



St Bernadette's Primary School

Ready Respectful Safe



Newsletter

November 2023

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.

Outdoor Learning and Play

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



Update your contact details

Please let us know about any changes to your:



Email



Telephone number



Address

In-Service Day

Please remember the school shall be closed to all pupils on Friday 24th November as it is an In-Service Day.

Christmas Jumper Day

This year we shall be supporting the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day charity. Christmas Jumper day shall be on Thursday 8th December. Donations would be gratefully received to the JustGiving page that has been set up: Just click this link: [Our Christmas Jumper Day \(savethechildren.org.uk\)](https://www.justgiving.com/Save-the-Children/Christmas-Jumper-Day)

Please remember we have preloved Christmas Jumpers in the main reception.



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 they are donating.

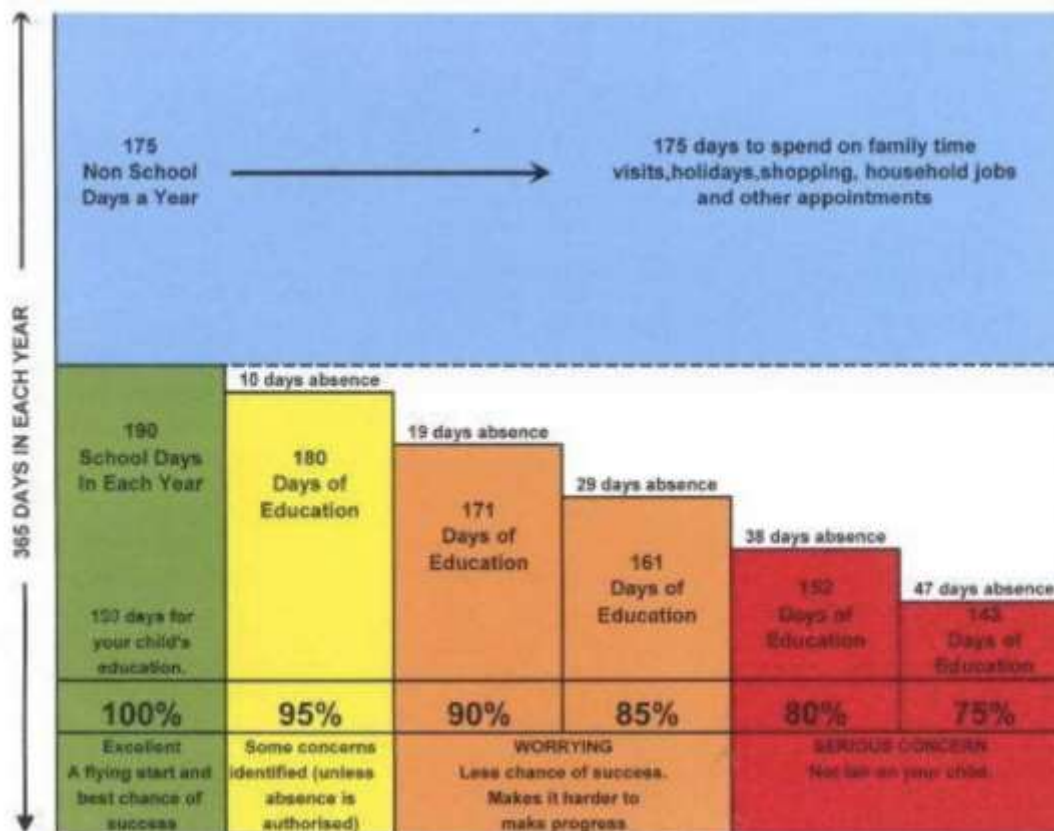
Thank you.



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 14th August 2024 **must** commence primary education at the start of the school session in August 2024.

Children whose fifth birthday falls on or between the 15th August 2024 and 28th February 2025 **may** commence primary education in August 2024.

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 2023 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 2024

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 7th December 2024 until the 15th March 2024. Parents/Carers will be notified of the outcome in writing by the 30th April 2024. Placing Requests received after the 15th March 2024 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.

