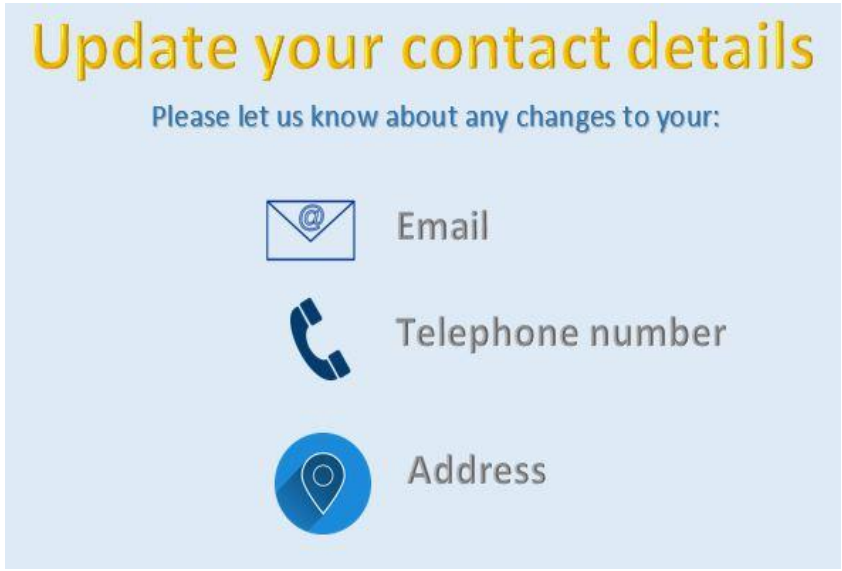
St Bernadette's Primary School

October 2026 Newsletter



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.



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

We recommend all parent/carers sign up as you can report absences, book parent consultations, see report cards, check all contact details are up to date and so much more! You can do all of this in one central place.

Please click: www.parentsportal.scot to sign-up.

P7 Residential Trip

Thank you to all parents that have paid their initial deposit of £60.00 and interim deposit. Just a reminder that the next payment of £80 was due on 28th August, can we please ask that parents pay this on IpayImpact 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.

Parent Consultations

Our Parent Consultations are being held on 10th & 12th November between 3.30pm and 6pm. These can be booked using Parentsportal.scot. Bookings are now open until 6th November at 3pm. If you need any help with booking an appointment, please contact the school office.

The Scottish Poppy Appeal

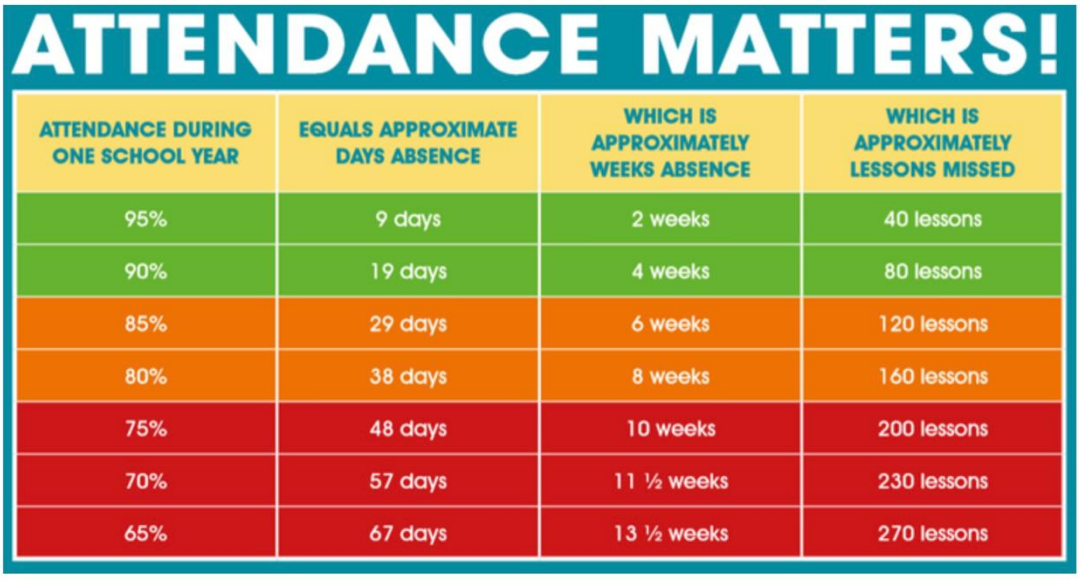
We are supporting the Scottish Poppy Appeal. P7 pupils shall be visiting classes with Poppies and Donation cans.

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's name and contact number. **Please respond to this promptly.**

Arriving to school **on time** and ready to learn is the best start to the day for our children. Even being 5 minutes late per day can add up to 3.4 school days missed.





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 Falkirk Herald Souvenir Edition

The Falkirk Herald is delighted to once again be producing a special Primary One souvenir edition on 5th November 2026 marking your son or daughter's all-important step up to primary school. The special supplement will feature full colour pictures of Primary 1 classes from schools across the area. Falkirk Herald are delighted to be able to offer you the chance to purchase copies of the newspaper at a discounted price. These copies will be delivered to the school on the day of publication for your child to bring home. An email has been sent to P1's parents/carers with all the details. You can purchase copies via their contact centre on 0330 403 3004 or via the website falkirkherald.eventbrite.co.uk at a reduced cost. Please note that website orders are subject to additional fees which are charged by Eventbrite. Our phone lines are open 9.30am – 4.30pm Monday to Friday.

