



# St Bernadette's Primary School



February 2026 Newsletter

## Update your contact details

Please let us know about any changes to your:



Email



Telephone number



Address

### Outdoor Learning & Play

Please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing for our ever changing Scottish Weather.



## parentsportal.scot

Have you signed-up to parentsportal.scot yet? Parentsportal replaces the traditional school bag run allowing parents/guardians of children attending school to sign forms and receive important information online. You can sign-up at [www.parentsportal.scot](http://www.parentsportal.scot)

### 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.

There is advice from NHS here: [Is my child too ill for school](#)

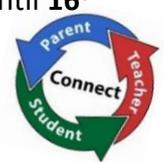
We recommend all parent/carers sign up as you can report absences, book parent consultations, see report cards, respond to permission slips, update your child's record, make school payments and much more! You can do all of this in one central place. Please click: [www.parentsportal.scot](http://www.parentsportal.scot) to sign-up.

### Parent Consultations

We shall be using the Parent's online booking system for our Parent Consultation evenings being held on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 3.30pm – 6pm and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 3.30pm – 6pm.**

The system will be live from **27<sup>th</sup> February at 8am** and will be open to take your bookings until **16<sup>th</sup> March. The bookings can be made using ParentsPortal.**

**Look out for an email being sent out more details on how to book and Troubleshooting tips!**



### BE Uniforms

BE Uniforms are going to have a stall set up in the Main reception of the school on both Parent Consultation evenings (17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March) from 3pm. Parents/Carers are welcome to pop in and browse/order uniform.

### P7 Photograph – Falkirk Herald

The Falkirk Herald photographer will be in school on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March to take our P7's photo for the Falkirk Herald. Please ensure your child is wearing full school uniform and their biggest smiles on this day. Thank you.

**Late coming in school**

There are a number of children coming into school late. School starts at **9am**, if your child arrives after the bell has gone he/she will be marked as late. When children are late it causes disruption to the class and has an effect on your child's learning.

**Every Minute Counts!**

|                |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 3 Days Lost    | 6.5 Days Lost   | 10 Days Lost    | 13 Days Lost    | 19 Days Lost    |
| 5 minutes late | 10 minutes late | 15 minutes late | 20 minutes late | 30 minutes late |

