



St Bernadette's Primary School

Ready Respectful Safe

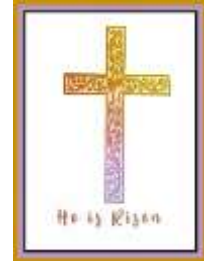


Newsletter

March 2024

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 Friday 29th March. We look forward to seeing our pupils again on Monday 15th April at 9am.



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

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.

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.

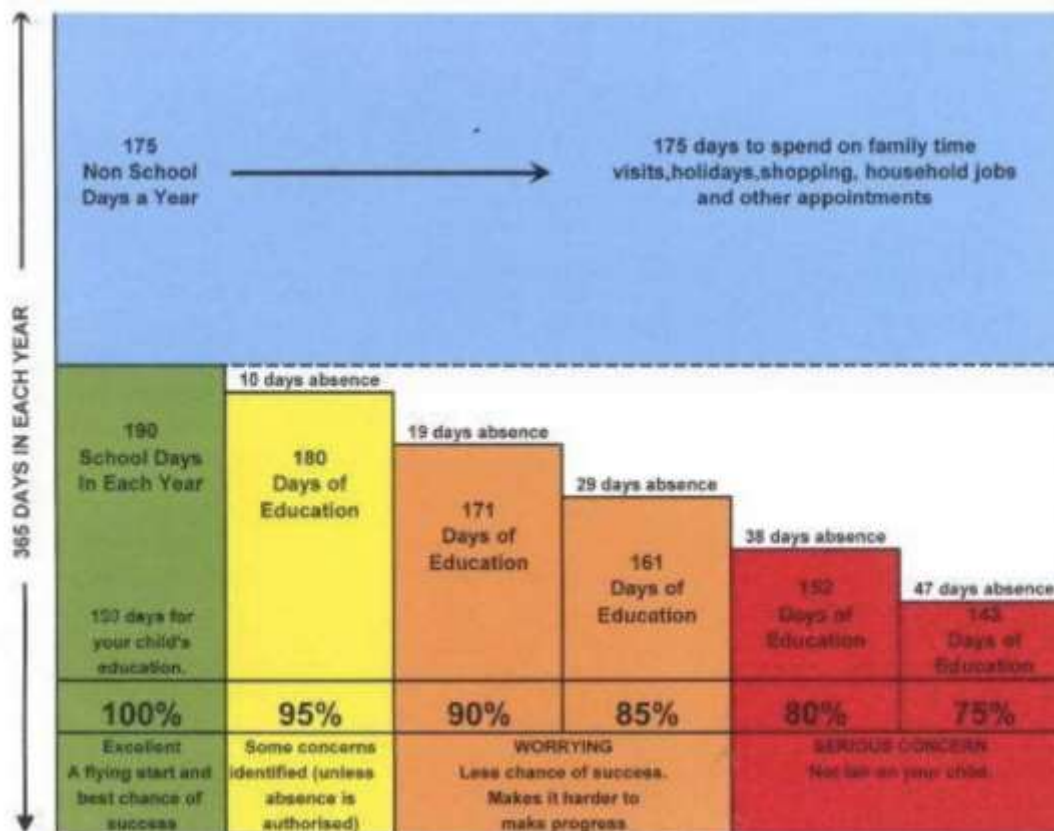
Thank you.



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



Term Attendance Letters were emailed this week to all parents/carers. Please contact the school office if you have any questions regarding these.

Falkirk Herald

The Falkirk Herald photographer shall be in school on Wednesday 27th March to take a photograph of our P7s. This will be in a special supplement in the Falkirk Herald, more details shall follow. Can we please ask that ALL children are in full school uniform on this date. Thank you.

Winners!

We are delighted that we were selected in a Digital Classroom free prize draw with Nominet and their partnership with the Micro:Bit Education Foundation. We entered this when we received our BBC Micro:Bit Next Gen classroom packs in September. We won £5000! This will be used for developing the computational skills in our school.



National Day of Prayer

More good news! Mrs Savage and Mrs Gallacher have been asked to present at the National Day of Prayer Conference in Glasgow in May following the Spiritus course they recently attended. They have been asked to talk about how we are taking evangelisation forward within our school community at this event.

SCIAF

Congratulations to all our Easter egg winners so far. Thank you to everyone who has supported this amazing cause. Tickets will continue to be on sale daily at break times and lunch times – only 20p per ticket!



World Book Day

Thank you to author J.L. Bleakley who visited our school for a writing workshop. The children loved listening to the story of Ching Shih, The Girl Who Ruled the Sea.



Well done to our House Captains who put tremendous effort into creating their original World Book Day quiz! We enjoyed five rounds of clues, riddles and drama sketches!



Thank you to all our pupils, parents and P7s for their contribution to our BIG BOOK SWAP!



A huge well done to these superstars who led the Stations of the Cross in the parish recently. A huge commitment to their faith.



Foodbank Friday

Every Friday during Lent, the PFFA will be collecting items to donate to the KLSB pantry and Foodbank. Please support us by choosing an item from the list or photo below.

1	Ladies/gents deodorant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Shampoo	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Surface spray	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Washing detergent	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Bleach	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Washing up liquid	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Cloths/scrubbers	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Coffee	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Cheesy Pasta	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	Diluting squash	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Corned beef	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Tinned meats	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Pot noodles	<input type="checkbox"/>



Burns Supper

Well done to Mrs Martin, Mrs Duncan and P7 for organising and presenting the Burns Supper on 2nd February. This was enjoyed by pupils and families.



Basketball Club

Huge well done to our Basketball Club. They won their 1st game against Bantaskin Primary 40 – 0. Then triumphed against Maddiston Primary 31 – 12. Congratulations to them and their coach, Mrs Duncan!



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](#).



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.

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/carers 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! 😊

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.

Rag Bag Collection

Thank you for all your Rag Bag donations. Our last collection weighed 145Kg, raising £43.50 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



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



News from our Parent Council

200 Club Winners

January draw winners are:

£100 – 73 – Moira Kennedy

£50 – 110 – Anne Beer

£50 – 101 – John Tully

£25 – 53 – Phoebe Angus

£25 – 11 – Clementina Risk

February draw winners are:

£100 - 160 Emily Clark

£50 - 134 Ann Nolan

£50 - 16 Angela Green

£25 - 182 Margaret McKinley

£25 - 99- Mike Kelly



Congratulations to the above winners!

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.

Race Night

There is a family race night held within the school on Friday 15th March. Entry at the door is £2.50 per adult with children going free. Doors open at 6.30pm with the 1st race beginning sharp at 7pm. This event is a BYOB and you are welcome to bring your own snacks as well. The evening should finish at 9/9.30pm. Letters have been issued with all the details on how to buy horses and/or jockeys. Please contact the school office if you have not received this. This has proved a very popular evening when it was previously held and we're sure it will be the same this time round. Thank you to everyone who has already indicated they will be attending and/or have sponsored races / jockeys.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is 18th March held in the staff room at 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/MrsLCMartin> [@a20dun1](https://twitter.com/MrsDuncan)

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	6 th March: Parent Consultation 4.30pm – 7pm
	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	13 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