



# St Bernadette's Primary School

Newsletter

January 2023



## **Happy New Year!**

We would like to wish all our families a Happy and Healthy New Year. We look forward to working with the children and their families. Thank you for your continued support.

We hope you all had a lovely Christmas holiday!



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.



## **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.

## **Winter Health Information and Advice from NHS Forth Valley**

The latest winter health information and advice is available at [www.nhsforthvalley.com/winter](http://www.nhsforthvalley.com/winter). It includes details of local pharmacy opening times across Forth Valley, information on the Minor Injuries Unit at Stirling Community Hospital and details of the ALFY advice line for older people. You can also find out more about the Pharmacy First scheme which provides free treatment for many common conditions without the need for a prescription (including urine infections, skin problems and conjunctivitis). You can follow them on Twitter @NHSForthValley or like them on Facebook [www.facebook.com/nhsforthvalley](http://www.facebook.com/nhsforthvalley) to keep up-to-date with all the latest news from NHS Forth Valley.

## **Outdoor Learning and Play**

Please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing for our ever-changing Scottish Weather. It really does help when your child's name is on all clothing.



## **P7 Residential Trip**

Thank you to all parents that have now paid the £50 deposit required for P7 Residential Trip to Dalguise. Please note the Interim deposit of £65 was due on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022. Final payment of £235 will be due by 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Payments can be made at any time on IpayImpact. If you need any help with IpayImpact, please do not hesitate to contact the office. Should the trip be cancelled due to COVID-19 Guidelines ALL payments shall be refunded in full.

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

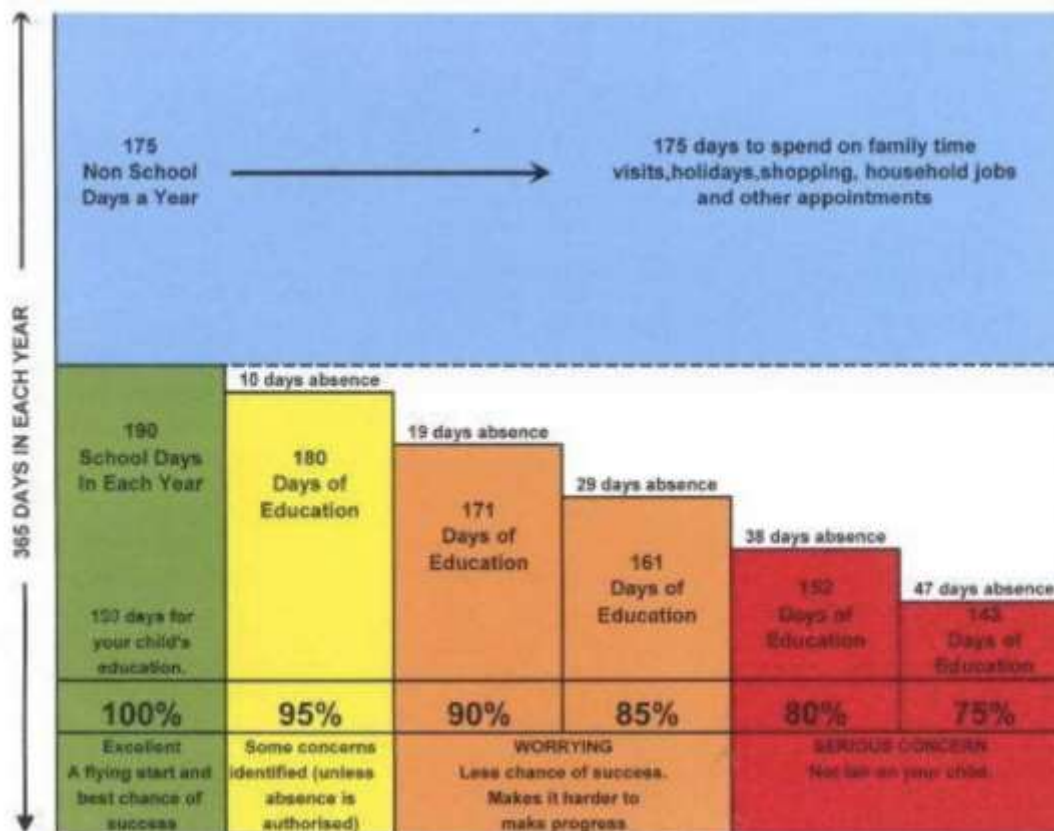
## **Panto Trip Refunds**

We have received confirmation that Falkirk Town Hall have fully refunded the cost of the panto tickets. They were also very kind to hand in free child tickets on the last day of term, hopefully some families managed to enjoy the Panto! You should have received a full refund home with your child, please ensure the receipt is returned to the office. If you have not received a refund or have any questions, please contact Mrs Heeps. Thank you ☺

## Attendance Procedure in Falkirk Council

Please contact the school office on 503400 before 9.15am on the day of your child's absence. If you wish, you can leave a message on the school's answering machine. **Please do not message the class teacher with absence/appointments messages.** If your child is absent from school and no email or telephone call has been received to explain their absence, you will receive a text requesting you contact the school. This system gives you the added peace of mind of knowing that if you have not had a text then your child has arrived safely in school. As this is a centralised system, a mobile phone number will display and the message will include the school name and contact number. **Please respond to this promptly.**