Basketball

Well done to our Basketball Team. They played 3 matches at Graeme High School on 1st November and won all 3 matches! We are so proud as our team was complimented on their great sportsmanship and excellent manners. Huge well done to Mrs Duncan and the team!



Christmas Lunch

Our kitchen is offering the children Santa Buffet Boxes on 14th December. The boxes contain:

Santa Buffet Box - a festive savoury selection of breaded chicken goujons, cocktail sausage/sausage roll, potato smiles, southern quorn nuggets with a dipping sauce pot. A Santa ice cream tub, homemade sweet treat, juice, fruit pot or satsuma

Santa Vegetarian & Vegan Buffet Box - a festive vegan and vegetarian savoury selection: veg sausage, vegan sausage roll, potato smiles, southern coated quorn nuggets with a dipping sauce pot. A jelly fruit pot, homemade sweet treat, juice, fresh fruit selection

Santa Buffet Box Authorised Prescribed Diet will be modified to suit dietary needs and will include a selection of savoury items: a Santa dessert tub, homemade sweet treat, juice and melon slice or satsuma.

All orders for these boxes must be in by Friday 1st December to allow our cooks to order the items. All parents/carers have been emailed with the order link.

Christmas Parties

Please find below dates of classes Christmas Parties. Children are asked to come dressed in comfortable clothing on the day of their party.

Monday 18 th December	ELC (am) P6 (pm)
Tuesday 19 th December	P1 (am) P7 (pm)
Wednesday 20 th December	P2/3 (am) P5 (pm)
Thursday 21 st December	P1/2 (am) P4 (pm)



PFFA Group

This year, the PFFA group, Faith in Action group and the Mini Vinnies will be making Christmas food/gift hampers. These will be distributed to elderly and isolated people via the Strathcarron Hospice Outreach Team.

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 or Mrs Brown.

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 have been incredibly grateful for our support. It was a fantastic project that allowed the children to see the impact of all their hard work. Hopefully this year's project will be as successful. The final date for donations will be Friday 1st December.

Thank you for your continued support, Mrs Gallacher & Mrs Brown.

After School Spanish Club

After School Spanish Club last class of this year it will be Tuesday 12th December, then one more session (Spanish Party) on Tuesday 9th January 2024.



Chess Club

Our first Chess Club was a great success! More experience players did a fantastic job helping and supporting beginners. Lots of fun, new learning and 2 check mates! Please see Mrs Podmore if you are interested in joining.



My Child's Art

Thank you to those who have already ordered their child's art gifts. This raises funds for our school to help with Christmas parties, activities, etc. All orders before 8th December guarantee Christmas delivery. Please see below details on how you can still order ☺

Working with
St Bernadette's Primary School

 **mychildsart**.co.uk

Your child has uploaded a Christmas drawing to our website!

VIEW NOW

by logging into the parent order portal at
www.mychildsart.co.uk/order

Order portals open NOW until the 31st December

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT FOR 2 WEEKS ONLY

Use code **StBernadettes** during checkout for 10% off your order!

One use only. Excludes VAT and P&P. Valid for 2 weeks from the portal opening date, not the date that you receive this leaflet. Not automatically applied and cannot be added once an order has been confirmed.

Username **StBernadettes**

Access Code **1cZb9E1Y**



 **NEW & Improved Website** Has launched!

Order unique personalised gifts and keepsakes for Christmas
designed by YOUR child

Over 20 exciting products to choose from!

Prices start from just **£2.69** + P&P

20% of all product sales goes directly to your child's school or group.

01530 887650 | customerservice@mychildsart.co.uk
www.mychildsart.co.uk/order

   @mychildsartuk



Rag Bag Collection

Thank you for all your Rag Bag donations. Our last collection weighed 10kilos, raising £4.00 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



Authors visit

P5 recently had Anna Claybourne, author visit their class. This was their class prize for winning the Writing Rammy Poetry Competition run by Falkirk Libraries. Anna is a non-fiction writer who has written over 300 books, she led an amazing workshop including optical illusions, maths riddles and science experiments. Three of our lucky raffle winners got to select one of Anna's books to take home.



