



St Bernadette's Primary School

Ready Respectful Safe



Newsletter

May 2023

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.

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.

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! 😊

Staff News

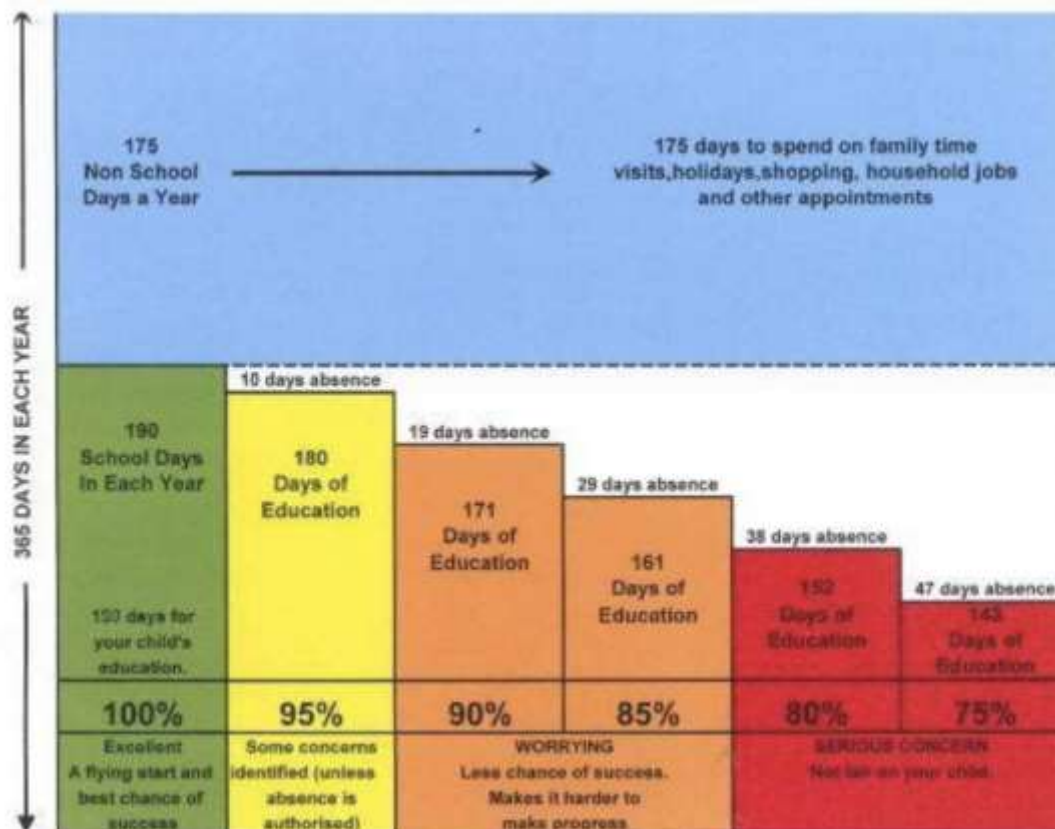
Congratulations on the safe arrival of Baby Murtagh. Both Mum and baby are doing well.



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.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Please keep our P7's in your prayers as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Date and Time: Saturday 27th May 2023

Location: St Francis Xavier, Falkirk

Children should arrive no later than 10:45 at St Francis Xavier's church in Falkirk dressed in full school uniform. Mrs Gallacher will be there to meet them at the back of the church. Each child will be seated with their sponsor on the left hand side of the church. Two guests will sit in the adjacent row. Any additional guests will be seated towards the back of the church. When the child and sponsor go forward to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, the sponsor should be on the left on the child with their right hand on the child's shoulder. The children have rehearsed this many times.

After the service is finished, there is an opportunity for a class photograph. There is a celebration tea in the church hall immediately afterwards that you may wish to attend. This is completely optional. The children will be presented with their certificates at the Leavers' Mass at the end of term.

Sports Day

Our annual sports day is on 30th May starting at 9.30am - Potted sports shall be in the morning, races shall be held in the afternoon, starting at 1.00pm. Pupils should come dressed in appropriate clothes/footwear for physical activity and weather conditions. Pupils should come to school in their house colour if they can and bring a water bottle on the day.

There are 4 Houses: Lochranza (Yellow), Braemar (Red), Eilean Donan (Green) and Dunvegan (Blue).

Parents/Carers are very welcome to come and spectate.



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.



10 year Celebratory Mass

Thank you to everyone that attended our 10 Year Celebratory Mass led by Archbishop Cushley. It was wonderful to see our invited guests, staff, former staff members, former pupils and all our families and friends of St. Bernadette's.



School Summer Concert

There will be a school concert being held on the 21st June. Rehearsals have all been going well. Tickets shall be on sale at the end of next week – look out for an email with all the details!

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 Mrs Duncan and our basketball team. In the 1st game we lost to Denny 22-4, 2nd game we lost to Deanburn 15-13. Then we won in the next game 18-8 against St. Mary's and in the final match were defeated by Larbert Village 21-9. Mrs Duncan said that "they have been great sportsmen and taken defeat in their stride" They enjoyed watching the semi-final and it was a great experience for all of them.



Cross Country

Well done to our Cross Country team. They recently took part in the races at Callendar Park. We had some children pick up awards with the boys P6 team achieving first place across all the events and receiving the cup. Benjamin in P5 came 1st in ALL of the races in his year group giving him the overall 1st place award! Brandon in P6 also done very well, he achieved 2nd place in his year group giving him the overall 2nd place award! Scarlett in P7 came 2nd in her races, however due to injury she was unable to take part in the last race and therefore missed out on an award, which would have been very well deserved. Mrs Martin is very proud of ALL the team and team effort and look forward to starting the training again after the summer!





News from our Parent Council

The most recent Parent Council (PC) meeting was held on 25 April and the minutes of this will be circulated once they are formally approved.

The PC relies on a regular flow of new attendees to cover the natural turnover that occurs as children leave the school. Looking ahead to the 2023/2024 term, it would be great to have some new faces in attendance. This is not an onerous commitment - there are no more than 7-8 meetings a year, with each meeting normally lasting no more than 90 mins. It's also not expected that you attend every meeting.

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!

Future fundraising events

- Summer disco (with invite extended to those children attending Nursery due to start P1 next school term) – 15th June 2023.

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.

May draw winners are

£100 - 5. Rachel O'Reilly
£50 - 79. Siobhan Martin
£50 - 60. Jennifer Walker
£25 - 127. Fiona Behan
£25 - 166. James McRae



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	