



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,

I can't believe it's December already and we have lots of exciting activities to look forward to, please make sure you look at our Monthly diary at the end of the newsletter.

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



Thank you to the children and parents who joined with the Parish to celebrate Education Sunday. Hayden and Sara were a credit to our school as they spoke so well about Catholic Education. Also, well done Lewis and Nicola who joined Mrs Rowley and Mrs McDonald to lead the Prayers of Intercession. It was lovely to see Steven, Abigail, Cece and Kayley in the congregation. We are so proud of you all and thank you for living our School Values in our community.



We have recently celebrated the Primary 3, 4 and 7 Service of Enrolment/ Mass of Commitment during our Mass for the Feast of St. Fergus'. Thank you to all the parents who attended Mass and joined with us after in the School Hall for a cup of tea. Our next Family Mass will be Friday 6th January at 9:30am



We have now entered Advent and our children will be learning how to prepare for Christmas, please look out for our social media posts and talk about this with your children. Primary 1, 2 and 3 are taking part in the Paisley Diocese's 'Travelling Crib' initiative, we are looking forward to seeing your pictures from home and hearing all about how you are helping your children understand the true meaning of Christmas. Father John has asked me to let our school community know about Christmas Day Mass times, I hope you will be able to manage one of them.

First Mass of Christmas -24th December 5.00pm and 25th December 11.30am.

Flu Vaccinations

These will take place on Thursday 15th December.

Parents Night Appointments

Thank you to everyone who took the time to meet with your child's class teacher about your child's learning journey. Please remember if you missed this opportunity, you can always make an appointment with the school office to speak to either your child's teacher during the school day or myself and Mrs Rowley at any time. Please see below the attendance rate of each class:

Primary 1	88%	Primary 5	82%
Primary 2	92%	Primary 6	83%
Primary 3	78%	Primary 7	87%
Primary 4	81%		

Child Safety/Car Parking- Reminder

Recently we have had a number of complaints regarding safety at the start and end of the day regarding parked cars. Could I please remind everyone of the following:

- No Parking on the yellow zigzags
- No Parking in the staff car park unless using the disabled space. This must be authorised by the school on proof of Blue Badge.
- No parking in the drop off bays at **any time**, cones will be in place at the end of the school day to stop this from happening.
- Do not allow your children to exit your car at the entrance to the drop off zone.
- Please encourage both children and adults to use the school crossing.

Please inform anyone who is due to collect your child/children of the reminders above in the interest of keeping everyone safe. Thank you.

Family Learning Event

Our Next Family Learning Event will take place on Tuesday 31st January the Focus will be Health and Wellbeing. Should you wish to attend please complete the online form to allow us to arrange pizza and drinks on the night. Please click on the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/sXc1Fm33p2>

This link will close on Friday 27th January.

Thank you – School Librarians

Thank you to Mrs McLean and our School Librarians for organising a very successful Book Week. I am sure you would have loved seeing all our updates on our social media channels.



Christmas Activities

Christmas Fayre- Thank you



Our St Fergus' Families Together group worked really hard to make sure our first Christmas Fayre since December 2019 was a success. On the day we raised £883.46 which is fantastic!!! Our Raffle continues and will be drawn during the afternoon performance of our Christmas Show and Nativity. All the monies raised go direct to your children for various activities, thank you all for your continuous support.

Christmas Concert and Nativity

'Baarmy Bethlehem' will be performed this year by Primaries 1-3 and Primaries 4- 7 will be entertaining you with some Christmas songs. There will be two performances on Wednesday 14th December, 9:30am and 1:30pm. Due to the limited capacity in our hall each family will be issued with 2



tickets for one performance. Please choose your preference (Please note this is on a first come basis) by completing the Microsoft form by clicking on this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/SusLXr54Be>
This form will close on Tuesday 6th December at 4pm. All remaining tickets after this date will be available from the school office from Friday 9th December.

Children's Christmas Panto

This year we will be able to have a theatre company in on Thursday 15th December at no cost due to the funds raised in our non uniform days. Shoogalie Road will perform, 'Goldilocks' for the whole school and I am sure the children will enjoy this experience.