'Drop & Shop'

Would you like 2 hours of shopping time in the run up to Christmas? Drop & Shop nights for our pupils this December. Sign up using this link: forms.office.com/e/dqvDPBVMMd



BBC Children in Need

Thank you for supporting the Children in Need campaign. We raised £198.22.



Reading Rockets Club

"In our school library we have lots of books that have amazing authors like Tom Fletcher , Roald Dahl , David Walliams and loads more ! We have a reading club run by our Depute Headteacher, Mrs Duncan called the reading rockets! Reading Rockets is on after school every Monday for 45 minutes until 3:45! So join the reading rockets and bring a snack ! "

By Mica ,Megan ,Beth and Daisy (Members of Reading Rockets)



CrossFit Challenge

Thank you for all the sponsor money for our recent CrossFit Challenge. Thank you to Mrs Gallacher and our Parent Council for organising this event. Please hand any outstanding sponsor money to the school office as soon as possible.





REDUCED PRICE ORDERING WINDOWS

BE UNIFORMS RESPONDS TO COST OF LIVING CRISIS

With paying for school uniform being a struggle for a lot of parents, BE have been looking at options to help with the affordability. From October 2023 we will be launching Reduced Price Ordering Windows allowing parents the option to purchase their uniforms online with a 20% discount. Orders will be batched and delivered within 28 days of the window closure. There will be 3 windows in operation from the 1st October to 19th May.

We would encourage schools and parents alike to publicise the dates below as much as possible and advise all parents to order within these windows to benefit from the reduced pricing.

