



St. Catherine's Primary School

Brabloch Crescent, Paisley PA3 4RG.

Tel: 0300 300 0180

School Website: www.st-catherines.renfrewshire.sch.uk

E-Mail: stcatherinesenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Emma Henry

Follow us on Twitter @stcatherinespsy

November/December 2020 Newsletter

Christmas Celebrations

Christmas will look a little different this year however we will do whatever we can to ensure that this is a safe and special time for our children. We have the following plans –

- Elf Trail – we are delighted to be working with Renfrewshire Leisure Arts Team and Feel Good Gallowhill to help to create an Elf Trail along a 5k walking route in Gallowhill in the run up to Christmas. We are excited to help to bring a little Christmas cheer to our community.
- Christmas Performance – we may not be able to perform in person however we still plan to bring you a whole school online performance of, 'Twas the night before Christmas.' We will keep you posted when we are ready to go live!
- Christmas Parties – we will enjoy Christmas parties on **Thursday 17th December**, children can come into school dressed in their party clothes.

Parent/Carer Calls

Thank you for a fantastic response to our recent calls. We have had really positive feedback from this. We may not be able to have you in the building at the moment, but we will continue to do whatever we can to keep you fully informed. If you did not manage to take a call from your child's teacher contact Mrs Henry for an update.

Homework

Homework continues to be published on a Monday on GLOW and should be completed and handed in by the Friday. Your child's GLOW username and password can be found in their homework diary. Using this platform will also ensure that all children are accessing GLOW in the event of blended learning being introduced so we would ask you to give it a go. Please contact Mrs Henry if you have issues with access and we will help you to address these as best as we can.

First Holy Communions

Congratulations to our First Communion children. They were perfect and made this day very special despite the current restrictions. Thank you to everyone involved in preparing our children so beautifully and participating in the Mass. The children thoroughly enjoyed their celebratory afternoon tea.

Communication

It is difficult to continue our previous methods of communication at this time, but I am delighted with the response from parents/carers. We are very happy to speak with you on the telephone or communicate via email which should enable us to continue to work together to support all children.

Outdoor Learning

We are delighted that under new tier 3 guidelines for schools we can get our children back into the gym hall with appropriate health and safety procedures in place.

Children will still require suitable outdoor clothing for being outdoors for breaks/lunch and outdoor learning. If you wish to provide a pair of wellies for your child these can be left in school in a plastic bag. This will save children having to carry these to and from school. Please write your child's name inside each wellie boot.

Entry/Exit

I continue to thank you for your cooperation and understanding with our entry and exit system. Staff members are asked to supervise at the doors to allow all children entering to wash their hands before class. I thank you for not using the school car park at this time and continuing to adhere to our social distancing guidance to ensure the safety of our school community. Can I also offer my sincere thanks for wearing face masks in the playground following the most recent Government announcement.

Flu Immunisation Programme

A reminder that the flu immunisation programme is due to take place on **Monday 16th November**. We will work in partnership with health professionals to ensure this is done safely.

School Improvement Planning

Our school improvement plan and standards and quality report are now available on our school website. Your views are most welcome, and I would ask you to respond by directly emailing me. I am always keen to hear your views and act upon these to ensure continuous improvement of St. Catherine's Primary.

Book Week Scotland

Book Week Scotland is running from **16-22nd November**. Although Book Week will look a little different this year there are still lots of ways, we will be celebrating our love of books throughout this week. During this week P1 will be gifted a Bookbug Family Bag. This bag is produced by the Scottish Book Trust as part of the Scottish Government Read, Write, Count initiative. We will be working with the children in class to use their bags and would encourage you to visit parentclub.scot for more ideas and activities to support you.

Parent Portal

If you have not signed up to Parent Portal, please ensure that you do so. This is a Renfrewshire initiative and will be the main method of communication with parents in the future. Please contact us if you are having problems and we will be happy to help you.

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 from Mrs Henry. We will continue to post our weekly class award winners on Twitter. Follow us on, [@stcatherinespsy](https://twitter.com/stcatherinespsy).

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club is up and running from **8.15am** each morning, please note that **doors will not open until then**. The children are having a wonderful time at Breakfast Club and are enjoying getting out in their class bubbles with Sean for some fun games to start the day. Thank you to all staff for supporting the delivery of this service during this challenging time.

Bicycle Shed

A reminder that bikes left in the bike shed are not the responsibility of the school. They are left at your discretion and we would advise that bike chains are used. Children should not bring a bicycle to school if they do not have a helmet.

Holiday

The school will close for St Andrew's Day on **Monday 30th November 2020** and reopen on **Tuesday 1st December 2020**.

The school will close for Christmas Break on Friday **18th December 2020 at 2.30pm** and reopen on **Wednesday 6th January 2021**.

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)

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.

