School re-opens |

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
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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)

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