



St Bernadette's Primary School

Newsletter



November 2021

If there has been any changes to your home or emergency contact details or to your child's medical needs then please contact the office. Please also ensure your email address is up-to-date as ALL Newsletters/Letters etc. are emailed to parents. Paper copies will be available at the school office for collection only.

General Illness

As per NHS guidance, if your child is displaying sickness or stomach upset, your child **must not** return to school until they are 48 hours clear of symptoms. If your child falls ill during the school day, we will contact you via telephone.

Please ensure all contact details are up to date.

Layering Up!

Due to the classrooms having to be well ventilated, we strongly advise children to "layer up! Although we still have our uniform policy in school we understand that the importance of keeping the children warm is the priority.

Meetings

Following National guidelines there are no 'face-to-face' meetings permitted within the school setting. However, if you have any concerns/questions. Please do not hesitate to contact school.

If management/teaching staff are not available at the time of your call, we shall endeavour to call you as soon as possible.

COVID-19

If you think that you, your children or a member of your family may have coronavirus you should follow the latest NHS guidance at:

www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19

Please click [here](#) for the latest information on Self-Isolating and Contact Tracing within schools.

Please continue to look out for symptoms in your own family.

The most common symptoms are:

1. New continuous cough
2. Fever/high temperature (37.8C or above)
3. Loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

Within school, there are no longer 'bubbles'. Large gatherings indoors (e.g. whole school assemblies) are still not permitted; however, we are allowed to sing outdoors and indoors. Adults are still required to wear face coverings in corridors & communal areas. Also, adults whenever possible are required to observe social distancing of at least 1m from other adults. Parents/carers are asked to observe social distancing in school grounds and to continue to wear face coverings.

House Captains and Vice Captains

Congratulations to our House Captains and Vice Captains for 2021/22. All children involved gave very impressive speeches. Our House Captains and Vice Captains were voted in fairly.



PFFA Group

After such a successful partnership with Strathcarron Hospice last year, the PFFA group have decided to once again make Christmas food/gift hampers. These will be distributed to elderly and isolated people via the Strathcarron Hospice Outreach Team.

This is intended to be more of a “treat” than the usual food bank items we have previously collected for. The children would be incredibly grateful for donations of any of the items listed below. These items can be brought into school and given to Mrs Gallacher.

Boxes of chocolates
Boxes of biscuits
Flavoured Juices
Mince pies
Christmas Pudding
Crackers
Jams & other preserves
Coffee and Tea
Christmas cake
Bath items
Scented Candles
Toiletry gift sets for men and women

Strathcarron Hospice were incredibly grateful for our support last year. We received letters of thanks and also video of those who had received our hampers. It was fantastic for the children to see the impact of all their hard work. Hopefully this year's project will be as successful.

Thank you for your continued support from Mrs Gallacher & PFFA Group.

Smarties Fundraiser

Thank you to all our families who returned the Smarties Tubes after the October break. We collected a grand total of £1036.14! This money shall be used in our Library.

Thank you

We wish to say a HUGE Thank You to our Parent Council for the recent donations towards our Subscriptions and for the new Smart TV in P7! They also, very kindly, donated crisps and juice to each child for the Halloween class parties. We really do appreciate everything our Parent Council do!



200 Club Winners

Congratulations to the below winners! The Parent Council fundraising group are kindly continuing to deliver the winnings to the lucky winners due to COVID.

October draw winners are

£100 - 44 Andrew Wallace
£50 - 144 Lisa Hanley
£50 – 16 Angela Green
£25 – 58 Jennifer Walker
£25 – 181 Roishann Brown



Thanks again to all the members for continuing to support the 200 Club.

Anyone wishing to join the 200 club please contact stbernadettes200club@gmail.com. We would love to have more people join up to help support the school.

Foodbank for KLSB Community Group

We are delighted to help KLSB Community Group with their Foodbank collections. Thank you for everyone that donated to the last Foodbank – it was really appreciated. KLSB kindly donated the flower barrels you might see around our school. Please see below products they require to help people in the community. We have a basket at our main reception if you can help with any of these items. Thank you!

Donations required

Please help your community
Products needed in the pantry

Tinned Stewing Steak	Soap Bars	Washing Powder (Small)
Tinned Oval Ham	Shampoo	Surface Spray Cleaner
Dry Cheesy Pasta	Toilet Roll	Disinfectant Wipes
Tinned Curries	Toothpaste	Washing Up Liquid
Tomato Sauce	Deodorants	Fabric Conditioner
Brown Sauce	Shower Gel	Toilet Cleaner
Diluting Juice	Baby Wipes	Floor Cleaner
Mayonnaise	Hand Sanitiser	Glass Cleaner
Cooking Oil	Adult Toothbrush	Disinfectant
UHT Milk	Liquid Hand Soap	Bleach



Primary 1 Enrolment and Primary & Secondary Placing Requests

Children who reach 5 years of age on or before 17th August 2022 **must** commence primary education at the start of the school session in August 2022.

