



# St. Catherine's Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs Emma Henry

Follow us on Twitter @stcatherinespsy

## January 2021 Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer,

On behalf of all the staff of St Catherine's Primary, I would like to wish you and your families all the best for 2021. I know that the situation is very difficult at present with school closures and greater restrictions for all of us but there is hope that the vaccination programme may bring some much-needed relief.

### Update from Director of Children's Services

You should have received a text message with a link to the latest update from Steven Quinn, Director of Children's Services. Here is a copy of the link:

[www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/schoolsupupdate-0501](http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/schoolsupupdate-0501)

### Learning at Home

We would have loved to see all our students returning but in the meantime are committed to providing the best learning we can to our students whilst they cannot attend school.

Learning at home for all students will begin on **Monday 11th of January**, apart from the children of key workers as described below. At present the closure of schools is until **Monday 1st of February** but this will be under review as the Scottish Government monitors the ongoing level of cases of the virus.

We will return to the programme of online learning used previously. Your child is now very familiar with using GLOW and should have no difficulty in accessing their learning. Lessons will focus on Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing. This online learning may take the form of pre-recorded lessons/instructions, assemblies, class meetings, feedback and tutorial like sessions. A variety of approaches to this, will ensure that we get it right for all our children. A user guide to using GLOW is available on our school website. Please note, as teachers are supporting the children of key workers and vulnerable groups, in school, feedback may not be immediate and it may be from SMT or another teacher, at times.

ELCC children will have access to activities/experiences each day on Class Dojo. Key workers will contact their families during this time to check in and speak to their children.

It is very important that students do all they can to complete the work that is being set. Teachers will be setting work that continues with the learning and is not a revision of work that has already been covered. We appreciate that many of you may be working from home therefore have created a format that allows you some flexibility as to when you complete the tasks. Teachers will be available during school hours. Attendance online will be closely monitored the expectation is that all children engage with learning throughout this time.

If you have any concerns about your son/daughter being able to complete the work, then please contact the school. We are here to do all we can to help your child during this difficult time.

### **Access to Digital Devices/Paper Packs of Work**

If any students have no access to digital devices like tablets, Chromebooks, laptops etc then we will try and support this by issuing a Chromebook. We have a very limited number of these devices and will need to prioritise them to where the need is greatest.

During the last lockdown there were a very small number of students who required a paper pack of learning materials. If you feel that your child is unable to work using digital resources, please contact the school office. Please note, we would prefer that you access learning online as this will allow your child to be in contact with a teacher directly, paper packs will not allow for this.

### **Keyworker Students Attending School**

There is provision for the children of keyworkers to attend school to allow frontline services to be maintained during the current restrictions. Both parents/carers must be a key worker or a single parent family where the carer is a key worker. Students can attend school on the days on which there is no provision for childcare at home. The students will complete the work that has been set by their class teacher and will be supported by teaching staff.

### **Notification of Positive Covid Cases**

Whilst the school remains closed can you continue to notify the school office (0300 300 0180) of any positive confirmed cases of covid. This will allow Test and Protect data to be kept up to date.

### **Student Wellbeing**

We all know that this pandemic and the accompanying restrictions can have a major impact on the wellbeing of all of us and our children are no exceptions. They have coped brilliantly over many months of challenge. We will continue to make phone calls to students that we believe need an extra bit of support. If you have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact us and we will offer whatever support we can.

Take care

Emma Henry

### **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 ( )

|                          |                          |                          |                              |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Church</b>            | <b>Community</b>         | <b>General</b>           | <b>Language<br/>and Arts</b> | <b>Music</b>             | <b>Sport</b>             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Details of Personal Achievement

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Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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***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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