

BULLETIN

ST. CHARLES' PRIMARY SCHOOL

January 2026

Telephone: 0300 300 0181
Email: stcharlesenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk
Website: www.st-charles.renfrewshire.sch.uk

Dear Parents,

Happy 2026 and welcome back to everyone! It has been wonderful to see our pupils return to school so settled and ready to learn. We would also like to sincerely thank parents and carers for the continued support with school uniform. We know that wearing uniform helps to create a sense of belonging, pride, and equality within our school community, while also setting a positive tone for learning and high expectations. Your support is greatly appreciated as we begin another busy and exciting year together.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming the HMIE Inspectors to St Charles Primary School next week, when they will be spending a full week with us. We are excited to share the high-quality learning that takes place in our school and, most importantly, to showcase our wonderful children who demonstrate our school values of kindness, honesty and determination every day. We are proud of our whole school community and look forward to this opportunity to celebrate all that we do together.

We would warmly welcome any new parent helpers who may be interested in volunteering in the school, especially if you have a skill or interest you would like to share with our pupils. All volunteers are required to have a PVG check in place, and as this process can take some time to complete, we encourage anyone interested to let us know as soon as possible. We already have a small number of volunteers, and their support makes a valuable difference to children's learning in school.

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.

SAINT VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society in St Charles Parish continue to offer support for any family who may find themselves unable to purchase food or pay energy bills. If you find yourself needing some assistance at any time, please speak to Mrs Kelly or Mrs Hannigan who link in directly with the group, no personal information is ever shared.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE & REPORTING PUPIL ABSENCE

As we start a new year, I thought it may be helpful at to re-issue this information.

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. I would ask that you take school dates into consideration when planning family holidays as this will help to avoid your child missing learning.

Please find term dates, school holidays, and teacher in-service days for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school sessions on Renfrewshire Council Website (www.renfrewshire.gov.uk)

In St Charles' if a child requires to depart early for any reason the school office should 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.

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

This year we will be placing a strong focus on improving school attendance across our school community. Regular attendance is vital to children's learning, helping them to build knowledge, develop friendships, and feel confident and secure in school routines. When children attend school every day, they have the best possible opportunity to achieve their full potential. We appreciate the continued support of parents and carers in ensuring children attend regularly and arrive on time, working together we can give all our children the very best start.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

We are currently busy planning our annual Health Week, which will take place during the week beginning 26 January. This is always a fantastic opportunity for pupils to learn more about keeping healthy in fun and engaging ways. More information about planned activities and events will be shared with families soon, so please keep an eye out for further updates.

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 on offer every day 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 21st January 2026 @ 6.30pm. All parents/carers are welcome to attend Parent Hub meetings so please come along if you can. At this meeting our House Captains will be presenting their ideas on improving our outdoor space which is an action that the Parent Hub will be making a financial contribution towards. There have already been small inexpensive changes made but the children have BIG plans and hope to enlist the support of the Parent Hub

The Parent Hub use Facebook and Instagram for updates & are soon hoping to introduce a new announcement board at the front gate each day. Please check out their socials for exciting things happening this term!

Yours sincerely



Grace Hannigan
HEADTEACHER

DATES FOR THE 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
Sunday 11 th January	P7 mass of Preparation in St Charles' church – 10am	P7 Confirmandii
Monday 12 th January	HMIE Inspection Week begins in school & ELCC	
Tuesday 13 th January	Afterschool Club – Football – coached by Mr Craig in school hall – 3-4pm	Selected P7 pupils
Wednesday 14 th January	ELCC Cookery Club in dinner hall – 2-3pm	Invited parents
Wednesday 14 th January	Family Learning Sessions- Learning Through Play for ELCC	Invited families
Thursday 15 th January	School Show Rehearsals – 3 - 4.15pm	Show Cast
Monday 19 th January	Dolly Parton 80 th birthday celebrations in ELCC- more info to follow	ELCC
Monday 19 th January	Football friendly with St John Ogilvie PS – 3.30-4.30pm - Seedhill Park	Selected P7 pupils
Tuesday 20 th January	"Best Seat in the House" Primary 7 – 09.15am	P7 Pupils
Tuesday 20 th January	Afterschool Club – Football – coached by Mr Craig in school hall – 3-4pm	Selected P7 pupils
Wednesday 21 st January	ELCC Cookery Club in dinner hall – 2-3pm	Invited parents
Wednesday 21 st January	Family Learning Sessions- Learning Through Play for ELCC	Invited families
Wednesday 21 st January	Parent Hub Meeting – 6.30pm	All Welcome
Thursday 22 nd January	School Show Rehearsals – 3 - 4.15pm	Show Cast
Monday 26 th January	HEALTH WEEK begins in school- more info to follow.	
Tuesday 27 th January	P3 Stage Mass in school gym hall– 2pm	P3 Pupils
Tuesday 27 th January	Afterschool Club – Football – coached by Mr Craig in school hall – 3-4pm	Selected P7 pupils
Wednesday 28 th January	ELCC Cookery Club in dinner hall – 2-3pm	Invited parents
Wednesday 28 th January	Family Learning Sessions- Learning Through Play for ELCC	Invited families
Wednesday 28 th January	Mindful Mentors visiting the school – all day	
Thursday 29 th January	School Show Rehearsals – 3 - 4.15pm	Show Cast