

# BULLETIN

ST. CHARLES' PRIMARY SCHOOL

March 2026

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Dear Parents,

The safety, wellbeing and learning of our pupils remain our highest priorities. To help us maintain a secure and well-organised school environment, we kindly ask all families to follow the procedures below:

**All visitors must report to the school office on arrival.** This includes parents, carers, contractors and any other adults entering the school grounds. Signing in ensures we know who is on site at all times and allows us to provide appropriate guidance and supervision.

**Please ensure school gates are closed securely behind you.** Gates left open, even briefly, compromise the safety of pupils and staff. Closing the gate properly helps prevent unauthorised access and keeps the school grounds secure throughout the day.

**Avoid collecting children early unless absolutely necessary.** Early pick-ups disrupt learning and increase movement around the school, which can weaken our security procedures. Medical and dental appointments will always be accommodated, but for all other reasons we ask that children remain in school until the normal dismissal time.

**Ensure children arrive at school on time each morning.** Punctuality is essential for safeguarding and learning. Late arrivals require staff to leave their duties to sign children in, which interrupts routines and reduces supervision elsewhere. Arriving on time helps children start the day calmly, ensures they do not miss important learning, and supports the smooth running of the school.

**Together, these measures help us maintain a safe, calm and well-supervised environment for every pupil. Your cooperation and support are greatly appreciated as we work to keep our school community secure.**

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## TOYS IN SCHOOL

We kindly ask that children do not bring toys from home into school. Although we appreciate that toys can offer comfort and enjoyment, they often create difficulties for pupils during the school day. Personal toys can easily become lost or damaged, which can be upsetting for children and may lead to disagreements or distractions in class.

Recently a few children have been bringing in soft toys from home which present additional concerns. Soft toys are difficult to clean thoroughly, can collect dust and allergens, and may carry germs when handled or shared between pupils. To help us maintain a healthy, hygienic environment for everyone, we ask that soft toys remain are not brought to school.

In school our children can access a wide range of high-quality resources to support their play & learning. Keeping personal toys at home helps ensure fairness, reduces classroom disruptions, and supports a calm, focused atmosphere where all children can thrive. We are relying on the support of parents to remind children toys are not required or permitted in school.

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## Active Travel Family Challenge- Move More this March

**Move More this March** is an exciting active travel challenge for nursery and primary school children and their families. This year's challenge is a fun, month-long mission to get every child travelling to school or nursery in an active, healthy and eco-friendly way. Whether you walk, wheel, cycle or scoot, every active journey counts.

All primary schools and Local Authority nurseries across Renfrewshire are invited to take part. If you joined last year, you'll already be familiar with the BetterPoints app. It's currently being used for the *Not Far? Leave the Car!* campaign, and you can download it via the [BetterPoints website](#).

### How to Sign Up

1. Download the BetterPoints app and follow the prompts to set up your account.
2. Once your account is ready:
  - Tap the three lines at the top left of the app's home page.
  - Select 'Add code'
  - Enter: **movemore**
  - You'll receive a welcome message and instructions on how to join your school/nursery team.

The app will automatically record your activities.

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### Prizes Up for Grabs!

Prizes will be awarded to the top three most engaged schools, based on the number of parents, carers, and staff who sign up and record an activity—relative to the school's pupil roll:

- 1st place: £350 worth of resources
- 2nd place: £250 worth of resources
- 3rd place: £150 worth of resources

Plus, there will be weekly prizes for individual participants!

Engagement is measured proportionally to pupil numbers.

### Weekly Prizes

Each week, there will be £5 and £10 in BetterPoints prizes awarded to participants. BetterPoints can be redeemed for shopping vouchers or donated to charities and good causes—including **St Charles' Primary School**.

The challenge runs from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

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## LENTEN FUNDRAISING & EASTER EGG APPEAL

Our Mini Vinnies Citizenship group "Toast for the Weekend" initiative has proved very popular with the children. The group are selling slices of toast with butter or jam at playtime every Friday during Lent & they are planning to donate all the proceeds to the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund. So far, they have raised over £200 with 2 more Fridays still to go before Easter holidays. Thank you to parents for allowing their children to contribute to this.

This is a way for our pupils to put their faith into action during Lent, and as always, we are grateful for the continued generosity of parents.

We will also be working in partnership with Steven Cameron Funeral Directors as we have done on previous years to gather & give alms in the form of Easter eggs. These will be distributed to children in the local area who may otherwise not receive one. We are asking that every child in the school donates **one** Easter egg on the following dates. Children may want to participate in one or both of these activities.

- **Tuesday 24th March- Wear Your Pyjamas to School Day**
- **Friday 27th March- Crazy Hair Day**

We want to smash last year's target of 244 chocolate eggs!

