



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,

Staffing

Welcome to Miss Kate McBurnie who is currently covering Mrs McLean's Maternity leave in Primary I am sure that she will enjoy working in our community.

We have been unable to fill our Additional Support Needs Assistant post as the successful candidate withdrew and this post is currently being advertised and will close on the 1st March. I will continue to update you on this position.

Congratulations

Mrs Mclean had a beautiful baby boy on Valentine's day, mum and baby are doing well and we are looking forward to meeting him soon.

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.

Pupil Leadership Group Updates



Wellbeing Warriors Update

The Wellbeing Warriors have worked very hard so far this term to organise our Wellbeing day in January and our Wellbeing Wednesday in February focusing on World Kindness Day.



They are continuing to make sure that Our Happiness Heroes continue their good work out in the playground, ensuring no one is upset or left out. If your child finds themselves alone at this time, please encourage them to find a Happiness Hero (they are wearing badges and Lanyards) and they will make sure to turn a frown, upside down!



Eco Leadership Group

Our children have been working on their Action Plan and getting ready to submit their portfolio of work to Eco School's Scotland to allow us to renew our Green Flag Status!! They have been discussing plans on how we can encourage everyone to walk to school which will help us look after our planet and stop congestion at the start and end of the school day. The children will be entering the WOW Travel Tracker badge competition.



Mini Vinnies

For Lent, the Mini Vinnies have organised a 'Guess the Bunny's Birthday' fundraiser with all proceeds going to the SCIAF Wee Box campaign. Each guess will cost 50p. Guesses will be available to buy from the **Monday 4th of March.**

Laudato Si Leadership Group



Mrs Cryans and the leadership group have been working hard on this year's Pope Francis' quote:

'There are not two crises, one environmental and one social, but one complex crisis. The solution means we have to combat poverty, restore dignity to the excluded and protect nature.'

They are appealing to our community to hand in any used Christmas Jumpers that are too small for the project they are planning to do next Christmas. We are also reminding everyone that every Wednesday we are encouraging children to bring in a 'Wrapper Free Snack' to help with plastic and paper waste.

School Librarians



As Mrs Mclean is now on her Maternity leave, Miss McAdam stepped in this month to lead our School Librarians and they have been very productive during the Pupil Leadership Group Meetings. They spent some time sorting a range of exciting new books into our school and class libraries and have started to write letters to invite some guest readers into our classrooms. They even hunted for some super book recommendations for each class. The children have been planning for **World Book Day on the 7th of March** and would like children to dress up as their favourite book characters. Their exciting plan of the day will be shared nearer the time on your child's Seesaw, but they have told me that it will be full of storytelling and great activities.



Pupil Council

Mr Reid has been leading our pupil council in a lot of different activities to get their voice on what makes us a good school and how we can get better. The children have created a Learning Observation checklist on 'What Makes a Good Lesson' and some of the children will be going into different classes with myself and Mrs Rowley. I am sure they will be able to give the classes constructive feedback on what they see.

Primary 7 Transition to Secondary School

All parents/carers should have received a letter from Renfrewshire Council confirming their child's place in the relevant Secondary School. Should you not wish to send your child to this school a placing request should be submitted by the 15th of March, and you should receive the decision during the month of April. More information can be found here:

<https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/3470/Change-schools>

Mrs Rowley has been liaising with the relevant Secondary Schools regarding your children, should you require further information please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

All children are required to apply for school transport, this can be done online:

<https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/3486/Home-to-school-transport>

Should you need support with this please contact our school office.

Open Afternoon in Primary 3

Primary 3 would like to welcome their families into our school on **Wednesday 27th of March at 2pm** for an extra special afternoon where they will be performing an exciting new play and then they will be showcasing learning this term.


St Fergus Families Together

I would again like to thank our Parent Group for working hard to support the school and our children especially with them providing our children with a Valentines Disco!! The Pictures will be available soon on our Social Media pages. The groups are now planning for Easter activities and will provide more information in March.

Our next meeting is **Thursday 18th April at 2:15pm.**

Religious Life of the School

As we are entering the season of Lent our children will be learning about the importance of kindness, almsgiving, and prayer. Bishop John has issued the Lent Calendar for prayer for our Priests, Deacons, and Religious Orders. Our children will be using this daily in their classrooms.

