



St Fergus' Primary  
 April 2024  
 Newsletter



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 School website: [blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/stfergus/](https://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 that I am writing our April Newsletter and that after the Easter Break, we will be entering our final term. Our final term will have lots of opportunities to become involved with your child's Educational journey. Please take note of our Diary Dates at the end of our Newsletter.

### Staffing

Congratulations to Mrs Wilson who is expecting her first child in September!!  
 Good Luck to Mrs Hunter as she starts her maternity leave to have her third child. Mrs Devine will be covering Monday- Wednesday in Primary 3 until Mrs Gray returns from Maternity leave on the 7<sup>th</sup> May.

### 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.

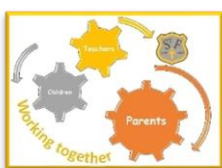


### GREAT NEWS!!!!

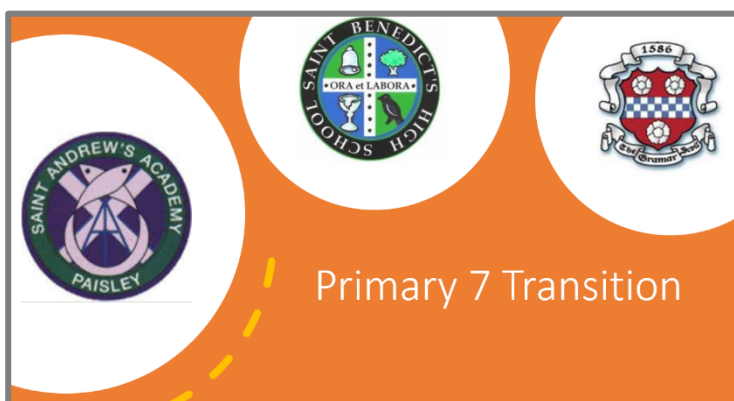
Well done to our Eco Leadership Group who have successfully renewed our Green Flag!!! This is our 9<sup>th</sup> Green Flag and we are proud of everything they have achieved. Thank you to Mrs Pirrie who has led the children in this process!



### St Fergus Families Together



Our next meeting is Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 2pm. Thank you to our parent group who have worked so hard this term to provide our children with great events and their Easter Eggs yesterday.



Some staff from St Andrew's will be in St Fergus' on several occasions which will give the children the opportunity to meet with them and ask questions about high school.

Primary 7 will be visiting St Andrew's Academy on **Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 May**. Pupils will be taken by bus from St Fergus' to St Andrew's Academy.

We are aware that some children are not attending St. Andrew's and Mrs Rowley has been in contact with these schools.

Transition days are:

St. Benedict's High School on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June**.

Paisley Grammar on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> and Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June**.

Children are required to make their own way to Paisley Grammar and St. Benedict's.

Please note pupils should wear full school uniform (shirt and tie if available) for all visits and bring their school bag as normal. If your child is entitled to a free school meal, this will be provided.

Please remember that all children attending High Schools could be entitled to travel on a school bus and this must be applied for by parents prior to starting. You can do this by clicking on this link:

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

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



We have planned a fantastic programme of transition for our new Primary 1 children and parents who will become part of our St Fergus' family in August. This has been arranged alongside our Early Learning and Childcare Centres.

We have a webpage for this Transition Programme which will be updated on a regular basis, please use this link to access it :

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/stfergus/transitions/>

Below you will find the dates of the Transition Programme we can offer your children this year. Mrs Rowley will oversee this along with your child's nursery.

Date	Activity
7 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>World Book Day – Buddies visit the Nursery to read stories with the children-</b> Hillview – 1.15/1.30pm Ferguslie ELCC – 2.15pm
17 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Meet the Teacher (11.00-11.30 pm)</b> – introduction to Primary 1 and the Class Teacher with a shared story about starting school and a tour of the classroom. (Parents/Carers/Keyworkers welcome to take part)
24 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Emotion works (11.00-11.45 am)</b> - Health and Well-being lesson around Emotion Works. Children will discuss, draw, dramatize emotions from a story stimulus. Children will be introduced to a different member of staff each week. (Parents/Carers/Keyworkers welcome to take part)
1 <sup>st</sup> May	<b>Teddy Bear Picnic (2.00-2.45 pm)</b> –Primary 1 children, Buddies and our School Librarians will showcase school library. The children can bring their own teddy and snack.
8 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Outdoor Learning (11.00-11.45 am)</b> – Nursery children will visit the school and be introduced to their Buddies. Their outdoor adventure will involve the children being Bug Detectives and going on a Bug Hunt.
16 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Small group of Buddies (x4) will visit the children in Nursery with the P.1 Teacher or Early Learning Childcare Officer during free play.</b> Hillview ELCC- 11am Ferguslie ELCC- 11:45am Glencoats Lodge – 1.30pm
29 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Buddy School Tour (9.45-10.30 pm)</b> – Nursery children will visit the school and will be given a tour with their Buddies followed by a snack and playground fun.
5 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>P.1 Parent Induction Day 1 (1.30-2.30 pm)</b> – Meet the Senior Leadership Team while your child meets with their Class Teacher. Children and parents should be in attendance due to the amount of important information given by the staff team.
12 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>P.1 Parent Induction Day 2 (11.00-12.00 pm)</b> – Meet the School Community Staff while your child meets with their Class Teacher. Parent's tour of the school. Children and parents should be in attendance due to the amount of information given by the School Community.
18 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>School Dinner Tasting Day (11:30-12.15pm)</b> - Enjoy the morning in our School Dinner Hall with your child sampling our school meals. (Options of food will be given nearer the time.)