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## REPORT FROM HIS MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF EDUCATION SCOTLAND

In January 2026, a team of HM Inspectors of Education visited St Charles' Primary School and Early Learning Childcare Class. During the visit, they talked to parents/carers and children and worked closely with the headteacher and staff. Please see below detail provided by Catriona Smith (Managing Inspector) reporting on the inspection team's key findings.

### **The inspection team found the following strengths in the school's work.**

- Across the school and nursery, children are friendly, welcoming and kind to one another, staff and visitors. There are positive and trusting relationships between staff and children. As a result, children take pride in their school and nursery and engage positively in their learning.
- In the nursery, staff provide children with motivating learning within the forest kindergarten. Children enjoy their learning outdoors and develop a range of skills while working with each other and exploring the environment.
- Teachers and children have meaningful leadership opportunities that enable them to influence change and drive improvement across the school.
- In the school, staff work effectively as a team. Their strong knowledge of individual children and collaborative approach to supporting wellbeing ensures that children feel cared for, valued and able to learn within a supportive environment.
- In the school, the wide range of opportunities for children to achieve success across a variety of contexts. This is supported by teachers, strong community links and partnerships. Children develop confidence and important skills for learning, life and work.

### **The following areas for improvement were identified and discussed with the headteacher and a representative from Renfrewshire Council.**

- In the nursery, staff should take steps to ensure children experience a broad range of activities across all areas of learning. Staff should improve their approaches to planning and recording children's learning and progress through the early level.
- In the nursery, staff should improve approaches to developing learning with the youngest children to provide activities that are developmentally appropriate. Staff need to work more closely with the parents of the youngest children to ensure the nursery meets children's wellbeing and learning needs more fully.

- In the school, senior leaders should review existing systems and processes that support ongoing improvement, ensuring these lead to the greatest positive impact on children's learning.
- Senior leaders and teachers should continue to strengthen learning and teaching approaches to support greater consistency and raise attainment in literacy and numeracy. They should provide learning that is consistently challenging and well matched to the needs of all pupils.

We gathered evidence to enable us to evaluate the school's work using four quality indicators from [How good is our school \(4th edition\)](#). Quality indicators help schools, local authorities and inspectors to judge what is working well and what needs to be improved. Following the inspection of each school, the Scottish Government gathers details of our evaluations to keep track of how well Scottish schools are doing.

## Here are HMIE's evaluations for St Charles' Primary School

<b>Leadership of change</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Learning, teaching and assessment</b>	<b>good</b>
<b>Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion</b>	<b>very good</b>
<b>Raising attainment and achievement</b>	<b>good</b>
Descriptions of the evaluations are available from: <a href="#">How good is our school (4th edition) Appendix 3: The six-point scale</a>	

A more detailed document called Summarised Inspection Findings (SIF) will be available on the HMIE website at: <https://educationinspectorate.gov.scot/media/5ivpqjig/st-charles-ps-sif-100326.pdf>

### What happens next?

We are confident that the school has the capacity to continue to improve and so we will make no more visits in connection with this inspection. Renfrewshire Council will inform parents/carers about the school's progress as part of its arrangements for reporting on the quality of its schools.

Catriona Smith  
HM Inspector  
On behalf of His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland

Evaluations relating to the ELCC will be issued directly to nursery parents.

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### SPONSOR FUNDRAISING EVENT

Children P1-P6 will take part in a sponsored Zumba event on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 26. More information & sponsor forms to follow.

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### RESIDENTIAL TRIP-DUMFRIES HOUSE

This year two groups of Primary 7 children will be setting off on adventures to Dumfries House in Cumnock. The first group travelled on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** - returning on Friday **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026**. Miss Leck will be the group leader on this trip. The second group will leave on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March** - returning on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026**. Miss Tormey will be the group leader on this trip.

Mrs Winters will accompany both groups & I will also visit & spend time there with the children as they access the activities on offer. Information regarding this trip has already been shared with the parents of children who will be attending. If any parent requires more information or has any concerns, please contact Miss Leck via school office or email [stcharlesenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:stcharlesenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

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### PARENT HUB EVENTS

The next planned Parent Hub meetings will be held in the school on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026** 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.

The recent Valentine's Disco was a huge success with £638.99 raised on the night. Thank you to all parents involved in organising & supervising on the night.

**KPOP EVENT- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March- Slips to request tickets have been issued to children, these should be returned to the office as soon as possible to secure a ticket.**

**SAVE THE DATE – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026** - Summer BBQ Event. More info to follow. Please let school office know or email [stcharlesenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:stcharlesenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk) if you are available to help out at this event.

**Please note:** Helpers at this event DO NOT Require a PVG check as all children attending will be in the care of their own parents/families.

