

sSt Benedict's High School

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Renfrewshire
Council

Head Teacher: Alan Taylor BSc (Hons)

Children's Services

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to provide a further update following on from my previous communication issued at the start of term.

I am delighted to report a positive start to our new term. Pupils have settled very well and it is clear to see that they are enjoying being back and continuing with their education.

BBC News

You will be aware that the school recently featured on BBC 1 National news. This was linked to schools returning after the summer holiday.

I am very proud of all the pupils and staff who appeared in this short segment. I was delighted to receive a number of positive comments from other schools, former pupils and staff and members of the public. The fact that we were approached/selected highlights the excellent standing the school has in the wider community and beyond.

If you missed it, please click on the link - [St Benedict's twitter page](#)

Covid Update

Pupils continue to respond very well our current COVID arrangements. Our safety routines are now fully embedded into our day-to-day practices and continue to be monitored closely to ensure the safety of all members of our school community.

Notification of a Positive case

We will continue to send text messages to parents whenever there are positive pupil cases in school. Texts will be directed to individual classes or year groups. If you require any further information, please visit: www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/schools-update-1709 Please remember that pupils can collect stocks of LFD tests from the office.

Work for pupils who are self-isolating

All pupils have access to subject specific Microsoft TEAMS pages set up by their teacher. Pupils who are well enough to work from home can access a variety of resources during their time at home. Staff can be contacted by pupils by email if they require any assistance.

Director of Children's Services: Steven Quinn

Face Coverings

Over the past few weeks, I have noted an increasing number of pupils arriving to school without their face covering. It is very much appreciated if you can check with your child that they have their face covering for school.

Parental Calendar

A note of key dates for the year ahead e.g. issuing of reports, parents' meetings, school events etc. is now available. Please click on the link [Parent Calendar 2021-22](#)

Reports

All reports will be issued through the parental portal. Sign up is through the link

<https://parentsportal.scot/home/>

Through this portal you will also be able to access your child's school details, timetable, attendance records and letters. You'll also be able to report absences and sign permission slips.

If you have any problems accessing this, please contact the school office.

Homework

I would stress again the importance of signing up to Satchel one app (formally known as Show my Homework) if you are still to do so. Through this app we will provide you with an overview of homework to be completed by your child as well as a note of completion dates. The app will also let you see if homework has been completed and submitted on time. The following link provides more information – [SACHEL ONE](#)

Uniform

I would like to thank you for your support of the school's "Dressing for Excellence" uniform policy. This high standard is contributing to the positive school ethos on a day-to-day basis. A recent survey noted that 98% of pupils were wearing all black footwear with an increasing number of pupils also wearing blazers on a daily basis. This session, all pupils have access to an individual locker space (free of charge) to store outdoor jackets, PE trainers, books etc. A reminder, as previously communicated, that converse trainers and hoodies should not be worn.

Vaccinations

Please remember to return flu vaccination consent forms. Vaccination day is 12th November. Pupils will be receiving a nasal spray.

Canteen

We are in the process of introducing a new online cashless payment system called Parent Pay. This will go live shortly, and I will be in touch with further details. In the interim, pupils can still use cash to pay for meals and snacks.

Parent Council

We recently had our first meeting of the parent council. Minutes will be made available on the school website. I would like to thank members for their ongoing support. I am particularly appreciative of the groups ongoing fundraising activities. Their donation of £700 will be used to provide extra-curricular activities for our young people. Currently there are over 30 clubs running across the week.

The group is looking for new members. Any parent interested in joining should contact Stephen McGee (Parent Council Chair) stmcgee@sky.com or the school office stbenedictshighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Finally, thank you for your continued support. As always, I am available to discuss any issues or ideas you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Taylor

Alan Taylor

Head Teacher