*That's two school weeks*

**Through The GATE!!**

**Be on time for school every day**

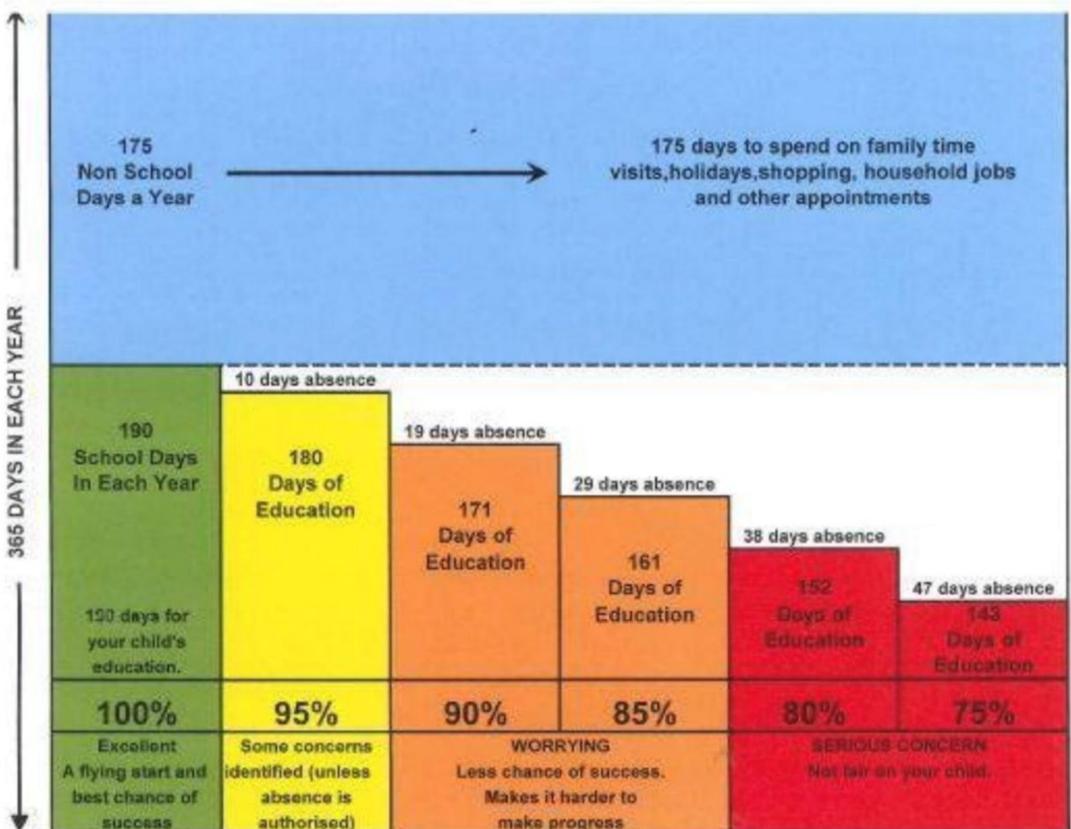
**Lost Minutes = Lost Learning**

**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                           |



# P1 Enrolment Details

## Starting primary school in August 2026

**If your child is due to start school in August 2026, you must enrol them for their catchment school between 1 November and 31 December 2025.**

### **Who should start school?**

Children who turn 5 on or before 12 August 2025 must start school in August 2026.

Children who turn 5 between 13 August 2026 and 28 February 2027 can also start school in August 2026.

### **You'll need:**

- A My Falkirk account to enrol
- Address verification a (checked against Council Tax records)
- Birth certificate or passport (if not attending a Falkirk Council or Partner nursery)
- Baptism certificate (if enrolling for a Roman Catholic school).

### **Placing requests (Primary 1 & Secondary 1)**

If you'd like your child to attend:

- A school out with your catchment area; or
- A denominational school and your child/children are not baptised Roman Catholic.

You must submit a placing request between 4 December 2025 and 15 March 2026.

School Enrolment



Placing Requests



**FALKIRK COUNCIL**





# Should I keep my child off school?

## Yes

### Until...

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Chickenpox                                     | at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over  |
| Diarrhoea and Vomiting                         | 48 hours after their last episode  |
| Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19) | they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19. |
| Impetigo                                       | their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics  |
| Measles  | 4 days after the rash first appeared   |
| Mumps  | 5 days after the swelling started  |
| Scabies  | they've had their first treatment  |
| Scarlet Fever                                  | 24 hours after they started taking antibiotics   |
| Whooping Cough                                 | 48 hours after they started taking antibiotics   |

## No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

|                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Hand, foot and mouth | Glandular fever |
| Head lice            | Tonsillitis     |
| Threadworms          | Slapped cheek   |



SCAN ME

### Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

# Lent in St. Bernadette's Primary



Each Monday & Friday lunchtime, we will have pupil led Stations of the Cross in the library at 12:45.



27th March -  
SCIAF whole school  
Fundraiser



Family Lenten Prayer Service -  
8:30am - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March



Each class will take part  
in a Lenten retreat.



Weekly Lenten Assemblies



SCIAF Assembly &  
Class Visits - 17<sup>th</sup> March

Holy Mass led by P5/6 -  
1:30 2<sup>nd</sup> April



Reconciliation opportunities  
for P5, P6 & P7.

## **PVG Scheme**

The PVG (Protecting Vulnerable Groups) Scheme is a membership system managed by Disclosure Scotland that helps to make sure people working with children are safe to do so.

Recently, the law in Scotland changed. It is now a legal requirement for anyone in a "regulated role" - which includes most school volunteers who help with children - to be a member of the PVG scheme. If a parent wishes to attend an event for their own child for additional support, they can do this but only be with their own child.

Our school thrives on the support of our families, and we are looking for volunteers. Whether it's helping in the classroom, joining school trips or supporting in clubs and activities, your time makes a massive difference.

**Until we have PVG checked volunteers in place, unfortunately we are unable to run our usual school trips, local walks and activities.** We are fully aware of how frustrating this is for everyone; however, we must adhere to the policy.

We do have support staff in school, but their role is to work with children who require additional support and to ensure adequate supervision so we cannot allocate our support staff for trips.

As a result of this we are reaching out to ask if you (or a grandparent) would be willing to be PVG checked. You don't need to be volunteering every week. It could just be a few school trips or activities per year - for example, going on a class trip, helping with taking pupils on local walks, or helping at a school event.

