



St Bernadette's Primary School

Ready Respectful Safe

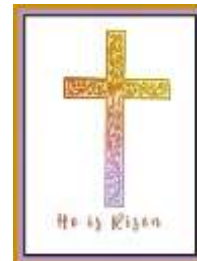


Newsletter

March 2023

Easter Holidays

We would like to wish all our St. Bernadette's pupils, families and friends a lovely Easter holiday. School shall be closed on Monday 4th April 2023. We look forward to seeing our pupils again on Monday 17th April at 9am.



School Bus

Parents are responsible for the behaviour of their child at all times whilst travelling on the School Bus. Can we remind parents that they should **NOT** be travelling on the School Bus. More information can be found [here](#).



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.

Car Parking

At St. Bernadette's we are very fortunate to have such a large car park. We repeatedly ask that parents/carers/families/friends of children that are being dropped off at school and nursery park responsibly. We still receive numerous complaints about inconsiderate parking. Please only use the disabled bays if you have a blue badge. Please **DO NOT** use the bus stop to park. We have witnessed parents parking on double yellow lines outwith the school car park. If you are parking in the top car park please enter via the main car park and **NOT** by bumping over kerbs.

The Staff car park is for staff, deliveries and dropping off at First4Kids or after school clubs, it **SHOULD NOT** be used to drop off children in the morning or to collect them at the end of the day.

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. 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 to keep up-to-date with all the latest news from NHS Forth Valley.

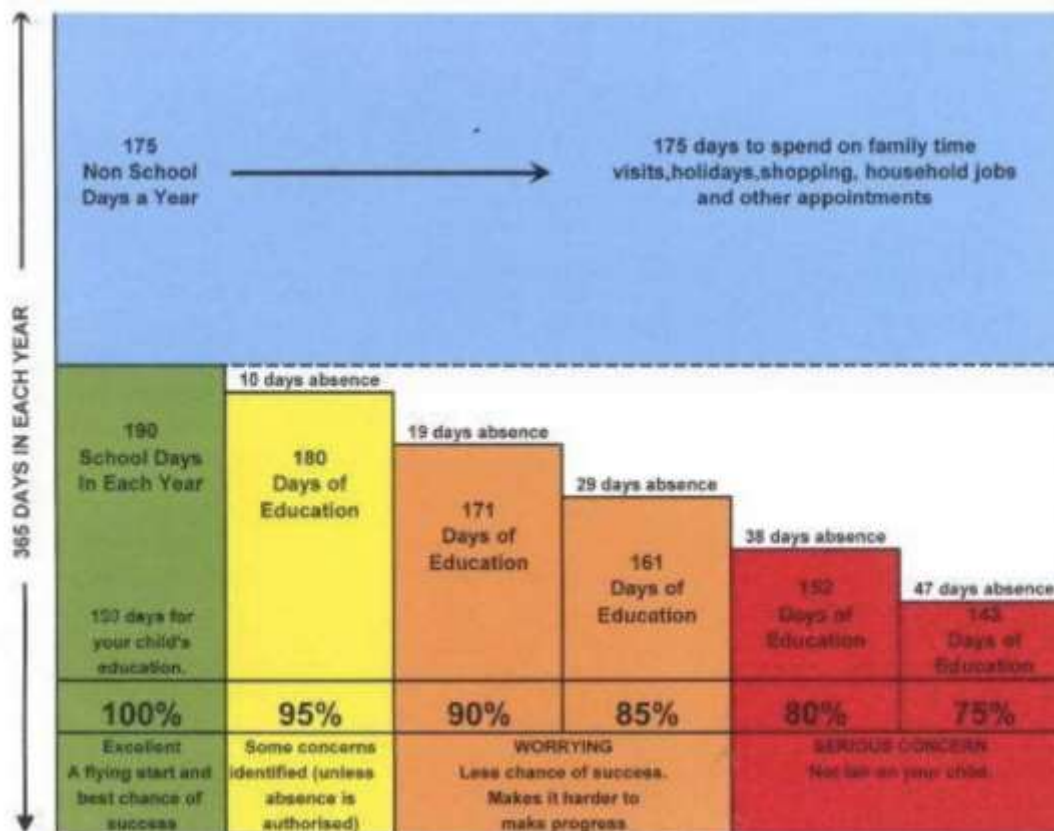
Cakes and Sweet Treats

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.

