

BULLETIN

ST. CHARLES' PRIMARY SCHOOL March/April 2025

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Dear Parents,

This week we received the sad news that Mr Patrick Boyle who was Headmaster in St Charles Primary School from 1989 until 2014 has died. Mr Boyle will be remembered fondly by many of you who may have known him when you were pupils in our school. Please pray for the happy repose of his soul and for his family. Patrick was a much-loved husband, father, grandfather & friend who will be sadly missed by many.

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

In February each year we seek to engage with all our service users to gather views on the work of our school. This year we had a great response to our survey & I thank every parent/carer who took time to complete it. This is now closed, and a flyer (**YOU SAID & WE DID**) will be issued this week providing a summary of the responses received, detailing common themes and advising on how we plan to improve. As a result of teacher absence, the children's responses are not all yet submitted but we hope to conclude this week & share at next week's assemblies.

Some points raised in the survey relate to the work of the Parent Hub and not the school eg School Discos & events. Feedback will be shared with the Chairperson for consideration and/or action.

PARENT HUB

The next planned Parent Hub meetings will be held in the school on Wednesday 12th March at 6.30pm. All parents/carers are welcome to attend so please come along if you can. This is an opportunity for you to share your ideas and hear about the work of our school. St Charles' Primary Parent Hub can be found on Facebook <https://tinyurl.com/y54jwuj>

The parent Hub would like to thank all the parents who have come forward to be PVG checked in response to the recent request. This will allow you to help at Parent Hub events. There is always a need for more helpers if you are in a position to give a little time for the benefit of our children, please contact the school office who will be happy to advise on the process & support you in application.

The annual PARENT HUB FAMILY BBQ is planned for Friday 6th June if you feel you can help out on the night or in the few weeks running up to the event please contact [@StCharlesParentHub](#) or pass our name onto the school office or any member of the Parent Hub. Helpers for this event do not require to be PVG checked.

REMINDER- LADIES NIGHT

St Charles' Church Hall on Friday 14th March 2025 7.30pm-11.30pm

A small number of tickets are still available to purchase- please ask at the school office or find parent rep at the school gate any morning. All proceeds will be donated to school funds & will contribute towards meeting the cost of a new sound system & lighting for our hall & stage. This equipment is needed for school shows and school assemblies.

LENTEN EASTER EGG APPEAL

The Holy Season of Lent is now underway. During Lent we encourage our children to pray at home with their families. Please encourage your child by saying our school prayer with them each day.

Prayer to St Charles Borromeo

St Charles our patron, we ask you to guide us on our path that we may be gentle and faithful ambassadors like you.

Enable us to be great learners, great friends and to celebrate our talents.

Help us to show love and respect to all those that we meet and to grow in knowledge by following your loyal and faithful example.

Amen.

We will be giving alms in the form of Easter eggs and the Pupil Leadership Group have organised a number of pupil activities to collect chocolate eggs. The eggs collected will be distributed to children in the local area who may otherwise not receive one. Dates of activities are at the end of newsletter. The Pupil Leadership Group will issue a flier with more information.

SCHOOL TRIPS

All children will be going on an outing with classmates before end of the school year. Venues & transport are all booked for the following dates. An appeal for parent helpers will be issued nearer to the date of each one.

	Date of Trip	Destination
Room 1	4th June	Monty's farm Park
Room 2	5th June	
Room 3	6th May	Science Centre - planetarium
Room 4		
Room 5	10th June	Blair Drummond
Room 6	7th May	Vikingar!
Room 7	27th May	Science Centre - planetarium
Room 8	TBC	Kelvingrove Museum
Room 9		
Room 10	21st May	Science Centre
Room 11		
Room 12	29th May	Calderglen Country Park
Primary 7	14th May	Amazonia
	14th May	
Room 15 (P6 only)	15th May	

QUALITY ASSURANCE VISIT

Our school will be visited on Tuesday this week by two senior officers from Renfrewshire Council Children's Services who will observe learning and chatting to children about their learning opportunities in school. The Pupil Leadership Group will be welcoming the visitors & giving them a tour of our school. Remember to ask your child if they had a visitor to their classroom and if they were involved in any activities with them.

WORLD HAEMOPHILIA DAY – Friday 25th April

All pupils are invited to wear something RED to school on this date and donate £1 which we will gift to The Haemophilia Scotland Society (UK). This is a charity we like to support annually as we have a pupil in our school who suffers from Haemophilia; a serious bleeding disorder for which there is no known cure. Information on the condition and the impact it can have will be shared at pupil assemblies that week. Donations can be paid on parent pay, a link will be sent out for this.

