



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,

Nut Allergies



We are a nut free zone as we have children with a severe nut allergy which, for these children contact with someone who may have eaten nuts could be **FATAL**. Please always check the ingredients of your child's snack and lunch. I would ask for your co-operation and ensure that there are no nuts brought into school for snack or lunch. Please note that these ingredients can be found in chocolate spread, biscuits, cereal bars etc. Please always check the ingredients.

Religious Life of the School

Tuesday the 1st of November is the Feast of All Saints, this is a Holy Day of Obligation, and the school will be attending Mass in St Fergus' at 10:30am. Everyone is welcome to attend. During the Month of November, we have Catholic Education Fortnight from the Feast of St Margaret of Scotland, 16th November, to the Feast of St Andrew, 30th November. This year the theme is 'Communion, Participation, Mission'. Further Information about Education Sunday Mass, 20th November, will be issued soon.

Our Next Family Mass is on our Feast Day, Friday 25th November at 9:30am followed by Tea and Coffee back in the school, everyone is welcome.

Sacramental Preparation

Those children in Primaries 3, 4 and 7 who will receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, the Holy Eucharist and Confirmation will be receiving an information leaflet shortly from Mrs Rowley. During our Feast Day Mass those children wishing to receive the Sacraments will be officially enrolled and make a commitment to the preparation at this Mass, we are asking that Parents to attend this Mass. Mrs Rowley and Father John will be available during our parents' nights, 16th/17th November to answer questions about the Sacraments.

Laudato Si Update



Our Laudato Si group have decided to focus on reducing litter, recycling and promoting our Faith. To reduce litter, we would like to reintroduce 'Wrapper Free Wednesdays'. On Wednesdays we are asking children and staff to bring in a snack that doesn't have a wrapper. This could be a piece of fruit or something stored in a reusable tub. We think this will reduce litter in our playground. We are also recycling batteries. If you have any old batteries at home, bring them to school and we will make sure they are recycled safely.

School Attendance

This is extremely important to ensure all children are given an equal chance of grasping every learning opportunity available to them. It has been a struggle since the covid pandemic to have strong school attendance. St. Fergus' has always been a school which has encouraged children to attend, however, since March 2020, our figures have dropped quite significantly. The reasons have been very understandable and



I am aware that everyone has been trying very hard to keep themselves and others safe. Nevertheless, I would urge you now to do everything you can to ensure that your child comes to school unless they are very unwell. This includes booking holidays outwith term time and avoiding taking days at home to celebrate birthdays, etc. I would really appreciate your cooperation with this. Thank you.

News from the St. Fergus' Families Together Group

Some fantastic news..... our parent's group have managed to get through to the voting stage of the 'Ferguslie's Good Ideas Fund'. Voting will take place on Monday 31st October in the Tannahill between 6-8pm. Anyone over the age of 8 that lives in Ferguslie can vote for us, please don't forget to pass in when you are out for Halloween! We will let you know soon whether we have been successful.

Halloween

Halloween is dress up day on Monday 31st October, the St Fergus' Family Together Group will collect £1 cash from each child **(not via Parentpay as this will be collected by members of the parent group)** to cover the cost of juice, snacks and prizes that will be provided for each class. Children may come to school in fancy dress on the day if they wish to do so. Please note there will be costume prizes but dressing up is optional. Please remember no props should be brought into school in case they get lost or broken. Thank you.



Tuck Shop

Our next tuck shop in aid of our funds. This will take place before morning break on Friday 18th November and children can bring a MAXIMUM of £2.



Non-Uniform days

This year we are able to resume our Christmas Fayre!!! We have lots planned. The Fayre will take place on Thursday 1st December and more information will be provided nearer the time. To help us with this we will be having our normal Non-Uniform days to support this by bringing into school unopened/new items.

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|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Friday 4 th November | Tins and Hot Dogs |
| Friday 11 th November | Bottles and Chocolates |
| Friday 18 th November | Fancy goods, candles, gift sets etc. |

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 17th November at 2:15pm. Please join us if you can.

All information can be found on our Website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/stfergus/parent-council-2/>

Homework Clubs

Every Monday we are running homework clubs for all children and their parents/carers. Please come along each week and spend time helping your children in their class. Everyone is welcome even their little brothers and sisters who are not in school yet. The Teaching and Support Staff will be there to help you!

Interim Reports

Interim reports are in your child's bag today **Friday 28th October**, please check your child's bag. You and your child's feedback on their reports are important and I would ask that you discuss their report with them.