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!			
ATTENDANCE DURING ONE SCHOOL YEAR	EQUALS APPROXIMATE DAYS ABSENCE	WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY WEEKS ABSENCE	WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY LESSONS MISSED
95%	9 days	2 weeks	40 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	80 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	120 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	160 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	200 lessons
70%	57 days	11 ½ weeks	230 lessons
65%	67 days	13 ½ weeks	270 lessons



### **Primary 1 Enrolment and Primary & Secondary Placing Requests**

Children who reach 5 years of age on or before 16th August 2023 **must** commence primary education at the start of the school session in August 2023.

Children whose fifth birthday falls on or between the 17th August 2023 and 29th February 2024 **may** commence primary education in August 2023.

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](http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/schoolenrolments)

Enrolments will be accepted from 1<sup>st</sup> November until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 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 2023**

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](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022** until the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Parents/Carers will be notified of the outcome in writing by the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023. Placing Requests received after the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 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.***

### **Strathcarron Hospice Hampers**

Thank you for all the donations we received from our St. Bernadette's community. We were overwhelmed with the kind donations. The pupils and Mrs Gallacher worked hard to put these hampers together. All this hard work is definitely worth it when you see the smiles and messages from those who have gratefully received them. Without your kind donations we could not deliver – sincere thanks!

This was posted on the Strathcarron Hospice Facebook page:

“This is the 3rd year, teacher Sarah Gallacher from St Bernadette Primary School in Stenhousemuir, has worked with her pupils to create and donate these beautiful Christmas hampers.

Our Compassionate Community teams then distribute these hampers across our local communities, particularly to individuals who may be living on their own.

Packed with biscuits, sweet treats, candles and fragrance sets, they're all donated by the parents and carers of the children. Each hamper also includes a hand written card, 'to my new friend', written by the young pupil.

These 'Happy Hampers' have fostered beautiful intergenerational 'pen-pal' relationships over the years.

One of these Happy Hamper recipients is Elaine from Falkirk. Pictured with Compassionate Neighbour, Isabella from Newcarron, Elaine looks forward to writing to her young person soon.

We hope they have a lovely time corresponding with each other 😊

Pictures:

1. The wonderful pupils of St Bernadette Primary School
2. L to R: Elaine (happy hamper recipient) and Isabella (Strathcarron volunteer)



### **Pre-Loved Uniform**

Please feel free to browse the pre-loved uniform at the main reception anytime during school hours. Should you wish to make a small donation, there is a box on the table. All monies received shall go to Mary's Meals.

We are always looking for donations of pre-loved uniform. Could we please ask that name labels be removed before donating.

Thank you.





## World of Work Week

Thank you to everyone that took part in our World of Work week. The children (and staff!) enjoyed meeting all the visitors that so kindly came into school and spoke about their work and skills. Hopefully inspiring a lot of our young minds!



### **Cakes and Sweet Treats**

Can we please remind parents/carers that unfortunately, we cannot allow cakes or sweet treats to be brought in to be shared in class. We understand that this is usually a kind thing to do to celebrate your child's birthday but we have children and staff with several food allergies. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

### **Rag Bag Collection**

Thank you for all your Rag Bag donations. Our last collection weighed 150kilos, raising £20.80 for school funds. All donations are most welcome, please place the bags directly into our Rag Bag bin (beside the cycle shed) or pass to your child to hand into the school. There are bags available in the main reception. We Collect:

- All Clothing
- Paired Shoes (tied together)
- Handbags, bags, ties & belts
- Household linen & towels



### **Achievements**

Well Done to Orlaith in P4, she competed at Bellahouston Park for the first time in Under 10 Category in December and achieved the following results:

Under 16-Advanced Team Dance - 1st Place

Under 10 Lyrical Duet with her teammate Ella - 1st

Under 10 Lyrical Solo - 1st Place

Under 10 Intermediate Freestyle- 1st Place

Under 10 Hip Hop - Top 10

She was over the moon and went home with some very large trophies. We are all proud of you!



Has your child celebrated an achievement out of school, e.g. Dancing, Tae Kwon Do? We would love to hear so we can share the good news on our Newsletter. Please email the school

[stbernadettesprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk](mailto:stbernadettesprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk) to let us know!



### **St. Bernadette's Sponsored Scottish Shenanigans**

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the 'Scottish Shenanigans Obstacle Course' event on 30 November. As well as the children having a great time, it raised the tremendous amount of £1,815. Special thanks to P7 and Mrs Gallacher for organising the day.

### **Easy Fundraising**

A reminder that there is an easy way to help raise some additional fund for the Parent Council - the **EASY FUNDRAISING** online shopping site. This is the UK's biggest charity shopping site.

'easyfundraising' partners with over 7,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice - in this case, the Parent Council. **It won't cost you any extra - the cost is covered by the brand.**

They pay a commission because when you start your shop from the easyfundraising website or app, they can see we sent you to them. If you make a purchase, a commission is generated, and that is turned into a donation - as simple as that.