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SPIRITUAL LIFE OF OUR SCHOOL

Primary 7 pupils are to be confirmed by Bishop John in St Mirin's Cathedral during mass on **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2026** in the evening. Mass begins at 6.30pm and children & sponsors should all meet school staff in the Cathedral Hall no later than 6.00pm. Seats inside the Cathedral are reserved only for children & sponsors therefore we advise that all other family members go directly into the cathedral to secure a space.

There will be a pastoral visit to the school by Bishop John on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026**.

P4 children will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation (First Confession) on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026** at 6.30pm & the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist (First Communion) on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026** at 10.00am (Room 8 children) & 12.00pm (Room 9 children). Please keep all the children in your prayers as they prepare for these significant occasions of faith formation in our school and parish community

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SHARING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all our families for their generosity and continued support for the work & fundraising efforts of our Parent Hub. Thanks to your donations, we are delighted to confirm that Seesaw is once again available for all children across the school.

Seesaw has been a much-valued tool in previous years and was extremely popular with pupils, staff, and parents alike. Unfortunately, due to budget constraints, we were unable to fund the licence this year. The Parent Hub have kindly agreed to meet this cost so that every child will benefit from access to this excellent learning and communication platform. Thank you to the Parent Hub for making this possible & for your support in all the fundraising efforts. This is a wonderful example of their hard work & dedication making a positive difference to our school community.

"Best Seat in the House" assemblies continue with families invited to come along on this Thursday morning to hear all about the learning that is happening in our P2 classes.

Yours sincerely



Grace Hannigan  
HEADTEACHER

### Some dates for your diary

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Target Group</b>
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Dumfries House residential trip	Room 15
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Afterschool – Football – coached by Mr Craig in school hall	Selected P7 boys
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	ELCC Cookery club for children & parents	
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Best seat in the house assembly @ 0915am	Primary 2
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> Mar	School Show (Matilda) rehearsals	Cast & teachers
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Dumfries House residential trip return	Room 15
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Sacrament of Reconciliation – St Charles Church @ 6.30pm	P4 Communicants
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Afterschool – Football – coached by Mr Craig in school hall	Selected P7 boys
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar	ELCC Cookery club for children & parents	
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Parent Hub meeting – school hall @ 6.30pm	All welcome
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> Mar	School Show (Matilda) rehearsals	Cast & teachers
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	Stage Service – school hall @ 2pm	Primary 1 & families
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Wear Pyjamas to school – donate an easter egg	All pupils
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Afterschool – Football – coached by Mr Craig in school hall	Selected P7 boys
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> Mar	ELCC Cookery club for children & parents	
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	School Show (Matilda) rehearsals	Cast & teachers
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Crazy hair day – donate an easter egg	All pupils
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Parent hub – K-Pop demon hunter event (more info to follow)	
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Confessions in school	Primary 5, 6 & 7 pupils
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Afterschool – Football – coached by Mr Craig in school hall	Selected P7 boys
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Lenten mass in school	All pupils
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	School Show (Matilda) rehearsals	Cast & teachers
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>School &amp; ELCC close for easter break</b>	<b>All pupils</b>
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>School &amp; ELCC reopen</b>	<b>All pupils</b>
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Parent Hub meeting – school hall @ 6.30pm	All welcome
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Confessions in school	Primary 7 pupils
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	P7 Confirmation – St Mirins Cathedral – 6pm (more info to follow)	P7 Confirmandii
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Whole School Rosary (more info to follow)	
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	P7 Thanksgiving mass – St Charles Church @ 10 am	P7 Confirmandii
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>School &amp; ELCC closed for May holiday</b>	<b>All pupils</b>
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	World of Work Week – Parent & Child activities (more info to follow)	All pupils
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	World of Work Week – Parent & Child activities (more info to follow)	All pupils
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>School &amp; ELCC closed – Inservice day</b>	<b>All pupils</b>
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	World of Work Week – Parent & Child activities (more info to follow)	All pupils
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Parent Hub Summer BBQ (more info to follow)	
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Confessions in school – 11 am	P4 pupils
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Parents evening – 5.30-8.30pm – appointment only booked via Parent Portal	All pupils
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Parents evening – 3.30-6.30pm – appointment only booked via Parent Portal	All pupils
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	P4 Mass & rehearsal – St Charles Church @ 10am	P4 Communicants
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	P4 Communions – 10am & 12pm – St Charles Church	P4 Communicants & families
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	P4 Mass of Thanks giving – 10am St Charles Church	P4 Communicants & families
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	P7 Induction Day (1) – St Andrews Academy	P7 pupils

Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	P7 Induction Day (2) – St Andrews Academy	P7 pupils
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>School &amp; ELCC closed – May holiday</b>	
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Parent Hub meeting – school hall @ 6.30pm	All welcome
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	P6 Curriculum Swimming lessons – Lagoon Leisure Centre	P6 pupils