- **It's free** - There is NO cost to volunteers, any costs will be covered by the school
- **It's simple** - fill out the forms, bring in your documents and the school office will help you with the rest.
- **It's meaningful** - without enough PVG volunteers, many of the extracurricular activities our children love simply cannot go ahead.

If you would be interested in volunteering, please complete the link below.

[St Bernadette's Primary School Parent/Carer Volunteers – Fill in form](#)

## Positive Relationships Policy Update



At our recent in-service day, staff gathered in the Nest (Community Room) to consider ways to refresh our current Positive Relationships Policy. The staff worked in groups to review evidence-based research then created their vision for behaviour in our school. This is just the beginning of the work we will do between now and the end of the school year.

After the Easter break, we will be looking for parents and families to get involved and share their views on how we should continue to make positive relationships and behaviour a priority within our school. If you would like to be involved, please get in touch through email to Mrs Duncan - [audrey.duncan@education.falkirk.sch.uk](mailto:audrey.duncan@education.falkirk.sch.uk) or leave a message at the school office.

We will also be working with children from all classes to ensure their voices are heard within our updated policy.



## Library Refresh

Our Library Refresh is almost complete and the children have been enjoying their visits to choose and read new books.

Thank you to the parents and families who have supported fundraising towards this project including our book sale in December.

Thank you to the parents who helped us choose new books at Scotia Books, Kilsyth.



**P7 Residential**

Final payments for the P7 Residential trip to Dalguise are now **overdue**. Please can you ensure that all payments are made on lpayimpact as soon as possible.

*Please remember that there is access to funding to help families with financial difficulties. Please contact Mrs Savage, in strictest confidence, for more information*

**LARBERT MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION**



PRESENTS A



**SCHOOL  
CHOIRS CONCERT**

**LARBERT TRYST CHURCH**

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026  
At 7pm**



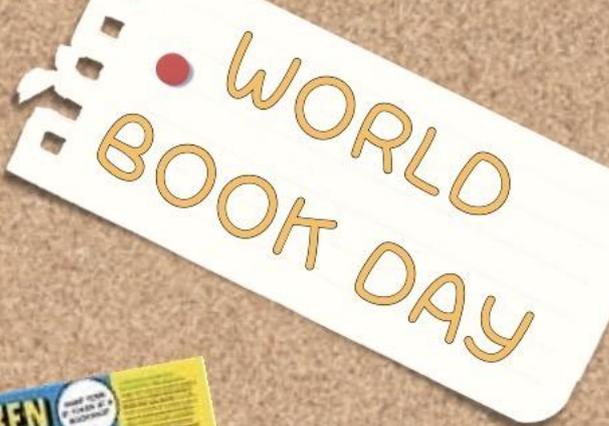
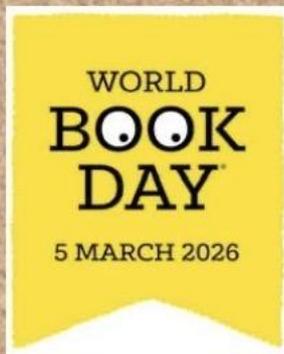
**Tickets available from Schools  
or at the door**



**£5.00 ea. → Children Free**

*All proceeds from the concert will be shared amongst the  
participating schools & the Larbert Churches Youth Trust*

***ALL WELCOME***

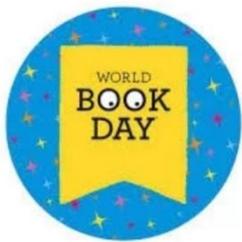


Prices range from  
10p - £1.50

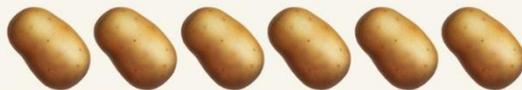
We are raising funds  
for our school  
library & new books!

- ### Activities
- Book Scavenger Hunt
  - Bakes & Books Stall
  - Book Raffle
  - Read-a-thon
  - Author Visit & Storytelling
  - Book Fair
  - Bracelet Stall
  - Drop Everything and Read
  - Book Potatoes
- and much more...!

FUN  
ACTIVITIES  
ALL WEEK!



## Design a Book Potato!



Decorate a potato as  
your favourite book  
character!

Bring your potato into school  
by Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March  
Winning designs will win a  
prize!



### **Strathcarron's Big Birthday Tea**

All family and friends of St. Bernadette's are welcome to join us on 20<sup>th</sup> March 10am – 12noon for a cake and a cuppa as we raise funds for Strathcarron Hospice.