Rag Bag Collection

Thank you for all your Rag Bag donations. Our last collection weighed 122kg, raising £24.40 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



PFFA Trip

Some of our P6's recently attended a mass at Edinburgh Cathedral representing the PFFA.



School Book Fair

We have Clover Bookshop - in partnership with Usborne - visiting on Friday 13th November.

There will be a selection of books to browse and order, as well as a limited number of books to take away on the day. **The school will earn extra free books on all books bought** - up to £6 in free books for every £10 spent - which will ensure resources for everybody to enjoy.

Children will have the opportunity to visit the fair during the day and make their choices. Please bring your money to school on **Friday 13th November.**

Prefer to shop online? You can use the event link or QR Code
https://usborne.com/gb/uevent?event=06c321d8c9d534da87eeb5e3a809ec21
from the 9th-17th November to make any orders also.

This can be used to pay by card, and you will have access to the full range of Usborne titles (perhaps to do some additional Christmas shopping!)

Families can also visit the Book Fair from 3-3.30pm if you would prefer to be there when your child/children chooses their book(s).







2nd Torwood Group Beavers

New Members

Would you like to join us on a Monday night between 18.00-19.00hrs. Contact Michelle on michelle-anderson@live.co.uk

Aged between 6 and 8? Looking for new adventures, fun and friends?

In Beavers, everyone's welcome. Every week we play games, learn skills, earn badges and yes, even eat a marshmallow or two.

From archery and fire-lighting to map reading and coding, no two weeks are the same.

Sound good?

Start your adventure today.

Scouts.org.uk/join

#SkillsForLife

BEAVERS

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.

Jewellery in PE

Just a reminder that for health and safety reasons pupils should remove all jewellery on PE days. If your child has a new piercing this must be covered with micropore tape. Staff cannot remove children's earrings; we ask that this is done at home.



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
and let us know

News from our Parent Council

200 Club Winners

The October 200 Club draw has taken place. The lucky numbers and winners are: -

£100 - 199 Debbie Blair
£50 - 139 Paul Taylor
£50 - 30 Marianne Savage
£25- 156 Therese Masterson
£25 - 186 David Harrison



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 Parent Council meeting is Tuesday 10th November 2026 at 6.30pm. All welcome.





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.

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.



Events Calendar 2026 – 2027

November

Sunday 1st: Rite of Enrolment, Reconciliation candidates, 10.30am Mass

Sunday 8th: Rite of Enrolment, Holy Communion candidates, 10.30am Mass

Sunday 15th: Rite of Enrolment, Confirmation candidates, 10.30am Mass

10th and 12th: parent consultations, (3.30pm -6.00pm)

16th – 30th: Catholic Education Week

20th: Children in Need

27th: Mass, 1.30pm, led by P4

30th: Inservice day

December

1st: P7 Reconciliation, 10.45am, in school

2nd: P6 reconciliation, 10.45am, in school

3rd: P5 reconciliation, 10.45am, in school

4th: Wonder Week showcase, 11am – 12 noon

11th: ELC Christmas celebration (pm)

14th: P1-7 Christmas Show, 9.30am / 1.00pm

15th: Pantomime in school

17th: P2 & P3 party (am) / P6 & P7 party (pm)

18th: ELC & P1 party (am)

18th: Mass, 1.30pm, led by P7

21st: P4 & P5 party (am)

22nd: School closes at 1.30pm until 5th Jan

January

22nd: Mass, 1.30pm,
led by P6

February

10th: Ash Wednesday Mass,
1.30pm, led by P5

11th: Inservice

12th & 15th: Holiday

26th: Mass, 1.30pm,
led by P4

March

4th: World Book Day

Saturday 6th: Sacrament of Reconciliation,
11am, in church

10th: P7 reconciliation, 10.30am, in church

11th: P6 reconciliation, 10.30am, in church

12th: P5 reconciliation, 10.30am, in church

16th & 18th: Parent Consultations
(3.30pm – 6.00pm)

19th: Mass, 1.30pm, led by P7

26th: School closed for Good Friday

29th: School closed for Easter Monday

April

5th – 16th: Holiday

23rd: Mass, 1.30pm, led by P6

30th: Inservice

May

3rd: Holiday

6th: School Trips (info to follow)

27th: P1 transitions, (10.45am – 12.15pm)

27th: P4 Reconciliation and Holy Communion practice, 1030am, in church

28th: Wonder Week showcase, (11am – 12 noon)

Saturday 29th: Sacrament of Holy Communion, 10.30am and 2pm

June

2nd: Sports day or 9th if it rains

3rd: P1 transition, children only (9.15am – 10am)

3rd: P7 reconciliation, 10.45am, in school

Saturday 5th: Sacrament of Confirmation, 11am, St. Francis Xavier Parish

10th: P1 transition (3.30pm – 4.30pm)

17th: P1 transition, children only (9.15am – 10am)

17th: P6 reconciliation, 10.45am, in school

18th: P5 reconciliation, 10.45am, in school

18th: ELC moving on celebration (pm)

19th: Written reports issued

23rd: P7 leavers assembly (9.30am). & Mass (1.30pm)

25th: School closes at 1.30pm

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: St. Bernadette's Primary School (@stbernadettesps.bsky.social) — 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