



Telephone: 0300 300 1364
School email: stfergusenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk
School website: blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/stfergus/

Our Vision

'Working together to promote, excellence in achievement and well-being for all.'

Dear Parents/Carers,

Covid-19 Reminders

Thank you to everyone who have been trying their best to follow the Scottish Government Guidelines to stop the spread of COVID-19. Renfrewshire is currently in Level 2 and with this, could I please remind parent's and carers of these mitigations that have been put in place to keep our school community safe.

- **Once you have dropped off/picked up your child we ask that you leave the school area and do not stand and chat with other adults.**
- **Strict social distancing for all adults not from the same household.**
- **Only ONE adult per family accompanies/collects our children.**
- **Adults are required to wear a face-covering at the school gates.**
- **If anyone in your household is displaying symptoms (continuous cough, fever, loss of taste or smell) everyone must remain at home, book a test and follow the self-isolating guidelines.**
- **Children should not bring any items, such as toys or pencil cases, into school.**

Our risk assessments and procedures have been reviewed in line with the continuously updated guidance. These are available to view upon request by contacting me directly.

Nut, Mango and Kiwi Allergies

We are a nut, mango and kiwi free zone as we have children with severe allergies which, for these children, is life threatening. I would ask for your co-operation and ensure that no nuts, mangos or kiwi's are brought in to school for snack or lunch. Please note that these ingredients can be found in flavoured water, chocolate spread, biscuits, cereal bars etc. Please always check the ingredients.

Religious Life of the School

Congratulations to our Primary 4 children who received their Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and the children of Primary 7 who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this term, they all were a credit to their families and the school.

Thank you to the Knights of St. Columba in Renfrew who provided our Primary 4 children with beautiful rosary beads and prayer card.

On behalf of the whole school community we would like to thank Father John for his constant guidance and support to the whole St Fergus' community. This has been a particularly difficult time for our Parish especially financially, should you wish to contribute to our parish please contact Father John. Father is available by telephone , 0141 889 5056 or email stfergus@rcdop.org.uk

Classification for August 2021

We are delighted to be able to retain Miss McAdam next year as a Newly Qualified Teacher and will be supported by Mr Reid as her mentor. I am working closely with Renfrewshire Council to identify a teacher to fulfil our vacancy at Primary 2 and as soon as I know who that will be I will inform parents of that class separately.

Next year our classes are as follows, please note all classes are subject to change:

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Primary 1 | Mrs Gray and Miss Galvin | |
| Primary 2 | Vacancy | |
| Primary 3 | Miss Strang | |
| Primary 4 | Mrs Coyle | |
| Primary 5 | Mrs Cryans | |
| Primary 6 | Mrs McDougall | Monday, Tuesday and ½ day Wednesday |
| | Mrs Pirrie | ½ day Wednesday, Thursday and Friday |

Primary 7 Miss McAdam Monday - Thursday
 Mr Reid Friday

Mr Reid and Mrs Hunter will deliver Non-Class Contact Time for Primaries 2-5 and support various children throughout the school.

Staffing

We are delighted to let everyone know that Mr Reid and his wife had a baby boy on Saturday, both are doing well. Congratulations to Mrs Hunter who is expecting her 2nd child in November.

Recently we were able to recruit 2, 25 hour per week, Classroom Assistants due to Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) both candidates are currently going through final recruitment checks and we are hopeful that we will welcome, Mrs Moran, who is currently on supply 3 days a week with us, and Mrs Wozniak to our school team in August.

Renfrewshire Council's new Janitorial and Cleaning changes are now implemented in our school. Our Janitors are now known as Senior Facilities Operative (SFO) and have different start and end times. Mr Scott Anderson will be our SFO during the school day and will continue to support your children at interval and lunch time. He will continue to be visible and ensuring your child's safety at the start and end of the day. We would like to welcome Mr John Scott who is our SFO from mid-morning and your child will get to know him in the lunch hall. He will support our cleaning staff until the school building closes at 7pm.

School Uniform

As you know this year the children were encouraged to wear a relaxed uniform, from August 2021 the children should return wearing their full school uniform. Please remember that our agreed school uniform is:

- **Girls** **Grey Skirt/Trousers**
- **Boys** **Grey Trousers**
- **All Pupils** **Gold Polo Shirt or White Shirt and School Tie**
Grey Jumper Sweatshirt or Cardigan

Annual Report and Parent Appointments

Thank you to the parents who answered their phone at the arranged time. On Friday your child should have received a copy of your child's annual report, if it did not make it home please contact the school office. Please take time to talk to your child about this and complete the feedback form.

Road and Building Site Safety

As you are all aware that work has begun on the site of our old school and this may have an impact on traffic around our school. We are working closely with Renfrewshire Council and AS Homes to ensure that everyone is safe. Can I please ask that all parents encourage their children to use the school crossing service and park responsibly, this will keep our children and crossing patrol staff safe.

