



# St Bernadette's Primary School

*Ready Respectful Safe*



Newsletter

August 2023



Welcome back to our 11<sup>th</sup> year at St. Bernadette's. A very warm welcome to all of our new pupils and their parents/carers.

**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.

## 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. If your child is absent from school and no letter 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.**

## Primary One

Our Primary 1's have all settled in very well at school. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school. We would rather you ask us than let something worry you.

## Photographs

Could you please let the school know ASAP if you do **NOT** want your child's photograph on school/class Twitter/Newsletters/School Website. Please email the school [stbernadettesprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk](mailto:stbernadettesprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk) Thank you.

## Emails

As we are an ECO school letters very rarely go out in paper form. There is many emails sent out to parents, you should have received numerous already! If you have not received any, it may mean that we do not have your up-to-date email address. Please let Mrs Heeps know and she can update your details. A 2<sup>nd</sup> contact can also be added to the mailing list, just let us know the name and email address. Thank you 😊

## Administration of Medication

If your child required any medication to be administered during the school day (including inhalers for asthma), it is Falkirk Council policy that a standard form is completed by parents/carers. To ensure all our information is up to date this has to be done every school year. If you need a form, please contact the school office.

## Childhood Flu Immunisation Programme

In Autumn/Winter 2022, flu immunisation will be offered to all primary school aged children in their school. All P1-P7 children have had a letter with further information and consent forms. Please return these by **30<sup>th</sup> August**. Unfortunately, forms cannot be accepted after the 30<sup>th</sup> and you would have to contact your GP to arrange. The date of the Flu Immunisations in school is Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

### **School Photographs**

Tempest shall be in school on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September to take family and individual school photographs. Parents will be sent home a proof photograph and have the opportunity to purchase packs – there is NO OBLIGATION to buy.

Please ensure your child comes to school on photograph day full in school uniform – including their biggest smile 😊

### **Primary 1 Falkirk Herald Souvenir Edition**

The Falkirk Herald photographer will be in school on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August to take the P1 class photograph to be included in the Falkirk Herald Souvenir Edition. Please ensure your child is in school uniform on this day. Parents/Carers will have the opportunity to purchase this edition at a reduced price – email to follow 😊

### **School Lunches**

Lunches are free for all children in P1-P5. Please note there has been a price increase for school lunches and the cost per child is now £2.45 for P6 & P7 pupils.

### **Seasons for Growth**

Change and loss are issues that affect all of us at some stage in our lives.

At St Bernadette's Primary we recognise that life can be difficult for a while when changes happen in families through death, separation, divorce or other reasons. Our children have been through many changes over the past few years and some may have experienced the loss of a loved one. We are offering a very successful programme called Seasons for Growth to our P1-P3 pupils. This programme is a chance for children to learn with a small group of children who have experienced similar issues. The programme will help children to learn new skills to cope with change and loss. Please contact Mrs Lorenzetti if you would like more information.



### **School Calendar**

At the end of this newsletter, you will find a calendar of events. Dates may be subject to change but we will try to keep these to a minimum and give you as much notice as possible.

Everyone is more than welcome to come and celebrate Mass with our school community on the dates shown in the calendar.

Letters will be issued this week regarding the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Communion providing you with the time your child will receive the sacrament.

### **Staffing News**

We are delighted to welcome our new Probationer Teacher, Miss McFeat. We also welcome back Miss Higney. We also welcome Mrs Beston as EYO in our nursery.

Following authority guidance, all children in our nursery are now calling staff by their first name.

### **Mobile Phones**

If your child brings their mobile phone 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 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.

### **Communication with Class Teachers**

Can we please ask that if you wish to speak to your child's teacher that you please contact the school office to arrange a phone call or meeting. Please do **NOT** approach the teacher in the morning or at the end of the day at the classroom door as the teacher is settling in/dismissing all her class. All teachers use the SeeSaw app and you can also message the teacher of this, but please appreciate that the messages may not be seen outwith the Class Teacher's working day. Thank you.

### **Head Lice**

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

### **No Smoking/Vaping**

Can we please gently remind parents/carers that there is a strictly no smoking/vaping permitted within the school grounds, including the car park area. Thank you for your cooperation with this.



### **Parent Council Meeting**

The first Parent Council meeting of the new school term will be held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September. The meeting will take place in the school (start time 18:30), although there will also be the option to join the meeting via MS Teams.

Several parents have already indicated a desire to join the Parent Council and it would be great to have some more new faces join us.

As a reminder, meetings are held around every 6 weeks and tend to last around 60 mins - as you can see, not a huge time commitment.

Please reach out to the Parent Council at the undernoted email address if you'd like more information [stbernadettesparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:stbernadettesparentcouncil@gmail.com).

### **P7 Residential Trip**

We have booked our residential for the P7 pupils to Ford Castle Adventure Centre near Northumberland. In previous years our P7's had a very positive experience at their residential trip. Lots more information can be found by clicking this link [About \(pgl.co.uk\)](http://pgl.co.uk)

The week the children shall visit shall be w/b 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024. There will be two members of staff who will accompany the children. PGL provide a wide range of activities. All the residential staff are very well qualified and the children will be supervised at all times.

