



WELCOME TO ST. FERGUS'

PRIMARY 1

Parent's Information Leaflet

Telephone: 0300 300 1364

School email: stfergusenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

School website: blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/stfergus/

Welcome to St. Fergus'

I would like to welcome you to St. Fergus' Primary, a Roman Catholic Primary School which serves the community of Ferguslie Park. Currently we have a school roll of 170 pupils. We are one of seven primary schools which feed into St. Andrew's Academy, Paisley.

We aim to provide a strong foundation for your child's future, with skills for life and a joy for learning in a warm and caring environment.

Central to our aims is to provide and encourage the development of your children academically and socially. We promote the values of the Catholic Faith and believe in a community of mutual respect. We look forward to working with you and your children to ensure that they are happy, safe, and secure during their education at St. Fergus' Primary.

Mhairi McDonald

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mhairi McDonald".

Head Teacher

Staff Information

Head Teacher:	Mrs Mhairi McDonald
Depute Head Teacher:	Mrs Jacqueline Rowley
Senior Family Well-being Worker:	Mrs Karen Fraser
PEF Nursery Officer:	Mrs Lynn Ellis
Office Staff:	Mrs Anne Ingram
Janitor:	Mr Scott Anderson and Mr John Scott
Inclusion Support Assistant (ISA)	Mr Alexander Wilson

Transition Programme and Induction Meeting

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
7th March	World Book Day – Buddies visit the Nursery to read stories with the children- Hillview – 1.15/1.30pm Ferguslie ELCC – 2.15pm
17th April	Meet the Teacher (11.00-11.30 pm) – 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)
24th April	Emotion works (11.00-11.45 am) - 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)
1st May	Teddy Bear Picnic (2.00-2.45 pm) –Primary 1 children, Buddies and our School Librarians will showcase school library. The children can bring their own teddy and snack.
8th May	Outdoor Learning (11.00-11.45 am) – 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.
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.)



Our Vision:

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

Our Aims:

- ✚ To understand the value of God's Love in our school and local community.
- ✚ To promote a positive attitude and mind set 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.

Emergency Contact

On some occasions the school must contact parents e.g., a child is sick or has had an accident and it is vitally important that we have up-to-date emergency contact numbers. Please ensure the number provided can be reached during school hours.

If the name or telephone number of your child's emergency contact changes, please inform the school immediately.

School Day

Start of day	9am
Playtime break times	10.30am until 10.45am
Lunchtime break time	12.30pm until 1.15pm
End of day	3pm

Arrival on First Day

Children will stay in school from 9:15am until 2:15pm for the first day thereafter it will be 9am-3pm. On the first morning parents should bring their child into the school building through the classroom door in the playground. Parents and family can accompany their child into the classroom and take photographs if they wish to do so.

After the first day children should line up at their classroom door in the playground where they will be collected by the Class Teacher. Parents, when visiting the school must always enter through the front entrance in line with school security procedures. All children must be collected by an adult promptly at 3pm in the infant playground.

School Lunches/Clothing Grants

Children can bring a packed lunch or receive a school lunch. All children in Primary 1 are eligible for a free school meal. However, we would still encourage all parents to apply for this and/or a clothing grant (if you are eligible) as this helps the school to receive grants and funding, as well as Parents receiving additional payments during holiday periods. Please see Renfrewshire Council's website for more details.



<https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/3338/Free-school-meals-and-clothing-grants>

Parent Pay

ParentPay is a secure online payment system that has replaced cash payments in all Renfrewshire Schools. With ParentPay, parents and carers will be able to pay for their child's school meals, trips, events, and activities online using a debit or credit card. Your child will require a picture to allow them to choose their lunch and all parents and carers will be required to set up an account for their child in August. More information will be provided on the induction meeting on 5th June.