SPIRITUAL LIFE OF OUR SCHOOL

Father Jim invites the P4 children who will be receiving the sacraments of Reconciliation & Holy Eucharist this year to attend 10.00am mass each Sunday morning in St Charles' Church for 4 weeks to take part in "Do This in Memory of Me", a programme of spiritual preparation.

On Weds 12th March P4 children from all St Andrew's Academy associated primary schools will all be tuning in to an online, interactive Lenten assembly with Fr Ryan from St Mirin's Cathedral.

Primary 4 children will be taking part in "The Travelling Rosary" and each child will receive a set of Rosary beads gifted to the school by The Catenian Association. More information will be issued to P4 learners.

BIKEABILITY TRAINING

Primary 7 children are being invited to take part in Bikeability training beginning on w/c Monday the 28th of April. More information will be issued to P7 parents.

SHARING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

This month there are evening sessions focussed on bedtime books & storytelling for P2 children and parents. After the Easter holidays we will be hosting FAB CLUB as we have done for many years. This is a family learning offer hosted by class teachers at the end of the school day. The club ordinarily runs one day each week for 6-8 weeks and is funded using Pupil Equity Fund money which is allocated to the school each year by Scottish Government. More information will be issued.

We have been piloting the Just2Easy platform since August for Home learning, but children & parents were finding it hard to navigate & access posts. We saw a decline in the number of children submitting completed tasks which also made it unpopular with staff. As a result, I am delighted to report we have been able to reintroduce SeeSaw in Primaries 1-3 classes only to share classroom learning & issue home learning activities. This is in direct response to parent feedback. We had hoped to secure SeeSaw for all classes as it was so popular but just didn't have the money to do so. The license for P1-3 is costing approx £2500. The current arrangement of using Microsoft Teams will continue in Primaries 4-7.

HOME LEARNING

We were able to use Seesaw last week to share photos taken at the P7 residential trip at Dumfries House. This allowed families at home to receive regular daily updates and some "real-time" updates too.

Here is a link to our policy to remind parents of expectations regarding home learning [CLICK HERE](#).

As previously advised, we have spent £13,506.69 on introducing a new reading resource (Collins BIG CAT) across the school this year. As this was such a big financial investment, we took the difficult decision that these core reading books would not be sent home with children as historically many books issued for homework are not returned. Children have the opportunity to choose a book for enjoyment each week if they wish to do so. Teachers particularly those in the early stages were keen that the core reading books be provided for reading at home and sharing with parents and I appreciate many parents felt the same.

I am delighted to advise I have been able to purchase a licence for Collins ebooks which means all of the core readers will now be available in digital format for your child to access at home. Class teachers will issue information this week on how this can be done.

OUTDOOR LEARNING

In St Charles' Primary we believe in the statement attributed to the author Alfred Wainwright, "***There's no such thing as bad weather, only unsuitable clothing.***" With this in mind we would ask that all children attend school each day wearing suitable footwear & clothing to permit outdoor learning in all weathers. If any parent ever needs help with uniform, jackets or footwear please ask at the school office. We would be happy to help.

HEALTH LIFESTYLES

Please remember if your child is bringing a refillable bottle to school each day this should be filled with water only. A small number of children are bringing bottles filled with juice. This has no nutritional benefit but more worryingly if it is sipped throughout the day this can cause tooth decay & encourage dental cavities to develop. We are promoting children's Health & Wellbeing in a number of different ways in our school & would strongly discourage the drinking of juice except if taken as part of a child's lunch.

Some dates for your diary

I have issued advance notice of as many future events as possible to help you plan.

Please note that these dates may be subject to change.

Date	Event	Target Group
Mon 3 rd March	P7 STEM Event @ UWS	Group 1 of 3
Mon 3 rd March	Lunchtime Club – Mini kickers P3+4 – 12.30-1.00pm	Selected P3+4 pupils
Mon 3 rd March	Bedtime Reading Event with Skoobmobile – Pjs welcome 5.45-7.00pm	Selected P1 pupils
Tues 4 th March	Best Seat in the House Assembly – 9.15am	Primary 1
Tues 4 th March	Gaelic Singing Lessons in class – 1.30-3.00pm	Primary 5
Tues 4 th March	Numeracy Session in school hall – 2.00-3.00pm	Primary 6 pupils and parents
Wed 5 th March	Ash Wednesday – Ashes distributed in school	
Wed 5 th March	Visit to Southend Action Centre – 1.00-2.30pm	Room 9
Wed 5 th March	ELCC Parent Cooking Session in dinner hall – 2.00-3.00pm	
Wed 5 th March	Afterschool Club – Dodgeball – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P5-7 pupils
Thurs 6 th March	World Book Day – children are invited to dress as their favourite character or own clothes day	
Thurs 6 th March	Afterschool Club – Netball – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P5-7 pupils
Fri 7 th March	First Friday Mass at church – 10.00am	Room 11
Fri 7 th March	Afterschool Club – Run, Jump and Throw – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P1-3 pupils
Sun 9 th March	Primary School Day – St Mary's Church – 2.00-5.00pm	P4-7
Mon 10 th March	P7 STEM Event @ UWS	Group 2 of 3
Mon 10 th March	Lunchtime Club – Mini kickers P3+4 – 12.30-1.00pm	Selected P3+4 pupils
Mon 10 th March	Bedtime Reading Event with Skoobmobile – Pjs welcome 5.45-7.00pm	Selected P1 pupils
Tues 11 th March	Gaelic Singing Lessons in class – 1.30-3.00pm	Primary 5
Wed 12 th March	Visit to Southend Action Centre – 1.00-2.30pm	Room 8
Wed 12 th March	ELCC Parent Cooking Session in dinner hall – 2.00-3.00pm	
Wed 12 th March	Parent Hub meeting – 6.30pm	All welcome
Thurs 13 th March	Afterschool Club – Netball – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P5-7 pupils
Fri 14 th March	Afterschool Club – Run, Jump and Throw – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P1-3 pupils