## **SCIAF FUND-RAISING DAY**

**MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup> 2026**

**PRIMARY 6 ARE ORGANISING A FUND-RAISING FAYRE  
AND WE ARE LOOKING FOR DONATIONS FOR THE  
FOLLOWING STALLS:**

**BRIC-A-BRAC - OLD TOYS AND BOOKS NO LONGER USED  
BUT IN GOOD CONDITION.**

**CHILDREN'S TOMBOLA - ANY SMALL GIFT ITEMS THAT  
CAN BE USED AS PRIZES IN THE CHILDRENS' TOMBOLA  
EG - BOTTLES OF JUICE, BUBBLE BATH, BATH BOMBS  
ETC.**

**ALL DONATIONS WOULD BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED.**

**IF THEY COULD BE SENT TO PRIMARY 6 & MRS GRAY,  
THAT WOULD BE AMAZING. THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT IN OUR VENTURE.**



### **School Car Park**

We are very lucky that we have such a large 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.

Can we please ask that children are supervised when walking near the school car park, we have had reports of children running in front of cars.

Disabled bays should only be used for those who need them.



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

### **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 Peanut Butter/Nutella sandwiches and Dubai chocolate.

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 82kilos, raising £16.40 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



## 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@education.falkirk.sch.uk](mailto:stbernadettesprimaryschool@education.falkirk.sch.uk)  
and let us know all about it!

## 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 your child.

## 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 NO Smoking/Vaping in school grounds.



## School Website

Please check the school website regularly as this will be a valuable source of information for parents. The address is <http://stbernadettes.edusite.co.uk/>

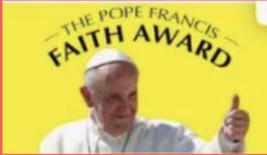
## Bluesky

Please follow us on: [@stbernadettesps](https://twitter.com/stbernadettesps) — Bluesky



*Please remember that there is access to funding to help families with financial difficulties. Please contact Mrs Savage, in strictest confidence, for more information.*

Keep up-to-date with Parish News on: <http://www.stbernadette.rcstanded.org.uk/current>  
and <https://www.facebook.com/stbernadettelarbert>



# PFFA Community & Fundraising Events

**OCT**  
**7**

**COFFEE MORNING**  
**10:00-11:30**

Enjoy a cake and a cuppa in our newly refurbished community room.

**OCT**  
**29**

**SPOOKY MOVIE NIGHT**  
**6:00-8:00**

Bring you blankets and snacks for a spooky movie after dark.

**NOV**  
**28**

**STRATHCARRON HAMPERS**

Donate your items by this date for our Christmas hampers.

**DEC**  
**10**

**FAMILY EVENT**  
**CHRISTMAS**

**CANCELLED**

Enjoy stories, crafts and treats with a festive feel.

**MAR**  
**20**

**STRATHCARRON BIG TEA**  
**10:00-12:00**

Join us for a cake and a cuppa as we raise funds for Strathcarron Hospice.

**MAR**  
**27**

**SCIAF FUN DAY**  
**9:00-3:00**

A whole school dress down day with lots of fundraising fun.

**MAY**  
**22**

**FAMILY SUMMER PICNIC**  
**1:00-3:00**

Join us in the playground for a family picnic and games.

**JUNE**  
**5**

**PUPIL CARWASH**  
**9:00-11:00**

Have your car expertly(!) washed by the pupils as we raise money for our chosen charities.



**Please pop these dates in your calendar.**  
**Full details will be send in advance of each event .**  
**All members of the St Bernadette's family are most welcome.**

**News from our Parent Council**

**200 Club Winners**

Please see the winners of the January and February 200 Club draw:

January:

£100 - 210 Ann Duncan  
£50 - 98 Irene Williamson  
£50 - 78 Clare O'Brien  
£25 - 72 Eilidh McCann  
£25 - 10- Vincenza Risk

February:

£100 - 217 Ann Duncan  
£50 - 207 Sarah McQuade  
£50 - 197 Ann Lockie  
£25 - 107 Sheena Short  
£25 - 180 Morag Main

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](mailto:stbernadettes200club@gmail.com). We would love to have more people join up to help support the school.