Parents Evening

Parent/Teacher appointment times will be given out today along with your child's interim reports. Should your appointment be unsuitable please contact the school office. We will do our best to accommodate changes, however this cannot be guaranteed. Parents evening will be held in the school on **Wednesday 16th /Thursday 17th November 3-6:30pm.**

Our School Librarians Update

The School Librarians have been working hard to promote reading within our community. They have made links with the nursery and have been sharing stories with the children. They have also created secret book bags which have been hidden around our community. If you are lucky enough to find one then please take it home and enjoy it! Afterwards it would great if you could hide the bag again and remember to tag us on Facebook or Twitter. Well done to Hunter who was the first person to find one and thank you for hiding it again so that Ava was able to find the same book!!!



Wellbeing Warriors Group



The Wellbeing Warriors have planned a Wellbeing Day on Wednesday 9th of November. Each class will take part in a range of activities that will promote positive mental, physical and emotional wellbeing. Can the children please dress in comfortable clothing such as leggings, joggers, loungewear - not jeans or dresses/skirts. We hope to have a lovely, relaxing day and will ensure to post all about it on our social medias so keep an eye out!

Kian, Callum (p7) Ayda, Mikey (P6) Hollie, Ella (P5) Issac, Diana (P4) Annie, Connor (P3)

Armistice Day

Our Pupil Leadership Team will be selling poppies the week beginning 7th November and the whole school will be taking part in the national minute silence at 11 o'clock on Friday 11th November to remember all those who served in our armed forces.



Anti-Bullying Week



This begins on 14th November, the theme for this week is 'Listen Up! (Respect our Rights)'. In St Fergus we want our children to be able to thrive and achieve their full potential in an environment where they feel safe, nurtured, respected and free from fear, abuse and discrimination. We want all adults to understand that

bullying is not an acceptable part of growing up and that it is a clear breach of children's rights. For more information or resources to use at home the Respect Me website can help: <https://respectme.org.uk/>

Flu Vaccination Date

This year the Flu Vaccination date is Thursday 15th December.

Parent Pay Set Up Day



Should you need support in creating your parentpay account Pamela, one of the Business support Staff at Renfrewshire council, will be available on Monday 14th November between 10am-12noon and 1-3pm to support with the set up.

Pupil Achievements

Thank you for providing the school with your children's wider achievements, we always try to recognise them on a regular basis as well as at our monthly assemblies! Please keep letting your child's class teacher or the office know about your child's successes.

Registration for a Primary 1 place August 2023

Children who reach 5 years of age between 1 March 2023 and 29 February 2024, should be registered for education in their catchment school. The registration will start on Tuesday 1 and close on Friday 4 November 2022. You will be able to register online. If you, or someone you're helping, can't register online, phone your catchment school and make an appointment to register in person during the registration dates.

If you miss the registration dates for Primary 1 (P1) for classes starting in August 2023, contact your catchment school.

Children must be enrolled for school using the name which appears on the birth certificate, which must be produced at the time of registration.

More Information can be found on the Renfrewshire Council's Website :

<https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/11957/Apply-for-a-place-at-school#register>



Family Learning Event

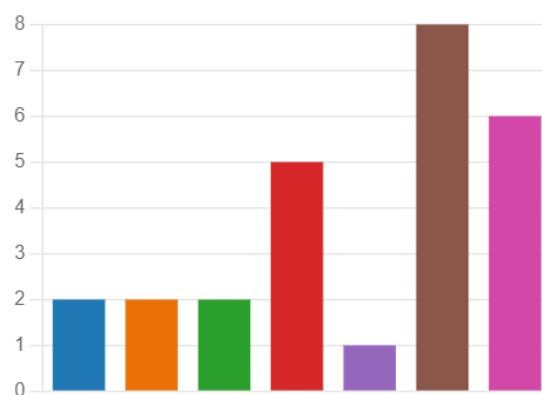


Thank you to the many parents who attended our last event, it was a great success! We had 22 responses to our Family Learning survey which helps us plan for future events. The results are as follows:



Who Responded?