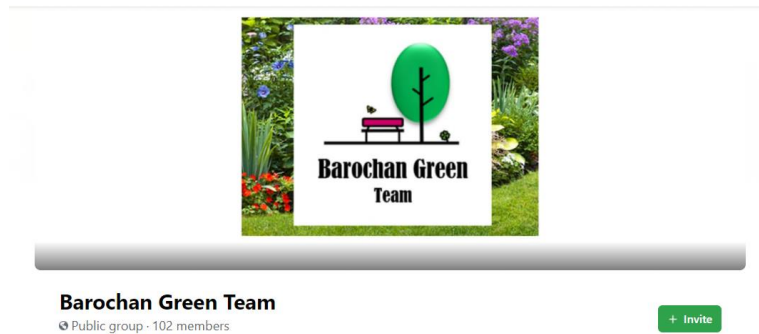
After the summer holiday, our children will have a visit from the AS Homes Team where they will have the opportunity to learn about building site safety. We will also be working with AS Homes by looking at the world of work and hopefully, we will get opportunities to visit the site at various stages of the development.

Pals of the Privies/ Barochan Green Team

Thank you to Karen and her team at The Pals of the Privies who have been working so hard over several years here in our community. Their Kids' walking group is going strong and Karen would like to remind everyone that each Tuesday they leave from the Privies at 5pm, a consent form must be completed prior to taking part. For more information you can contact Karen via their Facebook Page or email: glencoatspark@gmail.com



Thank you to Maggie Hayward and her team for highlighting their work in our local community. On the 1st August they will be having a 'Family Fun Day', all residents are invited. If you would like to find out more you can contact Maggie via their Facebook Page or email: barochan.green.team@gmail.com



Are You Getting What You Are Entitled To?

Scottish Child Payment

Scottish Child Payment is a new benefit being introduced by the Scottish Government to tackle child poverty. It is for low income families already in receipt of qualifying benefits. To start with, Scottish Child Payment will be available to families with children under six years of age only. Scottish Child Payment will open for applications in November 2020, with first payments being made from the end of February 2021. Low-income families with a child under six will be able to apply for £10 per child, per week - equivalent to £520 per year. There are no limits on the number of eligible children supported by Scottish Child Payment. From information on how to apply please visit: <https://www.mygov.scot/scottish-child-payment/how-to-apply/>

Free School Meals

Your child may be entitled to free school meals if:

- Your child attends a Renfrewshire school or has been placed in an educational establishment outside Renfrewshire by Renfrewshire council, or;
- You receive income support, any income-related element of employment and support allowance, maximum working tax credits (if you earn less than £6,420/year), child tax credit only (if you earn less than £16,190) or pension credit

Apply online at: <http://renfrewshire.gov.uk/Freeschoolmealsandclothinggrants>

Eligible parents who choose NOT to apply for free school meals will not get money back dated.

Clothing Grants

Parents or carers of children attending Renfrewshire primary, secondary or additional support needs schools during the school session who satisfy the financial conditions are eligible to apply for free school meals and/or clothing grants. A clothing grant is a payment made by Renfrewshire council to qualifying parents or carers to assist with the purchase of school uniforms. For session 2020-2021, the level of clothing grant is £100 per eligible pupil. A maximum of one grant will be paid for each child during any school year.

Apply online at: <http://renfrewshire.gov.uk/Freeschoolmealsandclothinggrants>

Arrangements for August 2021

Currently we have no new guidance from the Scottish Government on how the school day will look like in August. Therefore, we will start the year with the same mitigations in place:

- Playground will open at 8:30am
- Class bubbles
- Handwashing
- Staggered entry and exits times, interval and lunchtime (see table below)
- Parents maintaining physical distancing
- Adults wearing Face coverings at the school gates

| Class | Start Time | End of Day |
|---------|------------|------------|
| P1 & P7 | 8:45am | 2:45pm |
| P2 & P6 | 8:50 am | 2:50pm |
| P3 & P5 | 8:55am | 2:55pm |
| P4 | 9am | 3pm |

Please remember where possible, to keep to the times allocated to each class. Families should come together at the early time slot.

Summer Holidays

Please note that school closes early at 1.00pm on Friday 25 June and re-opens for pupils on Monday 16 August.

For the purpose of ensuring there is space for physical distancing in the last day, could you ensure that you collect your child/children at the allocated time:

| Class | End of Day |
|-----------|------------|
| P1 & P6 | 12:40pm |
| P1/2 & P5 | 12:45pm |
| P3 & P4 | 12:50pm |
| P7 | 1pm |

On behalf of everyone at St Fergus', I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your patience and support during another very difficult year. We really have lived up to our school vision and values, fingers crossed that next year we will return to some kind of normality.

For Primary 7 pupils this time of year is filled with hopes and dreams for the years ahead. However, there is always a little sadness when so many pupils and parents are moving on. Everyone at St Fergus' wishes the Primary 7 children and their family's good luck and success for the future. I hope that all families have a wonderful summer holiday and that our pupils return to school in August excited and refreshed.

Take Care,

Mhairi McDonald

Mhairi McDonald

Head Teacher



Diary Dates

| | |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 18 th June | Reports issued |
| 21 st - 25 th June | Pupil Council Activity week- Class teachers will keep your children informed about their events. |
| 22 nd June | Primary 7's Outdoor Afternoon with Active Schools |
| 25 th June | Non-Uniform day/ Last day of session. School close at 1pm |