

BULLETIN

ST. CHARLES' PRIMARY SCHOOL

January 2025

Telephone: **0300 300 0181**

Email: stcharlesenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Website: www.st-charles.renfrewshire.sch.uk

Dear Parents,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in our extended school community a happy & prosperous new year. I am hoping 2025 will be a great year for us all, filled with good health & happiness.

As always, I will do my best to keep parents informed by issuing a bulletin each month. Additional information can also be found on our School App and Website.

Renfrewshire council has decided to stop using X as part of its corporate communications channels and will be moving to Bluesky. As a school community we have decided to follow this example and will begin actively using Bluesky week beginning Monday 13th January 2025, from this date our X account will be redundant. I know many parents have found X to be useful in the past for allowing them a "wee peek" into school life & their child's learning, we hope that Bluesky will provide a similar window.

A Bluesky account has already been set up by Miss Leck who will issue further information next week with instructions on how to access alongside new information about changes to how we will issue homework from week beginning 20th January 25.

Just 2 Easy is not meeting the needs of our families in relation to home learning with a significant number of parents reporting difficulty in accessing files. We ask for your patience as we try to rectify this matter.

MOBILE PHONES & SMART WATCHES IN SCHOOL

If your child has received a new mobile phone or Smart Watch for Christmas and you feel it is necessary for this item to be brought to school, it is essential that your child follows school guidelines. Phones must be switched off when children enter the school gate in the morning and remain in their own schoolbag during the day. These can only be removed to be used when the pupil leaves the school grounds. If your child wears a Smart Watch this should not be used to make calls or send text messages during the school day. If any child is found to be using their device during the school day or on school premises, then parents will be contacted & asked to collect the phone or watch. Children should not take photographs or make recordings at any time in school on personal devices. This guidance is in place to safeguard all children and protect them from potential harm. Please note it is also applicable when children are travelling on the school bus.

Please note that the school is not responsible for any phones that are lost or damaged on school property. It would be preferable for these expensive personal items not to be brought to school.

WINTER CLOTHING

I would ask that you ensure your child comes to school each day wearing clothing appropriate for the season. Children continue to play and learn outside on a regular basis throughout the year and warm clothing is essential. Should your child not have appropriate warm winter clothing and/or footwear please contact the school & speak directly to Mrs Hannigan or Mrs Kelly who will be happy to help. While our school building is warm the windows are regularly opened in school to ensure a safe and steady flow of clean air. Children need to be dressed in warm clothes every day and should wear a jumper or sweatshirt in class to allow this to happen. Our agreed dress code is **grey trousers/skirt, white shirt & school tie, white polo shirt, grey jumper/sweatshirt or cardigan, grey blazer with school badge or outdoor jacket which can be of any colour.**

As always between the beginning of May and the end of September, parents may dress their children in our summer uniform. **Grey shorts with white polo shirt or blue & white gingham dress.** This is of course optional and will depend on better weather.

All items of clothing must be clearly labelled with child's name to ensure it can be returned if misplaced in the building or playground. Personal items such as water bottles & packed lunch boxes should also be clearly labelled.

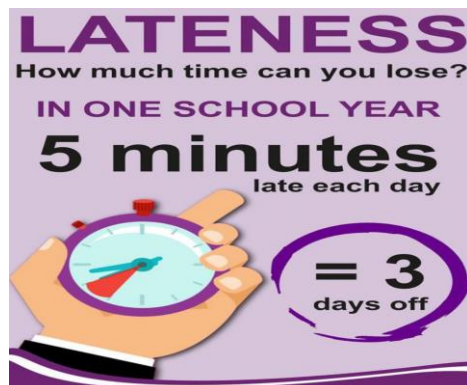
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE & REPORTING PUPIL ABSENCE

Term dates, school holidays, and teacher in-service days for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school sessions can be found on Renfrewshire Council Website (www.renfrewshire.gov.uk)

If your child is unwell and cannot attend school, please phone the school office or email stcharlesenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk by 9.30 am on the first day of absence. If no telephone call or email is received, parents will automatically receive a text message asking them to phone the school as a matter of urgency. If an absence is planned, please inform the head teacher in writing.

