



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,

We have been busy organising lots of activities for your children and we have our fingers (and toes) crossed for good weather throughout May and June.

End of Year Trips



This year we are again planning to provide all classes with an end of year trip. Primaries 1-6 are returning to Heads of Ayr on **Tuesday 25th June**. The total cost of this trip for our children is £2540.00, entry to park is £12 per child (£1680.00) and the cost of buses is £860. Thank you to our Parent Group, St. Fergus' Families Together, for donating £ 2000 towards the cost. Our School Fund Non- Uniform days, this session, has

raised £147 which will also be used leaving a balance of £393.00 to pay. Therefore, we are asking that each child pays **£2.50 via Parent Pay**. Due to the distance to the venue the staff have agreed to work later to allow the children to have a longer time in the park, buses will leave from school at 9:30am and return to school around approx. 5.15pm. We are asking that the children wear suitable clothing for the weather that day. Your Child's consent form and slip for ordering a packed lunch (if required) will be sent home next week and we ask that you return this slip by Friday 7th June. We are asking that your child only takes a maximum of £5 spending money, and it will be their responsibility on the day to look after this.

Primary 7 will again be given 2 Activity Days which will be run by our partners, OneRen. They will have the opportunity to take part in a number of outdoor activities which will help them in their team building activities before they leave us for Secondary School, these will include Climbing, Archery, Mountain Biking Fire Lighting and some surprises. Day one will be on **Thursday 6th June** at the KGV in Renfrew and Day 2 will be on **Monday 10th June** at Castle Semple in Lochwinnoch. A separate letter with kit guide and consent form will be issued next week. We are asking that parents also contribute **£2:50 via parent pay** to cover part of the cost of the buses and coaches.

Should any parent have trouble in contributing to either trip can you please contact either myself or Mrs Rowley.

Holiday Dates - Reminder

Friday 24th May Schools Closed
Monday 27th May Schools Closed



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



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 7th June**.

Sacramental Classes

We were so proud of our children from Primary 7 who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday **25th May** they were a credit to you, their families and our School. Thank you to Mrs Pirrie and Father John who helped prepare them for this Sacrament.

Well done to our Primary 4 children who received their First Holy Communion recently, we had a lovely celebration in school on Monday 30th April. Thank you again to Miss Fulton, Mr Reid, Mrs Rowley and Father John for your support and guidance in preparing our children.



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



Transition sessions are now well underway see below for a reminder of the dates for our new Primary 1 children:

Date	Activity
16th May	Small group of Buddies (x4) will visit the children in Nursery with the P.1 Teacher or Early Learning Childcare Officer during free play. Hillview ELCC- 11am Ferguslie ELCC- 11:45am Glencoats Lodge – 1.30pm
29th May	Buddy School Tour (9.45-10.30 pm) – Nursery children will visit the school and will be given a tour with their Buddies followed by a snack and playground fun.
5th June	P.1 Parent Induction Day 1 (1.30-2.30 pm) – 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.
12th June	P.1 Parent Induction Day 2 (11.00-12.00 pm) – 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.
18th June	School Dinner Tasting Day (11:30-12.15pm) - Enjoy the morning in our School Dinner Hall with your child sampling our school meals. (Options of food will be given nearer the time.)



Transition days are:

St Andrew's Academy

Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 May.

St. Benedict's High School

Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th June.

Paisley Grammar

Thursday 13th and Friday 14th June.

Castlehead High

Tuesday 11th , Wednesday 12th June, Thursday 13th June

Children will be taken by bus from St Fergus' to St Andrew's Academy, for all other Secondary School visits the children are required to make their own way there. For children attending Castlehead High there will be a Parent Information Evening on Wednesday 12th June at 7pm.

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, for those children wanting to purchase a lunch this will be available. For St Andrew's Academy, Mr Henry, has informed the schools that the cost of lunch on these days will be £2.50.

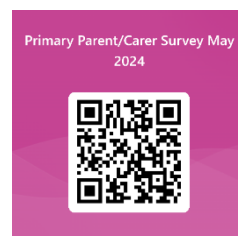
Please remember that all children attending High Schools could be entitled to travel on a school bus and this must be applied for by parents prior to starting. You can do this by clicking on this link:

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

Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) and School Improvement Planning Consultation

Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) is provided to the school in relation to how many children we have entitled to Free School Meals. It is used to increase attainment in Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Well-being. The Scottish Government has awarded our school £104,000, from PEF, currently the fund is used to pay salaries of Mrs Ellis, Mrs Moran, Mr Murphy, Mrs Rennie and Ally, who assist many children across the school in relation to all three curricular areas. We also use this money to provide a variety of resources, staff training and family learning. At this time of year, we like to seek your views regarding our priorities for our School Improvement Plan for school session 2024/2025 and PEF funding. All completed surveys will be entered into a prize draw for £20 Asda Voucher. The Survey will close on Thursday 23rd May. Please click on the link or scan the QR code:

<https://forms.office.com/e/7s3cdHsjCf>



Wellbeing Week

Our Health week, including our Sports Day will take place next week, Monday 20th May – Thursday 23rd May, Our Theme this year is 'Belonging'. Children can come into school each day in their sportswear. Please remember football tops/tracksuits are not permitted.