**St Bernadette's Parent Council**  
invite you to come along and join in the fun on our



**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026**  
**7.00pm till 9.30pm**  
**(Doors open at 6.15pm)**

**Fun For All The Family**  
**Bring Your Own Bottle**  
**Everyone Welcome**



**Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30pm. All welcome.

# Event Calendar 2025/26 (Subject to change)

| Month       | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su | Term | Wk | Notes   |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|----|---|
| Sep<br>2025 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |      | 36 | Holiday - School Closed                                 |
|             | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |      | 37 | In-service Day - School closed to pupils                |
|             | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |      | 38 |   |
|             | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |      | 39 | Reporting to Parents                                    |
|             | 29 | 30 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |      | 40 | Tuesday 11.11.24 Parent Consultations 3.30 – 6.00pm     |
| Oct         | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |      | 41 | Thursday 13.11.24 Parent Consultations 4.30 – 7.00pm    |
|             | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |      | 42 | Tuesday 17.03.26 Parent Consultations 3.30 – 6pm        |
|             | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |      | 43 | Thursday 19.03.26 Parent Consultations 3.30 – 6pm       |
|             | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1  | 2  |      | 44 | Friday 19.06.26: End of term reports issued             |
| Nov         | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |      | 45 | Celebration Event                                       |
|             | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |      | 46 | Wednesday 29.10.25: Spooky Movie Night 6 – 7.30pm       |
|             | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |      | 47 | Thursday 20.11.25: Autumn Disco                         |
|             | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |      | 48 | Thursday 04.12.25 Parent Council Movie Night 6 – 8pm    |
| Dec         | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |      | 49 | Tuesday 9.12.25 : P5/6 & P6 am, – P7 pm Christmas party |
|             | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |      | 50 | Thursday 11.12.25: P4 Christmas party pm                |
|             | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |      | 51 | Friday 12.12.25 : ELC & P1 Christmas Party am           |
|             | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |      | 52 | Christmas Lunch   |
|             | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |      | 1  | PFFA Christmas Family afternoon pm                      |
| Jan<br>2026 | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |      | 2  | Tuesday 16.12.25: P2 & P3 Christmas party am            |
|             | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |      | 3  | ELC sing-a-long pm                                      |
|             | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |      | 4  | Wednesday 17.12.25: School show (9.30am and 1.30pm)     |
|             | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1  |      | 5  | Wednesday 17.12.25: School show (9.30am and 1.30pm)     |
| Feb         | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |      | 6  |   |
|             | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |      | 7  | 2026  |
|             | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |      | 8  | Thursday 05.02.26 P7 Scottish Celebration Evening       |
| Mar         | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 1  |      | 9  | Week 23.3.26 – 27.03.26: P7 Residential                 |
|             | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |      | 10 | Friday 27.03.26: SCIAF Fun Day                          |
|             | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |      | 11 | Wednesday 20.5.26: Sports Day option 1 - all day        |
|             | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |      | 12 | TBC<br>ELC Sports Day 1.30pm                            |
|             | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |      | 13 | Friday 22.05.26: Family Summer Picnic 1pm – 3pm         |
| Apr         | 30 | 31 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |      | 14 | Wednesday 27.5.26: Sports Day option 2 - all day        |
|             | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |      | 15 | Friday 05.06.25: Pupil Carwash 9am – 11am               |
|             | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |      | 16 |   |
|             | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |      | 17 |   |
| May         | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1  | 2  | 3  |      | 18 |   |
|             | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |      | 19 |   |
|             | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |      | 20 |   |
|             | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |      | 21 |   |
| Jun         | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |      | 22 |   |
|             | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |      | 23 | TBC : ELC Moving on Celebration 1.30pm                  |
|             | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |      | 24 | TBC : P7 Leavers Assembly 9.30am                        |
|             | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |      | 25 | TBC : P7 Leavers Mass 1.30pm                            |
|             | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |      | 26 | Mass 1.30pm ALL welcome                                 |
| Jul         | 29 | 30 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |      | 27 | Class Led Assembly - followed by child-led learning     |
|             | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |      | 28 |   |
|             | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |      | 29 | ELC / P1 Transition                                     |
|             | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |      | 30 |   |
| Aug         | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1  | 2  |      | 31 | Religious Observance                                    |
|             | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |      | 32 | Confirmations at St. Francis Xavier                     |
|             | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |      | 33 |   |
|             | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |      | 34 |   |
|             | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |      | 35 |   |
|             | 31 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |      | 36 |   |