Scottish Child Payment

Scottish Child Payment is a new benefit introduced by the Scottish Government to tackle child poverty. It is for low-income families already in receipt of qualifying benefits. To start with, Scottish Child Payment will be available to families with children under six years of age only. Low-income families with a child under six will be able to apply for £25 per child, per week - equivalent to £1,300 per year. There is also the Best Start School Age payment which is currently set at £294.70 per child. There are no limits on the number of eligible children supported by Scottish Child Payment. From information on how to apply please visit: <https://www.mygov.scot/scottish-child-payment/how-to-apply/>

Absences

Please inform the school before 9.15am if your child is absent. If possible, all appointments for the dentist and doctor should be arranged out with school hours. Please make every effort to avoid family holidays during term time. See below our attendance key 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



5 minutes
late per day
3
school days



10 minutes
late per day
6.5
school days



15 minutes
late per day
10
school days



20 minutes
late per day
14
school days

Wet Days

On wet mornings the children should be brought in through their classroom door which will be open from 8.50 am.

Uniform

In St. Fergus' all pupils wear an agreed uniform, which is:

Boys

Grey trousers
White shirt
School tie
Grey sweater
Yellow polo shirts

Girls

Grey skirt
White blouse
School tie
Grey cardigan/sweater
Yellow polo shirts

As all uniforms are identical it is very difficult to track down individual items of clothing which have been lost unless they are clearly marked with the child's name. PLEASE NOTE THAT TARTAN AND BLACK ARE NOT OUR SCHOOL COLOURS. PLEASE PUT NAMES ON ALL ARTICLES OF CLOTHING.

P.E. Days and Jewellery

You will be informed by the Class Teacher when your child is to have P.E. The children can leave shorts and sandshoes in the class. The children find it easier if they wear a polo shirt on P.E. days. For health and safety reasons we request that jewellery i.e., earrings, rings, bangles, necklaces are removed. Unfortunately, the school cannot replace valuable items of jewellery which are lost or stolen, therefore, to avoid distress children should not bring items of value to school.



Health Promoting School

As a health promoting school, we encourage children to bring a PLASTIC WATER bottle to school. Juice can be consumed during break and lunch; however, fizzy and energy drinks should not be brought into school.

Nut, Free Zone

We are a **Nut** free school due to children having severe allergies that are life threatening. Please always check the ingredients of your child's snacks prior to them bringing them into school.

Playground Supervision

There is always an adult presence in the school playground in St. Fergus. There are Classroom Assistants and an Inclusion Support Assistant on duty daily supported by the Janitor and Depute Head Teacher/Head Teacher when available. P7 children provide a buddying service to support P1 pupils in the first few weeks of their schooling.

Holiday Dates 2024/2025

First Term	In-service Day	Wednesday 14 August 2024 - <i>Children do not attend</i>
	In-service Day	Thursday 15 August 2024 - <i>Children do not attend</i>
	Schools re-open	Friday 16 August 2024
	September Weekend	Friday 27 September and Monday 30 September 2024 (Schools Closed)
	Schools re-open	Tuesday 1 October 2024
	In-service Day	Friday 11 October 2024 - <i>Children do not attend</i>
	October holiday	Monday 14 October 2024 to Friday 18 October 2024 (Schools closed)
	Schools re-open	Monday 21 October 2024
	St Andrew's Day	Monday 2 December 2024 (Schools closed)
	Schools re-open	Tuesday 3 December 2024
	Last day of session	Friday 20 December 2024 (Close at 2:30pm)
	Christmas / New Year	Monday 23 December 2024 to Friday 03 January 2025 (Schools closed)
Second Term	Schools re-open	Monday 06 January 2025
	In-service Day	Friday 14 February 2025 - <i>Children do not attend</i>
	Mid-term break	Monday 17 February 2025 to Tuesday 18 February 2025 (Schools closed)
	Schools re-open	Wednesday 19 February 2025
	Last Day of Session	Friday 4 April 2025 (Close at 2:30pm)
	Spring Holiday	Monday 7 April 2025 to Monday 21 April 2025 (Schools closed)
Third Term	Schools re-open	Tuesday 22 April 2025
	May Day	Monday 05 May 2025 (Schools closed)
	Schools re-open	Tuesday 06 May 2025
	In-service Day	Friday 23 May 2025- <i>Children do not attend</i>
	Local holiday	Monday 26 May 2025 (Schools closed)
	Schools re-open	Tuesday 27 May 2025
	Last day of session	Friday 27 June 2025 (Close at 1pm)