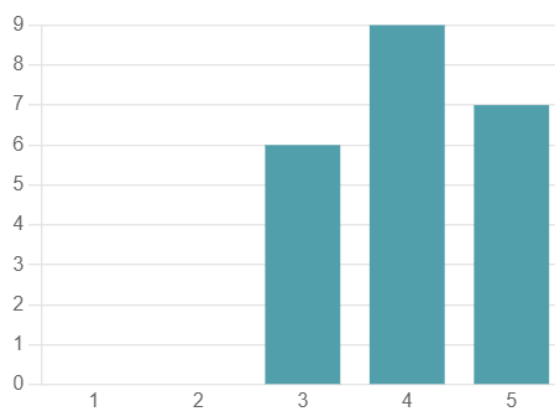
Primary 1	2
Primary 2	2
Primary 3	2
Primary 4	5
Primary 5	1
Primary 6	8
Primary 7	6



How Confident do you feel in keeping your children safe online?



4.05
Average Rating



What other supports can the school do to help you with your digital skills?

Google classroom I'm unsure how to use it.	Learning nights
Workshops for parents, quizzing the kids, discussions	Happy with everything
What they are doing is good	The school has been great at keeping us informed.
Thought tonight was a great way. The kids all seemed to love the quiz.	Keep us up to date
Exactly what you are doing with events like these. Raising awareness and knowledge.	Learning to stay safe
Show the dangers of online rather than telling	More learning on staying safe online
Teach parents how to use computers	Teach it in lessons
More ICT	More instruction how to use the apps

What would you like the school to provide in our next Family Learning Event?

Any support we need to do to help with their learning at home.	Happy with everything
Similar education	Health and Wellbeing
Have no idea. But we are loving these nights and finally being able to feel involved within the school.	How to add
HWB knowledge regarding how our kids are doing with emotional resilience and health and happiness	More help with homework

Behaviours in school	Parental learning (2 parent's Suggested this this)
More Kahoot	Looking at their work
Have No idea	

Thank you again and we will use your feedback to inform our next Family learning event in January 2023.

Home Link

Should anyone require support from our Home Link worker, Karen Fraser, she can be contacted in the following ways:

Mobile number: 07717275207

Email: karen.fraser@renfrewshire.gov.uk

OR: Leave a message for Karen with Mrs Ingram in our school office.

Free School Meal Entitlement

The Scottish Government introduced free school meals to all children in Primary 5 in January, which means that all children in Primary 1-5 now receive free school meals. Our new school lunch menus are available to view on our website by following this link:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/stfergus/2022/01/10/new-menu-january-2022/>

The plan is to introduce free meals to children in Primary 6 & 7 in August 2022. We are still encouraging all families to apply for free school meals (if they think they are entitled, see the information below) as currently there are additional payments being made by Renfrewshire Council to cover the cost of this entitlement over holidays.

Are You Getting What You Are Entitled To?

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>

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>

St Andrew's Day Holiday

The school be closed on Wednesday 30th November and reopen on Thursday 1st December.

If there is anything in the newsletter you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate in making an appointment at the school office to arrange a suitable time.

Kind Regards,

Mhairi McDonald







Mhairi McDonald
Head Teacher

Our Vision:

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	31 Children can come to school Dress Up	1 Whole School Mass 10:30am St Fergus Church – Feast of All Saints	2 P2 to Mass/ P2 Retreat St Fergus Church	3	4 P3 to Mass Non-Uniform Day – Tins and Hot Dogs	5
6	7 P2 to Mass	8 P7 Info Meeting 5pm St. Andrew's Academy	9 Wellbeing Day P1 to Mass/ P1 Retreat St Fergus Church	10	11 P7 to Mass Non-Uniform Day – Bottles and Chocolates	12
13	14 P6 to Mass P6 Retreat St Fergus Church Book Week Scotland Begins Anti Bullying Week Begins	15	16 P5 To Mass P5 Retreat St Fergus Church Catholic Education Fortnight begins Parent's Night	17 Parent's Night 2:15pm – St Fergus' Families Together Meeting – All Welcome	18 P4 to Mass World Youth Day School Celebration P4 to Mass Tuck Shop Non-Uniform Day- Fancy goods- candles, gift sets etc.	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Feast Day Family Mass 9.30am St. Fergus Church	26
27 First Sunday of Advent- P4-7 Advent Day St John's Barrhead	28 P3 to Mass	29 Non-Uniform Day £1	30 School closed St. Andrew's Day	December 1 Christmas Fayre	2 P2 to Mass	

Our Aims:

-  To understand the value of God's Love in our school and local community.
-  To promote a positive attitude and mindset to learning.
-  To use our voices to promote positive changes for all.
-  To provide a happy, safe and stimulating learning environment for all.
-  To develop skills for learning, life and work in our curriculum.
-  To support each child's needs in their unique learning journey.