The cost of this trip will be £400.00. This includes £20 spending money for each child and transport costs. A deposit of £50.00 was required by 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023. Interim deposit of £70.00 will be due by September 2023. Final payment will be due by 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024. 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.***

### **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/Nutella sandwiches.

We have pupils and staff who are severely allergic to peanuts/nuts. Peanuts/nuts 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/nut 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.



### **Rag Bag Collection**

Thank you for all your Rag Bag donations. Our last collection weighed 150kilos, raising £60 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



### **Place2Be**

There is an invaluable **free** resource from children's mental health charity, Place2Be, that promises to make a positive impact for your pupils and families.

Introducing [Place2Be's Parenting Smart website](https://www.place2be.co.uk/parenting-smart) – a one-stop hub for empowering parents with expert insights, actionable advice, and illustrative videos. It's the compass they need to navigate the intricate world of parenting and compiled in an extremely accessible format.

Benefits of the Parenting Smart website:

- ★ Boost Confidence: 74% of users reported enhanced parenting confidence.
- ★ Ease Anxiety: 76% feel less anxious about doing the right thing as a parent.
- ★ Strong Recommendations: 92% would recommend the website.

We hope you find this resource to be useful.

## **ipayImpact**

We use iPayimpact online payments to help reduce administration and cash handling in school and also to allow pupils to reduce the amount of cash they carry to school. This is the same system used in all Falkirk Council schools, including High Schools and is really worthwhile setting up and familiarising yourself with it. For school meals, each pupil has an account that can be topped up. There are two ways to pay money into this account:

- Falkirk Council iPayimpact web site for school payments:  
<http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/do-it-today/pay/schools/>
- Cash/Cheque payments at the school

In order to use the Falkirk Council iPayimpact web site you must have a Mygovscot account. To create one:

- Visit: <http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/do-it-today/pay/schools/>
  - Click on **Register for an account** and Register for a Mygovscot account
  - Complete the 4 steps to create a Mygovscot account
  - Once registered and your account verified via email link, go back to <http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/do-it-today/pay/schools/> and select **Sign In**
- On first sign in, after accepting terms and conditions, you will be asked to provide the **Account Ref** for one of your children to make payments on their behalf. This Account Reference can be found at the top of this letter. Enter the reference provided for one of your children and select **Link Account**.
- Link additional child/ren (**if you have more than one child at this school or another school using Falkirk Council iPayimpact**)
  - Go to Accounts on the top menu – your first child will be displayed.
  - Click on the ‘Link a New Account’ button
  - Enter the Child Account Reference for your other child/ren as detailed in this letter or similar letter from another school.
  - Click Find Account and Establishment – choose the school from the list (if displayed)
  - Click the Link Account button

## **MAKING A PAYMENT**

- Go to the home page and add the amount you wish to pay for against the item and then click **Add to Basket**
- You can then **Proceed to Checkout**

You then will be directed to the Capita payment gateway where you can enter your debit or credit card details securely. Once the payment has been authorised you will receive an email receipt of your payment.

## **PREORDER MEAL SELECTIONS**

- Log into your account
- On the Home page, click on **Preorder** button next to your child's name
- From the drop down list choose the week you want to make a preorder for then click on **Select**. Please make sure you have made a selection for **EVERY** day of that week and then click on **Confirm Selections**.
- If you want to Preorder for another week, click on **Order for Another Week**

Additional guidance for adding payments can be found here: <https://www.ipayimpact.co.uk/TPI/FAQ>  
Should you have any questions on the above, please contact the school office.



# ST. BERNADETTE'S NEEDS YOU



St. Bernadette's fundraising group needs new members to be involved with the fantastic events held each year at the school.

As kids move on so do parents and without more parents support the below events will eventually come to an end!

- Kids Disco – Halloween/Easter/Summer
- Family BBQ
- Summer Fayre
- Annual Quiz Night
- Race Night and many more.....

Year on year school budgets have been tightened and without the funds raised from the above events St. Bernadette's would not have been able to provide the below for your children.



- |                          |                         |  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| • Sumdog                 | • Classroom Smartboards | • Wellsfield & Almond Valley Family Pass |
| • Busy Things            | • Outdoor toys          | • Astro Turf In Nursery                  |
| • Picnic Benches & Woody | • Running Bibs          | • Climbing Wall                          |
|                          | • 20 iPads & Apple TV's |  |
- Plus much more.....

## 200 Club

As anyone who has won money from the 200 club will testify, it's a great feeling when 'your number comes up'. If you or anyone in your family would like to join (cost £3 per month per number), then please drop an email to [stbernadettes200club@gmail.com](mailto:stbernadettes200club@gmail.com) and someone will be in touch.