2024		Please join us each day as we pray for					
Lent		Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life					
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
		February 14 Bishop John Keenan	15 Religious Sisters	16 Deacons in our Diocese	17 Paul Laverty, Seminarian	18 Sick & Retired Priests	
19 Fr Vincent Byrne	20 Canon Oliver Freney	21 Fr Thomas Erambil	22 Canon Jim Duggan	23 Priests who minister abroad	24 Priest in the Armed Forces	25 Priests who work in Rome	
26 Canon Des Berry	27 Fr John Eagers	28 Fr Laurent Bahati	29 Fr Matthew Carlin	March 1 Fr Dan Fitzpatrick	2 Canon Edward Cameron	3 Canon Michael McMahon	
4 Fr Paul Brady	5 Msgr John Tormey	6 Msgr Denis Carlin	7 Msgr Andrew McFadden	8 Msgr Gerry Gallagher	9 Canon Tom Boyle	10 Fr Eoin Patten	
11 Fr Joe McGill	12 Fr Maurice Callaghan	13 Fr Gerry McNellis	14 The Jericho Community	15 Canon Danny McLoughlin	16 Canon David Boyd	17 Canon Stephen Baillie	
18 Canon Peter McGarry	19 Fr Joseph Balmer	20 Fr Jonathan Whitworth	21 Fr John Morrison	22 Fr Joseph Burke	23 Fr Douglas MacMillan	24 Msgr Charles Cavanagh	
25 Cannon Sean Cunney	26 Fr Ryan Black	27 Michael Ward Seminarian	28 Priests who minister in Schools	29 Priests who minister in Prisons	30 Deceased Priests	Easter Sunday 31 All of our Priests	

Family Mass and Refreshments

Thank you to the families who are attending our monthly Family Masses, it has been lovely to welcome so many of you into school afterwards for Tea, Coffee, and biscuits. Our next Mass is **Friday 1st March.**

stfergus@rcdop.org.uk

Sacramental Classes

Primary 4 and 7 have been working hard and preparing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation. Thank you to Father John who has been providing weekly Liturgy Lessons in our school. Dates for the P4 Sacraments have been on our yearly Calendar since August:

Reconciliation: Thursday 14th March at 2pm– St Fergus Church

Communion: Saturday 27th April at 10 am/11:30am – St Fergus Church

More information will be provided regarding First Communion in a separate letter .

Thank you to the parents who have been preparing with their children and attending 'Do this in Memory of Me' Masses. The final two Masses are **Wednesday 6th March** and **Wednesday 17th April at 1:45pm.**





Our children from Primary 7 will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Thursday 25th April in St Mirin's Cathedral at 6:30pm**. Bishop John will be visiting our Primary 7 children on Wednesday 20th March.

Mrs Rowley issued an overview leaflet in November, should you need a copy of this, or any further information required please speak to Mrs Rowley or Father John.

Please keep all our children preparing for their Sacraments in your prayers.

Early Year to Primary 1 Transition

We have now received the names of the children in the catchment area who have been registered to start school in August. Mrs Rowley has been liaising with the local Early Years Centres and our new Transition Programme is currently being finalised. All Early Year Centres will be provided with this in March and an email will be sent to all new parents. We are looking forward to welcoming parents new and current into our school community as their wee ones start in St Fergus'. All Transition information will be published on our website. The link to this is: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/stfergus/transitions/>



STEM Fortnight 11-22nd March

Each year our classes have a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) focused activities during the 10 days of British Science week, this year's theme is Time.

End of Term

School closes for the Spring Holiday on Thursday 28th March at 2.30pm, **this is also a non-uniform day** and reopens on Monday 15th April at 9am.

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>

Yours sincerely,

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
11 School closed	12 School closed	13 School closed	14 School closed In-Service Day	15 School Reopens	16	17
18 Primary Lent Day St Mary's Paisley 2-5pm	19 P6 to Mass	20	21 P5 to Mass	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	March 1	2
3	4 P3 to Mass	5	6 P2 to Mass P4 Parents' Mass 1:45pm	7 World Book Day- Children can dress up as favourite Characters	8 P1 to Mass	9
10	11 STEM Fortnight P7 to Mass + Confession	12	13 P6 to Mass + Confession	14 P 4 First Confession 2pm	15 P5 to Mass + Confession	16
17	18 STEM Fortnight P4 to Mass	19	20 P3 to Mass Bishop John to meet the P7	21	22 P2 to Mass	23
24 Holy Week Palm Sunday	25 P1 to Mass	26	27 P7 to Mass	28 School Closes 2.30pm Non-Uniform Day £1	29 Good Friday School Closed	30
24 Easter Sunday						

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.