Children whose fifth birthday falls on or between the 18th August 2022 and 28th February 2023 **may** commence primary education in August 2022.

At Primary 1 entry, parents/carers are entitled to enrol their children at their

- catchment non-denominational school
- catchment denominational school if they are baptised Roman Catholic (RC baptismal certificate must be provided).

You can enrol your child for Primary 1 online at www.falkirk.gov.uk/schoolenrolments

Enrolments will be accepted from 1st November until 31st December 2021 for entry to Primary 1 the following August.

What you need to know:

- You will be required to register for a 'My Falkirk' account.
- Your address will be checked against Council Tax records for verification.
- A copy of your child's RC Baptism certificate is required to support enrolment at a RC school.

If your child does not already attend a Falkirk Council or Partner nursery you will be asked to submit their birth certificate or passport as proof of identification.

You **MUST** enrol your child at the catchment school for your address in addition to any placing request you may choose to submit.

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACING REQUESTS FOR AUGUST 2022

Parents/Carers **must** submit a Placing Request if they wish their child:

- to attend a school other than their catchment area school
- to attend a denominational school and are not baptised Roman Catholic
- to transfer from a non-denominational primary school to a denominational (RC) secondary school or vice versa

Online placing request applications can be made via the Council's website www.falkirk.gov.uk/placingrequests. Written application forms are available from all schools and from Children's Services. Written applications must be returned to the Director of Children's Services at the address below.

Applications will be accepted no earlier than Thursday 2nd December 2021 until the 15th March 2022. Parents/Carers will be notified of the outcome in writing by the 30th April 2022. Placing Requests received after the 15th March 2022 will be notified of the outcome within eight weeks of receipt of the application.

Parents/Carers must enrol their child at the catchment area school for their home address whilst awaiting the outcome of their Placing Request application.

St Mungo's COP26 Conference

St Mungo's Cluster held their first annual Climate Change Conference on Friday 12th November in St Francis Xavier Hall in Falkirk. The conference was framed within the Laudato Si Schools Scotland Framework. Laudato Si' Schools Scotland aims to meet the Holy Father's goal of creating an 'Ecological Education' within our schools.

It was launched as part of the Scottish Catholic Education Services, SCIAF and Justice & Peace Scotland's response to the special anniversary year marking the 5th anniversary Pope Francis' Encyclical.

A range of special guests attended including Children's Services Officers, John McNally (MP), Michelle Thomson (MSP), Ryan Krykant (INEOS), Barbara Couper (Director Scottish Catholic Education Service) and many others.

The conference took the quote from Pope Francis from the Encyclical as its theme. Pope Francis challenges us to consider *'What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are growing up now?'*

To meet this challenge, St Mungo's Cluster COP26 Conference met its aims which were:

- To support children to Learn, Pray and Act to tackle Climate Change.
- To support children to understand and fulfil their right to be heard and taken seriously in democratic processes.
- To support children to influence systematic climate change action by engaging with decision makers within their local community and at national level.
- To support children's participation in the St.Mungo's Cluster COP26 Conference on 12th November alongside the global conference.
- To highlight the ongoing actions of the St.Mungo's Cluster and partners in line with the Laudato Si Goals.



Children in Need

Huge Thank you for all the very generous donations for this year's BBC Children in Need appeal. We raised £220. Our children enjoyed the activities held in school. Well done to our colouring competition winners!



Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to each and every parent/carer who supported the Scholastic Book Fair. We have raised over £600 to spend on new books for our Library. Each class shall now be involved in creating a 'wish list'. We are very excited about expanding our library collection.



Iron Man Survival Blankets Challenge

As part of Learning for Sustainability and Laudato Si', St Bernadette's School will be taking part in the Iron Man Survival Blankets challenge.

Did you know, it can take up to 8 decades for a single crisp packet to degrade? Decades old intact crisp packets have been found dating as far back as 1967!



Iron Man Survival Blankets are asking for people to donate crisp bags which can be ironed into heat insulated covers for the homeless. For many people, winter will be hard to get through and will be especially tough for those who are homeless.

150 crisp packets can be ironed together and transformed into a survival blanket for a homeless person. It will help to keep their sleeping bag dry and insulated.

Our challenge as a school community is to collect as many crisp packets as possible by **Tuesday 30th of November.**

A Crisp Collection tray will be placed inside each classroom. Please keep any crisp packets from home/ school snack and ensure that they have been cleaned in soapy water before placing them in the collection tray.

Football Team

Well done to our Football Team – the Greys won 10-0 and the Reds won 10-1 in the friendly held at St. Joseph's Bonnybridge on Wednesday 27th October. Thank you to Mr Taylor and Mrs Morrison for organising this game.



Cross Country

The Cross Country team enjoyed doing Circuit Training indoors, due to the weather. Mr Taylor also joined in!



The Cross Country Team also done their first race at Callendar Park on 9th November. Well done to all that took part!