### **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>  
P1/2 <https://twitter.com/MrsEdwardsStBs> (2) P2 St Bernadette's (@P2StBernadettes)  
P2/3 <https://twitter.com/misshigneySTB>  
P4 <https://twitter.com/mrsgallacherSTB> <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/Primary6StBs>  
P7 <https://twitter.com/MissMHealy1> <https://twitter.com/MrsLCMartin>

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>



### Whose Child Is This?

"Whose child is this?" I asked one day  
Seeing a little one out to play  
"Mine", said the parent with a tender smile  
"Mine to keep a little while.  
To bathe his/her hands and comb his/her hair,  
To tell him/her what he/she is to wear,  
To prepare him/her that he/she may always be good,  
And each day do the things he/she should".  
"Whose child is this?" I asked again,  
As the door opened and someone came in.  
"Mine", said the teacher with the same tender smile.  
"Mine, to keep just for a little while.  
To teach him/her how to be gentle and kind,  
To train and direct his/her little mind,  
To help him/her live by every rule,  
And get the best he/she can from school."  
  
"Whose child is this?" I asked once more,  
Just as the little one entered the door,  
"Ours", said the parent and the teacher as they smiled,  
And each took the hand on this little child.  
"Ours to love and train together.  
Ours this blessed task forever."





## Events Calendar 2023/24

Month	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Notes
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	Holiday
Aug 2023	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Staff Development Day
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	Reporting to Parents Events
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	13 <sup>th</sup> September: Meet the Teacher, 5pm – 6pm
	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	3 <sup>rd</sup> November: Learner Profiles shared
Sep	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8 <sup>th</sup> November: Parent Consultation 3.30pm – 6pm
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15 <sup>th</sup> November: Parent Consultation 4.30pm – 7pm
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	13 <sup>th</sup> March: Parent Consultation 3.30pm – 6pm
	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	20 <sup>th</sup> March: Parent Consultation 4.30pm – 7pm
Oct	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	24 <sup>th</sup> May: : Learner Profiles shared
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	21 <sup>st</sup> June: Reports out
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	Religious Observance (tbc)
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	1.30pm Mass in St. Bernadette's Primary
	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	25/8: led by P7; 29/9 PFFA: led by P6; 1/11: All Saints Day, led by P7;
Nov	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	15/12: led by P4; 26/1: led by P7; 14/2: Ash Wednesday Service, led by P6
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	1/3: led by P5; 22/3: led by P4; 26/4: led by P7; 23/11: led by P5
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	9/5: Feast of Ascension, led by P6; 26/6: led by P7
	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	
Dec	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> November: 10.30am St. Bernadette's Parish Church,
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	P4 enrolment Mass
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> March: 11am and 2pm St. Bernadette's Parish Church
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	P3 Sacrament of Reconciliation
Jan 2024	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> April: 11am St. Francis Xavier Parish Church
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	P7 Sacrament of Confirmation
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Saturday 1st June: 10.30am and 2pm St. Bernadette's Parish Church
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	P4 Sacrament of Communion
	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	
Feb	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Class Assembly, followed by child-led learning, 1.30pm
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	27 <sup>th</sup> September: P4 Assembly, 1.30pm, followed by child-led learning
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	29 <sup>th</sup> November: P7 Assembly, 1.30pm, followed by child-led learning
	26	27	28	29	1	2	3	24 <sup>th</sup> January: P2/3 Assembly, 1.30pm, followed by child-led learning
Mar	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	7 <sup>th</sup> February : P5 Assembly, 1.30pm, followed by child-led learning
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	28 <sup>th</sup> February: P1/2 Assembly, 1.30pm, followed by child-led learning
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	24 <sup>th</sup> April: P6 Assembly, 1.30pm, followed by child-led learning
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	22 <sup>nd</sup> May: P1 Assembly, 1.30pm, followed by child-led learning
Apr	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Celebration Event
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	13 <sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Concert; 14 <sup>th</sup> December: ELC sing along (pm)
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	14 <sup>th</sup> December: Christmas lunch
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	18 <sup>th</sup> December: ELC party am; P6 party pm
	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	19 <sup>th</sup> December: P1 party; P7 party pm
May	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	20 <sup>th</sup> December: P2/3 party am; P5 party pm
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	21 <sup>st</sup> December: P1/2 party am; P4 party pm
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18 <sup>th</sup> March: P7 Residential
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	31 <sup>st</sup> May: Sports Day (option 1); 7 <sup>th</sup> June: Sports Day (Option 2)
Jun	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5 <sup>th</sup> June: School Show, 1.30pm and 6pm
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12 <sup>th</sup> June: Whole school trip
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	14 <sup>th</sup> June: ELC Sports Day
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	24 <sup>th</sup> June:: ELC Moving On Celebration
Jul	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	26 <sup>th</sup> June: P7 Leavers Assembly, 9.30am; Mass, 1.30pm
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	ELC / P1 Transition
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	27 <sup>th</sup> May: 10.45am – 12.30pm, with parent and lunch
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	3 <sup>rd</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup> June: 9.15am – 10am, children only
	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	11 <sup>th</sup> June: outdoors 3.30pm – 4.30pm, with parents