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



We shall be issuing Attendance Information letters termly to all pupils. This is for your information only. We would like to thank parents/carers for following the appropriate guidelines when their child is absent due to illness.

World Book Day & Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to all our families who purchased books with the Scholastic Book Fair. We have raised approximately £650 in rewards which we will use to purchase more books to improve our library. It was lovely to see some of our families come into school on World Book Day for breakfast and to read with their child.



Disney Playmakers Football

We are delighted that Mrs Duncan (P1 Teacher) recently completed Early Years UEFA Disney Playmakers football coach training with SFA and now has 3 new SFA Coaching qualifications.



- Early Years Disney Playmakers football coaching.
- Children's Wellbeing in Scottish Football
- Mental Health in Scottish Football

After Easter, Mrs Duncan shall be launching UEFA Disney Playmakers sessions in school. Playmakers is a new programme that the SFA are running with UEFA and Disney. It's a programme for girls aged 5-8 years who are not currently playing football. It invites them to step into the magical world of Disney as they take the first step on their football journey.

These sessions create an environment where imaginations can run wild as an iconic Disney story is told through movement and play. Well done Mrs Duncan!

SCIAF

Well done to our Easter Eggs winners so far! The P6 children are selling raffle tickets every Friday to raise money for SCIAF.



Former St. Bernadette's Pupil is the new Blue Peter presenter!

We were delighted to hear the news that one of our former pupils is the new Blue Peter Presenter! Abby is the 42nd presenter of the longest-running children's TV show in the world and will co-host alongside Mwaksy, Joel and Henry the dog. An exciting new talent, her first live show airs on Friday, 10 March on CBBC and BBC iPlayer at 5pm.

Abby, 20, attended Grangemouth High School, leaving with straight A's, before studying Applied Biological Science at Forth Valley College. Since then, she has worked with Valley Disability Sport, supporting disabled and non-disabled young people to enjoy being active together, and as a mental health project administrator for Scottish Disability Sport, helping to promoting inclusion within sport.

Well done Abby – everyone at St. Bernadette's are very proud of you!



Thank you to our Parent Council

Huge thank you to our Parent Council who have recently paid for a new Smart TV in P4 and furniture for Nursery. Both are really appreciated and have made a difference to these classes! We appreciate everything our Parent Council does for the school!



Medication in school

A few parents have advised that they are unsure of the process if their child requires to take medication during the school day, this includes nurofen and calpol.

As part of Falkirk Council policies there is a medical form MED1 which needs to be completed by a parent/carer giving details of the medication to be taken, the dosage and time to be administered.

We have attached a link to the Falkirk Council webpage with information about supervised medication in school together with the link to the Med1 form, there is also a link to a Med4 form however this is relevant to high schools only.

You would be able to ask at the school office for a Med1 form if you require your child to have medication administered during the school day.

If you want to complete the online form and then email to the school (stbernadettesprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk) we can then print this out and ask you to sign the form when handing in the medication.

Please click here for the link: [School life - Supervised medication in school | Falkirk Council](#)

Masses held within School

Can we please remind parents/carers that on the days that there is Mass held in school, parents/carers are very welcome to attend. The dates are all marked on the calendar at the end of this newsletter. Handy for the fridge! 😊

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.



School Uniform

BE Uniforms still currently have a clearance sale online, with up to 60% off selected items – including embroidered uniform. Please click [here](#) for school uniform and [here](#) for Nursery uniforms. Please note that there is also some St. Mungo's High School items on sale.

Basketball

Well Done to our Basketball Team! They won the 1st game by default as their opponents didn't show up! They played a friendly against Hallglen and lost 27-14. They then played their 2nd match against Carronshore, it was a very tense game and it went to a tie break 12-12. Another golden ball and Carronshore scored the winning basket. Our team took the defeat well. We are delighted that we have qualified for the finals held on the 4th May!