Christmas Jumper Day

This year we shall be supporting the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day charity. Christmas Jumper day shall be on Friday 10th December. Donations would be gratefully received to the JustGiving page that has been set up: Just click [here](#).

Please remember we have a Christmas Jumper Swap Shop in the main reception!



Christmas Lunch

There will unfortunately not be any Christmas Lunches this year due to COVID-19. There will, however, be Santa Buffet Boxes offered on Thursday 16th December.

The Santa Buffet box contains a festive savoury selection of breaded chicken Goujons, pigs in blankets, cocktail sausage roll, potato smiles, and dipping sauce pot. A Santa ice cream tub, homemade iced biscuit, juice carton and either a melon wedge or satsuma.

The Santa Vegan & Vegetarian Box contains a festive selection suitable for vegans and vegetarians: vegetable sausage, potato smiles, vegan sausage roll, vegetable pakora or vegetable nuggets with a dipping sauce pot. A jelly fruit pot, vegan homemade sweet treat, juice carton and either a melon slice or satsuma.

Christmas Parties

Now that the school gym hall can be used again by individual classes, we are delighted we can still have a Christmas party. These will be with individual classes only. Children are asked to come dressed in comfortable clothing on the day of their party. Unfortunately due to current guidance, children cannot change at lunchtime into party clothes if their party is in the afternoon.

Tuesday 14 th December (afternoon)	Primary 4
Wednesday 15 th December (morning)	Primary 2
Wednesday 15 th December (afternoon)	Primary 7
Thursday 16 th December (morning)	Primary 3
Friday 17 th December (morning)	Nursery
Friday 17 th December (afternoon)	Primary 6
Monday 20 th December (morning)	Primary 1
Monday 20 th December (afternoon)	Primary 5



Virtual Celebration of Christmas

Unfortunately, due to current restrictions we cannot invite you into school for our annual Christmas concert. However, every class will be working hard to produce a virtual celebration of Christmas. All classes learning will be recorded and shared with you via email, class Teams or SeeSaw.

School Uniform

It is great to see all our pupils in our School Uniform. We wish to thank parents/carers for always ensuring our children look so smart. BE Schoolwear in Falkirk are open. There are many items of our school uniform on offer at the moment – up to half price!

For example:



Waterproof jacket with a detachable windproof fleece inside.

Outer jacket is embroidered with the school logo.

Price From: £22.90 now **Special Price £12.05**



V Neck Jumper

Price From: £17.50 now **Special Price £9.20**

Please click [here](#) to view the other items on offer

Outdoor Learning and Play

Just a reminder that all children will regularly be outdoors learning and during interval and lunchtimes. Can you please ensure your child has an appropriate jacket for our ever changing Scottish weather.



Headlice

We would encourage you to check your child at regular intervals to prevent the spread of headlice throughout the school. If your child becomes infected, we would appreciate it if you could inform us as soon as possible.

All information provided will be strictly confidential

Achievements

If you would like to share your child's achievements, please email the school and they shall be included in our next Newsletter.

Allergies

For the health and safety of all pupils please ensure that your child is not provided with any nut products at school. Some children are bringing products such as Snickers, Lion Bars and Peanut Butter sandwiches. We have pupils and staff who are severely allergic to peanuts. Peanuts do not have to be eaten by an allergic person to cause an allergic reaction; they can be ingested or contaminate tables, hands etc. Any peanut products will be returned home in packed lunch boxes unopened.

All Falkirk Council school lunch menus do not have nut products as standard.

Further information can be viewed here:

<http://www.anaphylaxis.org.uk/what-is-anaphylaxis/signs-and-symptoms>

Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter.



Mobile Phones

If your child brings their mobile phone or smart watch to school can we please ask that you reiterate at home, that it must be switched off and in their school bag throughout the school day. If any mobile phone or smart watch is seen during the day or disrupts the class it shall be confiscated by the Class Teacher and given to the Headteacher who will then contact the parent/carer and arrange for the parent/carer to collect it from school, it will not be given back to the child. If you need to contact your child during the school day, please contact the school office. We would appreciate your support with this matter.

Please remember that there is access to funding to help families with financial difficulties. Please contact Mrs Savage, in strictest confidence, for more information.

Class Twitter

Below is a link to each classes Twitter page. Please check for regular updates.

P1 <https://twitter.com/MrsEdwardsStBs>

P2 <https://twitter.com/P2StBernadettes>

P3 <https://twitter.com/P6StBernadettes>

P4 <https://twitter.com/Primary4StB>

P5 <https://twitter.com/P5Bernadettes>

P6 <https://twitter.com/MrsLCMartin> <https://twitter.com/mrsqallacherSTB>

P7 https://twitter.com/Mrs_Podmore https://twitter.com/MrsBrown_STBPS

School Twitter <https://twitter.com/stbernadettesps>



Check our website for information: <http://stbernadettes.edusite.co.uk/>

Keep up-to-date with Parish News on: <http://www.stbernadette.rcstanded.org.uk/current>
and <https://www.facebook.com/stbernadettelarbert>