If you plan to undertake any online shopping, you may wish to consider using this site. Web address: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>

### **Parent Council Meetings**

The most recent PC meeting was held on 12 December and the minutes for the meeting will be circulated once they have been approved. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January - as ever, new faces will be made very welcome!

If you are interested in joining please email [stbernadettesparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:stbernadettesparentcouncil@gmail.com) or catch Peter Butterly (Chair) or Louise O'Rourke (Deputy Chair) at school (they are there most days).

Dates of future meetings:

- Monday 6 March
- Tuesday 25 April
- Monday 5 June

### **Dates for diary for forthcoming events:**

- Valentine disco (proposed 8th February)
- Race night (BYOB event) - proposed 10th March.



### **200 Club Winners**

Congratulations to the below winners! The prize winnings can be collected from the school office between 9am and 3.30pm any day.

December BIG DRAW winners are:

£250 - 85. Amy Stewart

£100 - 7. Sarah Gallacher

£100 - 112. Vicky Lawless

£75 - 194. Marguerite McLaughlin

£75 - 148. Mhairi Walton

£75 - 44. Andrew Wallace

£50 - 50. Anne Sweeney

£50 - 225. Ashley Cooper

£50 - 170. Gemma Scott

£50 - 28. Margaret Tennent

£25 - 155. Richard Masterson

£25 - 141. Maureen Moore

£25 - 117. June Clark

£25 - 164. Airene Winton

£25 - 147. Suzanne McKay



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](mailto:stbernadettes200club@gmail.com). We would love to have more people join up to help support the school.



### **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.

### **Head Lice**

We would encourage you to check your child at regular intervals to prevent the spread of head lice. If your child becomes infected, we would appreciate if you could inform us as soon as possible. All information provided will be strictly confidential.

### **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, Peanut Butter and Nutella 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.



### **School Website**

Please check the school website regularly as this will be the main source of information for parents. The address is <http://stbernadettes.edusite.co.uk/>

### **Class Twitter**

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

- P1 <https://twitter.com/P1Bernadettes>
- P2 <https://twitter.com/P2StBernadettes>
- P3 <https://twitter.com/P3StBs>
- P4 <https://twitter.com/P4StBernadettes>
- P5 [https://twitter.com/Mrs\\_Podmore](https://twitter.com/Mrs_Podmore) [https://twitter.com/MrsBrown\\_STBPS](https://twitter.com/MrsBrown_STBPS)
- P6 <https://twitter.com/MissMHealy1>
- P7 <https://twitter.com/MrsLCMartin> <https://twitter.com/mrsgallacherSTB>



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

Nursery Twitter: <https://twitter.com/StBernNursery>

St. Bernadette's Parent Council: <https://twitter.com/StBernadettesPC>

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

Stay Connected! Please follow us on Twitter @stbernadettesps

Check our website for details of school events and 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>

## 2022/23

Month	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Notes
Jan 2023	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Class Assembly; followed by child-led learning (1.15pm)
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	25 <sup>th</sup> January: Primary 7
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	1 <sup>st</sup> March: Primary 3
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	8 <sup>th</sup> March: Primary 2
	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	26 <sup>th</sup> April: Primary 6
Feb	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	24 <sup>th</sup> May: Primary 1
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	ELC / P1 Transition
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	29 <sup>th</sup> May: 10.45am – 12.30pm parents / lunch
	27	28	1	2	3	4	5	5 <sup>th</sup> and 19 <sup>th</sup> June: 9.15am – 10.00am children only
Mar	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13 <sup>th</sup> June: 3.30pm – 4.30pm outdoors with parents
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Religious Celebration
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	2 <sup>nd</sup> September: 1.30pm Mass, Led by P7
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	30 <sup>th</sup> October: 10.30am Family Mass, at Church
Apr	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1 <sup>st</sup> November: 1.30pm All Saints Day Mass, led by P4, Followed by parents meeting re Sacrament of Communion
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	6 <sup>th</sup> November: 10.30am Enrolment Mass at Church for P4
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	18 <sup>th</sup> November: 1.30pm Mass, led by P5
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	8 <sup>th</sup> December: 1.30pm Mass, led by P7
May	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	20 <sup>th</sup> January: 1.30pm Mass, led by P6
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	9 <sup>th</sup> February: 1.30pm Mass, Led by P5
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22 <sup>nd</sup> February: 1.30pm Ash Wednesday Service, led by P4
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	18 <sup>th</sup> March: 11am and 2pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
Jun	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	24 <sup>th</sup> March: 1.30pm Mass, led by p7
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Followed by parents meeting re Sacrament of Confirmation
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	21 <sup>st</sup> April: 1.30pm Mass, led by P6
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	18 <sup>th</sup> May: 1.30pm Solemnity of Ascension Mass, led by P5
Jul	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	27 <sup>th</sup> May: 11am Sacrament of Confirmation, St. Francis Xaviers
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 <sup>th</sup> June: 10.30am and 2pm Sacrament of Communion
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	28 <sup>th</sup> June: 1.30pm Leavers Mass, led by P7
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	