Christmas Parties

These will take place on Tuesday 20th December. P1 and 2 children will have a special visitor. The children will be given a packet of crisps, good quality chocolate and a drink of juice provided by the Parents Group. Children should come to school dressed in their party clothes. Please be mindful of the weather and encourage them to wrap up as they always do. Children should not attend school wearing high heels to prevent unnecessary accidents. Thank you for your co-operation.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch will be available to pupils on **Thursday 8th December**. The options are as follows:

Turkey, Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Sprouts & Trimming/ Or Steak Pie, roast potatoes, Carrots & Sprouts/ Or Quorn Roast with Vegetarian Stuffing, Roast Potatoes & Carrots
Christmas Ice Cream Pots

Mrs Ingram has already collected your children's orders. If you have not returned your child's order please contact Mrs Ingram at the school office. Please note, no other options will be available on this day.

Paisley Christmas Foodbank

Graham and Lynsey Welsh, two of our ex-parents, are continuing to support local people with their annual Fooddrive. Should you wish to donate please bring to the school office between the 12th and 16th December.

Thank you- Ferguslie Park housing Association

Thank you for providing a special treat to our upper primaries. They will visit the Tannahill centre for a movie morning on the last day of school, 21st December.

Pupil Council Update



Thank you to Miss McAdam who is supporting and leading our Pupil Council. This year they have been working on creating an Action Plan for the school year. They have come up with lots of good ideas for fundraising, charity work and ideas to improve our school. At our Christmas Concert we will be collecting donations for our chosen charities, Who Cares? Scotland, Stand Up to Cancer and Missio Scotland. They are also looking forward to taking part in Renfrewshire Council's #YouDecide vote, where they'll get to have their say on how budgets are spent within their local area.

School Football and Netball Teams



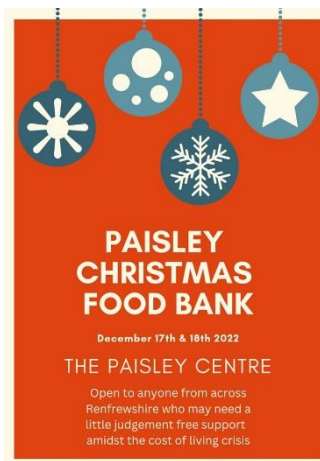
Well done to the Girls Football Team who took part in the local football tournament. They had a great morning and even scored some fantastic goals.

The Netball Team took part in their first netball tournament for the Eilish Herron League in November. They all showed excellent team spirit and good sportsmanship. We are all looking forward to our next tournament on the 5th December! Well done girls!



School Office Times

We regularly have a number of enquiries/phone calls to our office during the support staff lunch and I would like to apologise for the reminder again about our office times, 8:30 -1:20pm and 2- 4pm. Please be patient out with these times as there may not always be a member of staff to answer the door. We now



have an answer phone service to allow you to leave a message and Mrs Ingram will do her best to get back to you as soon as she can.

Homework Clubs

Thank you to those parents who came along to our Monday Homework Clubs. Due to the poor uptake, financially we cannot run seven clubs. Therefore, next term we will provide three clubs where there will be a teacher and support staff available to support your children. Please remember our staff are giving up their valuable time to help you.

Clubs will begin on Monday 9th January until Monday 20th March.

P1-3 Middle Base P4-5 Top Base P6-7 First Base

These clubs are for all children and their parents/carers. Everyone is welcome even their little brothers and sisters who are not in school yet.

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>

Christmas Break

The school will close on **Wednesday 21st December at 2:30pm.** We will reopen on **Thursday 5th January** at 9am.

I would like to thank you all for your support this year. All of the staff would like to wish you a happy and

Holy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Mhairi McDonald

Kind Regards,







Head Teacher

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Christmas Fayre	2 P2 to Mass	3
4 2 nd Sunday of Advent	5 P1 to Mass	6	7 P7 to Mass + Confessions Wellbeing Wed	8 School Christmas Lunch	9 P6 to Mass + confessions	10
11 Christmas Foodbank Donations welcome this week	12 P5 to Mass + Confessions	13	14 Christmas Show	15 9.30am Shooglie Road Goldilocks Pantomime PM – Flu Vaccinations	16 P4 to Mass 10 Singers to Falcon Day Centre – 1.30pm	17
18	19 P3 to Mass	20 Christmas Party	21 P5-7 Visit to Tannahill Centre for Movie Morning School closes 2.30pm Non Uniform Day No Charge	22 School closed	23 School closed	24 School closed
25 School closed	26 School Closed	27 School Closed	28 School closed	29 School closed	30 School closed	31 School closed

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.

