



St. Catherine's Primary School and Early Learning and Childcare Class

Brabloch Crescent, Paisley PA3 4RG.

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E-Mail: stcatherinesenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Emma Henry

August/September 2020 Newsletter

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome to the new school session, I know we are back under very unusual circumstances but it is certainly great to be back! I hope you enjoyed some quality time with your children over the summer break and that you are glad to be getting back into the school routine. The children have settled back into school beautifully and it is great to see them back in class with their teachers. A special welcome to our ELCC new starts and Primary 1 pupils and their families. I am looking forward to working with you all this year and I am confident we will have another very successful if not slightly different year together! A very big thank you to our entire school community for adhering to guidelines and helping us to keep safe.

Classes update

Primary 1 Mrs Dando

Primary 2 Miss Berry

Primary 3 Miss Armstrong

Primary 4 Mr Donaghy

Primary 4/5 Mrs Campbell

Primary 5 Miss Calvert

Primary 6 Mr McKay

Primary 7 Mr Gallagher/Miss McAtear

Mrs Burns/Mrs Millar – will continue to support classes across the school

Mrs McCann/Miss Piggott – will deliver early intervention/targeted support

Staffing update

We are delighted to welcome Miss McAtear to St Catherine's, she will be with us for the coming weeks. As some of you will be aware the nursery appointed a new depute Sarah McCall, Sarah will work alongside your existing depute Nicola. As you know Nicola is on maternity leave and we have Aileen Darroch who is covering this post. We welcome Sharon back who is now our Senior ELCO. We also welcome back Louise Watson from maternity leave.

Travel

The Health Protection (Coronavirus) (International Travel) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 require all those returning to Scotland from non-exempt countries to self-isolate at home or another appropriate location for 14 days. Those self-isolating should not go out to work or school or visit public areas. As you will know, the list of exempt countries has been changed in recent days, with the removal of some countries, including France and the Netherlands.

Flu Vaccination Programme

Please note that NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde will be delivering the Flu Vaccination Programme on **Monday 16th November 2020**. If you would like to find out more information please visit:

<http://www.immunisationsscotland.org.uk/vaccines-and-diseases/seasonalflu/childflu.aspx>

Standard and Quality Report

This is a report detailing how we have managed to accomplish achievements in the past year and outlining what we would like to focus on in the coming school session. It takes account of the views of

all children, parents/carers, staff and stakeholders. You can find a copy of this on our school website very soon.

School Improvement Plan

Our school improvement plan can be viewed shortly by accessing the school website. This will detail our priorities for the coming school session.

Parent Council

We will be looking for new recruits this session. Our first **socially distanced meeting hopefully in our outdoor classroom** is planned for **Tuesday 1st September at 3.15pm**. All are welcome to attend.

Pitch Timetable

As you know our children will be outdoors each day. Alongside this, each class has been allocated a time on the pitch to ensure we continue to meet national expectations with regards to the delivery of physical education. We are delighted that we have the expertise of Robert Campbell our Active Schools Coordinator to ensure we can continue to deliver quality teaching and learning experiences within the current guidelines. We are also delighted to announce the appointment of Sean Callaghan as our new Assistant Active Schools Coordinator. Sean will be a great asset to the school in supporting the delivery of our Health and Wellbeing curriculum and the wider achievements of our children.

Pitch timetable

P1	Wednesday	Friday
P2	Wednesday	Friday
P3	Tuesday	Thursday
P4	Monday	Thursday
P5/4	Tuesday	Thursday
P5	Monday	Wednesday
P6	Tuesday	Wednesday
P7	Thursday	Friday

School Uniform

On the days your child attends St. Catherine's Primary we are planning to spend an increased amount of time learning outdoors therefore it is important that our children are prepared for the Scottish weather.

- We have introduced a slight change to our traditional school uniform for August 2020 (school polo shirt, black/blue sweatshirt/hoody and black/blue leggings, joggers or comfortable trousers).
- Children should be dressed for the weather and **ensure that their jackets and footwear are appropriate for outdoor learning.**
- Where a child is unable to tie their shoelaces, we request that Velcro fastening footwear is worn to avoid unnecessary close contact with staff during the school day.
- A change of shoes should be brought into school each day – soft shoes, plimsoles or trainers.

Contacting the school

Regrettably no visitors can be received into the school building at present unless there are exceptional circumstances. Information can be passed to the school office by telephone (0300 300 0180) or emailed to stcatherinesenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Should you need to speak to a senior member of staff team this can be done by arrangement using telephone or video call. Please contact the school office by telephone (0300 300 0180) to arrange a suitable time for this to be scheduled.

Reporting to Parents

We will continue to provide you with a monthly update on your child through our monthly report. Should you have any concerns please contact the school and we can arrange to call you back to discuss any issues you may have.

Twitter/Website

Keeping you informed of changes quickly and efficiently is something we pride ourselves on and as such we invite you to follow us **@stcatherinespsy** if you have not done so already. This alongside our school website, in particular our 'Whole School News' section will provide you with up and coming events and necessary information. 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.

Drop off/Pick up

We intend to allow parents/carers to enter the playground to drop off or collect their children, especially if they are in younger classes. Where possible, older pupils (P4-7) can enter and exit the playground unaccompanied by an adult. **Please ensure your child knows their arrangements for the end of each day, who is collecting them from school, if they are meeting at an arranged place, at after school care or if they are walking home. Remember parents are not permitted to use the school car park at this time.**

Staff will be in attendance at the entry and exit points and only the child will be able to enter the school building. It is important that only **one adult** accompanies/collects your child to school at the beginning & end of each day. We thank you for adhering to our guidelines and supporting us to keep our school community safe.

Breakfast Club

We intend to reintroduce our Breakfast Club from **Monday 24th August 2020** from **8.15am** each morning, please note that Mrs McLaughlin **does not begin until this time**. At the moment the Breakfast Club will be for food only. The children will remain at tables in their current class groupings. Mrs McLaughlin will welcome children into the school from the main entrance, please adhere to social distancing guidelines. No parent/carers are permitted into the building at this time so please do not come along early. If you would like your child to attend, please contact the school and we will get a form to you.

Bicycle Shed

Bicycle sheds and scooter rack are still in use and we would continue to encourage our children to actively travel to school. Please note 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.

Car Park

We are committed to keeping our children safe and remind you that current guidelines state that **the car park is for staff only**.

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 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 achievement records.

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

September

- 25 Holiday
- 28 Holiday
- 29 Children return to school

October

- 12 Holiday
- 19 Inservice day staff only
- 20 Children return to school

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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