Transition Dance

Well done to Cristina and Emily in P7, they took part in the St. Mungo's Cluster Transition Dance Event on 20th March – the group came in 3rd place!



Achievements

Has your child celebrated an achievement out of school, e.g. Dancing, Football, Tae Kwon Do? We would love to hear about it so we can share the good news in our next Newsletter! Please email the school at stbernadettesprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk and let us know all about it!

Rag Bag Collection

Thank you for all your Rag Bag donations. Our last collection weighed 17kg, raising £6.80 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





News from our Parent Council

The most recent Parent Council (PC) meeting was held on 6th March and the minutes of this will be circulated once they are formally approved. Not unsurprisingly, one of the key topics of discussion was the proposed changes to School Transport. As well as the individual online responses submitted by various parents / guardians, a response setting out the PC's concerns about the proposal has also been submitted. While the consultation exercise has closed, the PC would encourage any parent / guardian who is concerned about the proposed changes to make their views known to their local councillor, as ultimately it is they who will make the final decision on this.

The next PC meeting is scheduled for 25th April - it would be great to see some new faces at this. The PC relies on a regular flow of new attendees to cover the natural turnover that occurs as children leave the school. It's not an onerous commitment - there are usually 7-8 meetings a year, with each meeting normally lasting no more than 90 mins.

If you would like to understand more about what is involved, please send an email to the PC mailbox - stbernadetteparentcouncil@gmail.com - or speak to Peter Butterly (Chair) or Louise O'Rourke (Deputy Chair) - they tend to be at the school most days!

PC fundraising

A HUGE thank you to everyone who attended and/or supported the recent Race Night. It was fantastic to see so many people back in the school for an event of this nature and everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves (the kids certainly did based on the amount of cheering they did for their horses on the night!!). Thanks to everyone's generosity, we made just over £2,000 - a fantastic achievement.

A special thanks to our Fundraising Committee for all the time and effort they put in (a) organising the evening and (b) ensuring it ran so smoothly on the night. We're very lucky to have such a dedicated group of people - they're always looking for new volunteers so if you have either some time to spare and/or some fundraising ideas, please reach out.

Future fundraising events:

Summer disco (with invite extended to those children attending Nursery due to start P1 next school term) - 15 June

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.

March draw winners are:

£100. 73 Moira Kennedy
£50. 190 Michael Winton
£50. 80 Rachel O'Reilly
£25. 57 Natalie Weston
£25. 139 Paul Taylor



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.

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/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
								Holiday
								Staff Development Day
								Reporting to Parents Event
								Celebration / Event
								Class Assembly; followed by child-led learning (1.15pm)
Jan 2023	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	26 th April – Primary 6
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	24 th May – Primary 1
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	TBA – Primary 2
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	ELC / P1 Transition
	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	29 th May: 10.45am – 12.30pm parents / lunch
Feb	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	5 th and 19 th June: 9.15am – 10.00am children only
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13 th June: 3.30pm – 4.30pm outdoors with parents
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	Religious Celebration
	27	28	1	2	3	4	5	21 st April: 1.30pm Mass, led by P6
Mar	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	18 th May: 1.30pm Solemnity of Ascension Mass, led by P5
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	27 th May: 11am Sacrament of Confirmation, St. Francis Xaviers
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	10 th June: 10.30am and 2pm Sacrament of Communion
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	28 th June: 1.30pm Leavers Mass, led by P7
Apr	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Celebration/Event
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	5 th May: Celebratory Mass with Archbishop Cushley 10am
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	30 th May: Sports Day (option 1); 6 th June (option 2)
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	14 th June: Whole school trip to Five Sisters Zoo
May	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	16 th June: ELC Sports Day
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	21 st June: Summer concert (times tbc)
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	26 th June: ELC Moving On Celebration
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	28 th June: P7 Leavers Assembly (9.30am); Mass (1.30pm)
	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	P7 Transition to St. Mungo's
Jun	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	19 th & 20 th June: P7 Transition to St. Mungo's
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	
Jul	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	