Sports Day



Following requests from our children we will revert to a traditional Sports Day with races only, including a Mum's/Dad's race... make sure you have your running shoes ready! This will take place on Monday 20th May.

P1-3 Sports Day 9:15am P4-7 Sports Day 11am

After the races all parents are invited to take part in some mindfulness with their child's class in the gym hall.

Primary 7 Enterprise

It's that time of year when our Primary 7 children will be running several enterprise events to raise funds for their end of year celebration. Our Parent's group have already issued football cards on their behalf, and they had their own stall at our Christmas Fayre.

During Sports day they will be running an Ice Lolly stall and Beat the Goalie activity. On Thursday 23rd May there will be a Nail Bar, just in time for the holiday weekend! The week beginning 28th they will be running a

Summer Hamper Raffle which will be drawn on Friday 31st May and their final activity will be a Tuck Shop on Friday 7th June.

Cost of these activities are as follows:



Ice Poles 2 for 50p

Ice Lolly 50p



1 Shot 50p

3 Shots £1



Nail Polish £1



50p



Maximum £1

Primary 7 Leaver's Celebrations

As detailed in our Annual Diary, issued in August, the date for our Leaver's celebration will take place on Thursday 20th June. On this day we will be attending St. Fergus' Church for our Leaver's Mass at 1:30pm and Don Bosco Award presentation, parents are welcome to attend, and the children will be dismissed from the Church. The Don Bosco Award is given to 2 children who have lived our School Values throughout their time in St. Fergus and they have been voted for by the whole staff team.

In the evening, a Leaver's Party will be held in the Knights of St. Columba in Renfrew, and we would like to thank the Knights for giving our children the hall free of charge. The children will meet at the school at 6:15pm, staff will be there to escort them to Renfrew, the bus has been booked and will leave the school at 6:30pm. I am sure they will have a great night full of party food and dancing! They will arrive back at the school around 9:45pm.

A reminder letter and Consent Form will be issued to the Primary 7 the week beginning 10th June.

Classes 2024/25

I am still waiting final confirmation of staffing from Renfrewshire Council which means I am unable at this moment to allocate teachers to classes, with the exception of Primary 1 who's Class Teacher will be Mrs McDougall and another teacher. As soon as I know this information, I will issue a further letter later in June.

Adult Presence in Playground Before 9am

Just a reminder that before 9am we try our best to provide an adult presence unfortunately, at times due to staffing issues, this might not be possible, and we request that you remind your children to stay in the playground for their safety.

Mobile Phones



We are encouraging children not to bring their mobile phones to school unless completely necessary. If they do, it is school policy that they are switched off on entering the playground to ensure that no pictures or videos are taken of children. Your child's teacher will request that they are handed in and stored in a secure place until the end of day. Thank you for your understanding and support with this.

Health Promoting School



There have been an increasing number of children coming to school with juice in their water bottles, just a reminder that it is water that the children should be drinking during class time and there are 2 filtered refilling stations in the teaching area. Fruit/diluting juice should be kept for interval and lunch time.

Our Laudato Si and Wellbeing Leadership groups are promoting 'Wrapper Free Wednesdays' and 'Fruity Fridays' where we are encouraging healthy eating for snacks.

Attendance

With your child's Annual Report all parents/carers have received a printout of your child's attendance. Those children who are below 90% attendance could you please consider reasons for their absences, could they have been at school? By the end of the school year, we would like all children in St. Fergus to be above 95%. See below for some important facts:

Why is attendance at school and punctuality important?

Because every second counts.

90% attendance may sound good. However, this is the equivalent of missing a **half day of schooling EACH WEEK**.

If this continues **over every five years** a child spends at school, a child with 90% attendance will miss **HALF A YEAR'S** schooling.

A child with 80% attendance will lose **A FULL YEAR** of schooling over the same period.



Did You Know?

A 2 week holiday during the school term means that the highest attendance your child can achieve is 94.7%

Did You Know?

If you are 15 minutes late each day you will have missed 2 full weeks of School in one year!!



Attendance Ladder



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

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 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

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	13 P1 to Mass	14	15 P6 to Mass Parent's Night	16 Parent's Night	17 P7 to Mass	
Health Week	20 Sports Day P1-3- 9:15am P4-7- 11am	21 P7 to St. Andrew's	22 P7 to St. Andrew's	23 P7 Nail Bar £1	24 School closed	
	27 School closed	28	29 P5 to Mass	30 P6 Safe Kid's Event St Mirren Park	31 P4 to Mass	
JUNE	3	4	5	6 P7 Activity Day 1	7 Family Mass 9:30am	
	10 P3 to Mass P7 Activity Day 2	11 St Benedict's + Castlehead Transition Day	12 P2 to Mass St Benedict's + Castlehead Transition Day	13 Paisley Grammar + Castlehead Transition Day	14 P1 to Mass Paisley Grammar Transition Day P7 Community Day	
	17 P6 to Mass	18	19 P5 to Mass	20 P7 Leaver's Celebration – Mass 1:30pm	21 P4 to Mass	
	24 P3 to Mass	25 P1-P6 School Trip Heads of Ayr	26 P2 to Mass Fun day provided by Parents Group- Free of Charge	27 Non-Uniform Day School Closes 1pm	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.