Attendance alert letters are issued to parents automatically if pupil attendance falls below 90% no matter the reason for this. Unfortunately, a significant number of families have received an attendance alert letter since August some of these resulting from family holidays being taken during term time.

If a child requires to depart early for any reason the school office must be contacted in advance to arrange collection. Parents will be asked to provide a reason for early collection, and this should only happen in exceptional circumstances. If your child is regularly late for school or collected early this time away from learning can accumulate very quickly.



No child will be permitted to leave early unless collected by an authorised adult.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

In January all classes will be focussing on dental health and how to care for their teeth.

It is always really helpful if parents discuss lunch options with children prior to each school day. Meals are ordered before 9.30am each day to allow our kitchen staff time to prepare and cook the lunches. Water and fruit are offered on a daily basis for all children who attend the lunch hall.

Parents are asked to provide a healthy snack for mid-morning break such as fruit or cereal bar.

All children are encouraged to drink only water during the day as they work in class. Parents are asked to provide their child with a water bottle (NOT GLASS) for this purpose. This should be clearly marked with your child's name and taken home at the end of each day to be cleaned & refilled before being brought back to school the next morning. If you allow your child to drink fruit juice, this may be taken as part of his/her lunch but may not be consumed during lessons in class. Please note fizzy drinks are not permitted in school at any time.

PARENT HUB

The next planned meeting of this session will be held in the school on Wednesday 6th February 2025. All parents/carers are welcome to attend Parent Hub meetings so please come along if you can.

SPIRITUAL LIFE OF OUR SCHOOL

Pupils in Primary 6 and 7 are working hard towards their Pope Francis Faith Award. A group of 8 Primary 6 children are taking part in a readers group. This will develop their confidence and understanding when reading the Word of God. We would like to thank Mrs Convery from our parish for facilitating this.

LANGUAGES WEEK SCOTLAND

Languages Week Scotland this year will commence 3rd February-7th February. The theme this year is 'Our multilingual futures'. Further information will be issued via text.

Some dates for your diary

I have issued advance notice of as many future events as possible (until the end of November) to help you plan. Please note that these dates may be subject to change.

Date	Event	Target Group
08.01.2025	ELCC Parent Cooking Session in dinner hall	Selected families
10.01.2025	1 st Friday Mass at church at 10.00am	Rm13
13.01.2025	Enterprise Afterschool Club – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P7 children
14.01.2025	Gaelic Singing Sessions in class – 1.30-3.00pm	Primary 5
15.01.2025	ELCC Parent Cooking Session in dinner hall	Selected families
17.01.2025	Fraud Scene Investigators Workshop RBS – 11.00am-3.00pm	Rm 13
20.01.2025	Enterprise Afterschool Club – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P7 children
21.01.2025	Gaelic Singing Sessions in class – 1.30-3.00pm	Primary 5
27.01.2025	Tempest – Class Pictures	Primary 1 and Primary 7
27.01.2025	Enterprise Afterschool Club – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P7 children
28.01.2025	Stage Mass in school hall at 2.00pm	Primary 3
03.01.2025	Enterprise Afterschool Club – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P7 children
03.02.2025	Gaelic Singing Sessions in class – 1.30-3.00pm	Primary 5
03.02.2025	Languages Week Scotland commences	Whole School
05.02.2025	Best Seat in the House Assembly in school hall at 9.15am	Primary 3
05.02.2025	Parent Hub Meeting in school hall – 6.30pm	All welcome
07.02.2025	1 st Friday Mass at church – 10.00am	Rm12
11.02.2025	Best Seat in the House Assembly in school hall at 9.15am	Primary 7
11.02.2025	Stage Mass in school hall at 2.00pm	Primary 2
12.02.2025	ELCC Parent Cooking Session in dinner hall	Selected families
13.02.2025	Best Seat in the House Assembly in school hall at 9.15am	Primary 2
14.02.2025	In-service Day – School and ELCC closed to pupils	Whole School & ELCC
17.02.2025	Feb Holiday – School and ELCC closed to pupils	Whole School & ELCC
18.02.2025	Feb Holiday – School and ELCC closed to pupils	Whole School & ELCC

Yours sincerely



Grace Hannigan
HEADTEACHER