Fri 14 th March	Ladies night – church hall – 7pm – 11.30pm	Ticketed event
Sun 16 th March	Primary 4 "Do this in Memory of Me" Mass at church (session 1) – 10.00am	Primary 4 pupils and families
Mon 17 th March	Lunchtime Club – Mini kickers P3+4 – 12.30-1.00pm	Selected P3+4 pupils
Mon 17 th March	Bedtime reading sessions with Skoobmobile – 5:45-7pm	Selected P1 pupils
Mon 17 th March	Sacrament of Reconciliation – St Charles Church – 6.30pm	P4 Confirmandii
Wed 19 th March	Visit to Southend Action Centre – 1.00-2.30pm	Room 11
Wed 19 th March	ELCC Parent Cooking Session in dinner hall – 2.00-3.00pm	
Wed 19 th March	Afterschool Club – Dodgeball – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P5-7 pupils
Thurs 20 th March	Afterschool Club – Netball – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P5-7 pupils
Fri 21 st March	Afterschool Club – Run, Jump and Throw – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P1-3 pupils
Sun 23 rd March	Primary 4 "Do this in Memory of Me" Mass at church (session 2) – 10.00am	Primary 4 pupils and families
Mon 24 th March	Lunchtime Club – Mini kickers P3+4 – 12.30-1.00pm	Selected P3+4 pupils
Mon 24 th March	Enterprise Club Shop sale	
Mon 24 th March	Stage Mass in school hall at 2.00pm	Primary 1
Mon 24 th March	Bedtime reading sessions with Skoobmobile – 5:45-7pm	Selected P1 pupils
Mon 24 th March	P7 STEM Event @ UWS	Group 1 of 3
Mon 24 th March	School Pop up Shop – Easter Theme	
Tues 25 th March	Mini retreat – St Charles Church – 10am	Primary 7
Wed 26 th March	Visit to Southend Action Centre – 1.00-2.30pm	Room 12
Wed 26 th March	ELCC Parent Cooking Session in dinner hall – 2.00-3.00pm	
Wed 26 th March	Afterschool Club – Dodgeball – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P5-7 pupils
Thurs 27 th March	Afterschool Club – Netball – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P5-7 pupils
Fri 28 th March	ELCC – Mother's Day afternoon tea – 1.30-2.30pm	ELCC parents
Fri 28 th March	Afterschool Club – Run, Jump and Throw – 3.00-4.00pm	Selected P1-3 pupils
Sun 30 th March	Primary 4 "Do this in Memory of Me" Mass at church (session 3) – 10.00am	Primary 4 pupils and families
Mon 31 st March	Bishop John Pastoral Visit	Primary 7 pupils
Mon 31st March	Confessions in school – 11.00am	Primary 5, 6 and 7
Wed 2 nd April	ELCC Parent Cooking Session in dinner hall – 2.00-3.00pm	
Wed 2 nd April	Easter egg appeal collection day	
Thurs 3rd April	Whole School Lenten Easter Mass in school	
Fri 4 th April	First Friday Mass in church – 10.00am	Room 10
Fri 4th April	SCHOOL & ELCC EARLY CLOSURE – 2:30pm	ALL PUPILS
Fri 4th – Mon 21st April	SCHOOL & ELCC CLOSED FOR SPRING BREAK	ALL PUPILS
Sun 6 th April	Primary 4 "Do this in Memory of Me" Mass at church (session 1) – 10.00am	Primary 4 pupils and families
Fri 25 th April	Wear Something Red Day- Donation (£1 suggestion) for Haemophilia Scotland.	All pupils

Yours sincerely



Grace Hannigan
HEADTEACHER