Should you have any questions regarding your child's transition in to P1 or S1 please contact Mrs Rowley.

## Children's Safety

I would like to remind all parents that they should not approach another child on school premises or in the community regarding matters that happen within school hours. Could I ask that should you have any issues please come into the school and discuss these with either Mrs Rowley or myself.

## Car Parking

Please be mindful of our neighbours on Bankfoot/Blackstoun Road, can I please ask that all drivers collecting children be sensible in where they park. Please remember that there is no parking at any time on the zig zag lines and drop off bays in front of the school.

## Religious Life of the School



I would like to remind all parents about Services and Mass during Holy Week.

### **Holy Thursday**

Holy Thursday (Mass of the Lord's Supper ) 7pm at St. Charles' Church.

### **Good Friday**

9.30am Morning Prayer at St. Fergus

12 Noon Children's Service at St. Mary's

3.00pm Solemn Veneration of the Cross at St. Mary's

7.00pm Evening Service at St. Fergus'

(followed by Confessions)

### **Holy Saturday**

9.30am Morning Prayer at St. Mary's

7pm Easter Vigil St Mirin's Cathedral

### **Easter Sunday**

10.00am at St. Mary's

11.30am at St. Fergus

### **Family Mass and Refreshments**

Thank you to the families who are attending our monthly Family Masses and it has been lovely to welcome you into school afterwards for Tea, Coffee, and biscuits. Our next Mass is **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**.

### **Sacramental Classes**



Well done to our Primary 4 children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) for the first time on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March. It was a lovely prayerful celebration. Thank you to Miss Fulton, Mr. Reid, Mrs Rowley and Father John for your support and guidance in preparing our children. The next step on their Faith Journey will be to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 10am and 11.30am** Our children from Primary 7 will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday **25<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm**. Please keep all our children preparing for their Sacraments in your prayers.

## School Uniform

This term we have noticed a deterioration in the wearing of full school uniform. Should anyone require support with this please contact the school office to speak with either myself or Mrs Rowley. 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 Grey Jumper Sweatshirt or Cardigan**



## The Cost of Going to School

There are several expenses connected with going to school: uniform, lunches, snacks, travel, PE kit, etc. In addition, from time to time, parents may be asked to contribute to the cost of school activities. At St Fergus' we try as much as possible to subsidise costs using school funds, however, the school recognises that families may still find it difficult to meet some of these expenses at times. I would ask that any parent concerned about expenses related to going to school, contact me. All such approaches will be dealt with in the strictest confidence and the school will always try to help.

## Home Support

Should anyone require support from our Home Link worker ( New Title 'Family Wellbeing Worker') , Karen Fraser, she can be contacted in the following ways:

Mobile number: 07717275207

Email: [karen.fraser@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:karen.fraser@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

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

## 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 2023-2024, the level of clothing grant is £120 per eligible primary pupil. A maximum of one grant will be paid for each child during any school year.

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

## End of Term

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

Yours sincerely,

*Mhairi McDonald*

Head Teacher

### **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.**



### Our Vision:

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				March	29	30
					Good Friday School closed	
31 Easter Sunday	1 School closed	2 School closed	3 School closed	4 School closed	5 School closed	6
7	8 School closed	9 School closed	10 School closed	11 School closed	12 School closed	13
14	15 Pupils return	16	17 P6 to Mas	18 St Fergus' Families Together Meeting 2pm	19 P5 to Mass	20
21	22 P4 to Mass + Confession	23 Selected Children in P6 and 7 attending Care Experience Event.	24 P3 to Mass	25 P7 Confirmation 6:30pm St Mirin's Cathedral	26 P2 to Mass	27 First Holy Communion
28	P4 P4 & P7 Thanksgiving Mass	30				