REDUCED PRICE ORDERING WINDOW DATES

AUTUMN

Opens Sunday 1st October
Closes Sunday 15th October

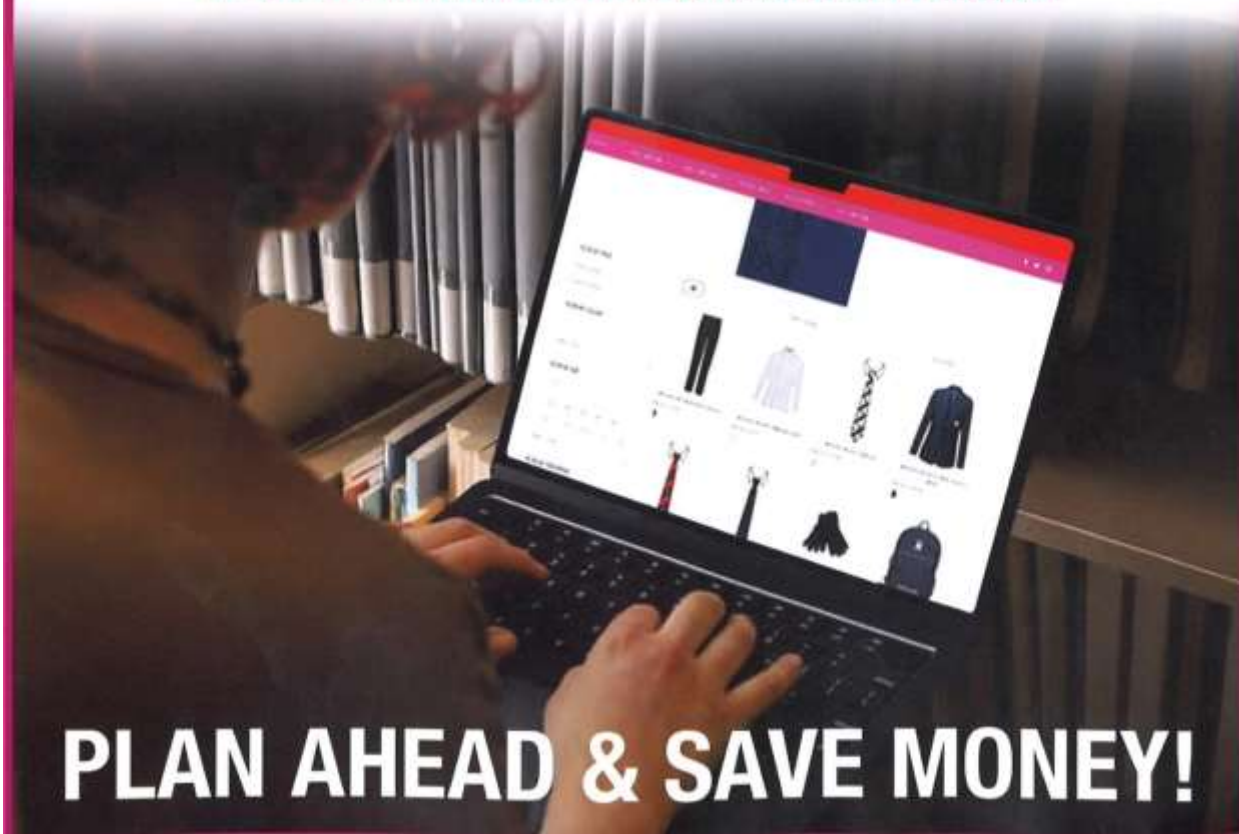
WINTER

Opens Friday 15th December
Closes Sunday 7th January

SPRING

Open Monday 22nd April
Closes Sunday 19th May

ALL ORDERS DELIVERED WITHIN 28 DAYS OF WINDOW CLOSURE



PLAN AHEAD & SAVE MONEY!

News from our Parent Council

200 Club Winners

October draw winners are:

£100 - 158- John Ferguson

£50 - 4- Joe Hanlon

£50 - 137- Katie Sweeney

£25 - 97- Irene Williamson

£25 - 202- Vicki Pearson



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

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.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is 18th December at 6.30pm at the school. All parents/carers welcome.

School Car Park

Can we please remind all parents/carers to be respectful of others when using our School Car Park. The carpark has a one way system in place for the safety of our children. Some cars are continuing to access the top carpark by turning right on entry to the carpark, rather than driving around the main part of the carpark first. This may lead to an avoidable accident. The school cannot be held to account if cars are damaged by drivers accessing the top carpark in the wrong way.

In addition, no parents should be using the staff carpark or bus bay to drop off or collect children.

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

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>



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/carers and arrange for the parent/carers 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 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.



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/mrsqallacherSTB> <https://twitter.com/P4StBernadettes>
P5 https://twitter.com/Mrs_Podmore 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>

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 th September: Meet the Teacher, 5pm – 6pm
	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	3 rd November: Learner Profiles shared
Sep	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8 th November: Parent Consultation 3.30pm – 6pm
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15 th November: Parent Consultation 4.30pm – 7pm
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	13 th March: Parent Consultation 3.30pm – 6pm
	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	20 th March: Parent Consultation 4.30pm – 7pm
Oct	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	24 th May: : Learner Profiles shared
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	21 st 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 th 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 th 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 th 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 1 st 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 th September: P4 Assembly, 1.30pm, followed by child-led learning
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	29 th November: P7 Assembly, 1.30pm, followed by child-led learning
	26	27	28	29	1	2	3	24 th January: P2/3 Assembly, 1.30pm, followed by child-led learning
Mar	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	7 th February : P5 Assembly, 1.30pm, followed by child-led learning
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	28 th February: P1/2 Assembly, 1.30pm, followed by child-led learning
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	24 th April: P6 Assembly, 1.30pm, followed by child-led learning
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	22 nd 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	11 th December: Christmas Concert; 14 th December: ELC sing along (pm)
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	14 th December: Christmas lunch
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	18 th December: ELC party am; P6 party pm
	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	19 th December: P1 party; P7 party pm
May	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	20 th December: P2/3 party am; P5 party pm
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	21 st December: P1/2 party am; P4 party pm
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18 th March: P7 Residential
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	31 st May: Sports Day (option 1); 7 th June: Sports Day (Option 2)
Jun	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5 th June: School Show, 1.30pm and 6pm
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12 th June: Whole school trip
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	14 th June: ELC Sports Day
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	24 th June:: ELC Moving On Celebration
Jul	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	26 th 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 th May: 10.45am – 12.30pm, with parent and lunch
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	3 rd and 17 th June: 9.15am – 10am, children only
	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	11 th June: outdoors 3.30pm – 4.30pm, with parents