

SCHOOL INFORMATION



NAME OF SCHOOL:	St. Mark's Primary School
ADDRESS:	Roebank Drive, Barrhead, East Renfrewshire, G78 2JA
TELEPHONE:	0141 570 7400
HEAD TEACHER:	Mrs Natalie Fitzsimmons
WEB ADDRESS:	www.ea.e-renfrew.sch.uk/st-marks
STAFF:	18 teaching staff, Head Teacher, 1 DHT, 2 PT's, 3 clerical staff, 6 PSAs, 1 janitor, catering and cleaning staff.
ROLL:	351 (present)
BUILDING:	A traditional design comprising 16 classroom areas, a main gym which doubles as a dining hall, one Learning Centre, ICT suite, conference room, staffroom/CPD area, kitchen, calming room and administrative offices. Internally, the walls, corridors and classrooms are bright and interesting with a well-presented display of pupils' work and photographs.
CATCHMENT:	St. Mark's is in the Auchenback area of Barrhead and also takes placing requests from other areas of Barrhead. The Catholic secondary school for the area is St. Luke's High School. Approximately 1/3 of our children attend as a result of placing requests.

GENERAL:

Educational Aims:- Within the values of a Catholic primary school we aim to:

- Foster an ethos of high achievement and success.
- Provide a happy and stimulating environment where pupils can fully develop knowledge, skills and personality.
- Build up self-esteem and encourage pupils to be self-confident and self-reliant.
- Through a sound academic education using A Curriculum for Excellence, meet the needs of individual pupils so that they realise their full potential and experience success and satisfaction.
- Guide children to a deeper knowledge and understanding of their faith, which in so doing they learn to practice care, tolerance and respect.
- Provide a safe, bright, caring and well-resourced environment.
- Enter into a genuine partnership with parents.
- Encourage liaison with the world today.

Curriculum

The purposes, values & principles of A Curriculum for Excellence are integral to our thinking. The school provides a well-resourced curriculum to suit the needs of each individual child by employing effective teaching methods.

Nursery / Primary / Secondary Liaison

As part of the Primary / Secondary Liaison Programme P7 pupils visit St. Luke's High School for a 2-day induction period and the school has close curricular links with all departments. Other shared activities include French, Science, Health and Wellbeing, Expressive Arts, Literacy and English & Maths.

The P1 & nursery staff, including PSA's, are involved in timetabled reciprocal visits between both establishments to ensure a smooth transition.

The Head Teachers of all associated primaries meet regularly at "Cluster Group" meetings to discuss common issues. There is sound liaison between our associated nursery school, ourselves and our secondary school. As part of our cluster plan we operate Standing Committees to improve teaching and learning and to monitor and evaluate progress. At present these are Literacy and English, Numeracy and Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, R.E.R.C, Health and Wellbeing, Technology and Expressive Arts.

Home/School Community

Home school links are maintained through regular newsletters, School Website, Twitter Feed, visits, informal discussions, pre-school induction visits, open mornings, parental workshops centred on the curriculum, as well as on PSD issues, meetings to discuss the reception of the Sacraments and parent/teacher evenings.

Parents are consulted on a regular basis both on curricular and social issues.

We have a Parent Council which meets monthly. Parents are actively involved in the life of the school, assisting with school trips, netball, football, book fairs and topic work, as well as paired reading, library visits, assisting with environmental studies visits and cycling proficiency/bikeability.

EXTRA CURRICULAR

- We have many pupil groups – Pupil Council, Pastoral Pupil Council, Health and Wellbeing Committee, Mathletes, Literacy Leaders, Gardening Club, Drama Club, Pro-Life, Global Links Committee, Power Rangers and Playzone buddies.
- We have an established a school choir.
- Our Eco Committee led the school to our fourth green flag.
- Our Rights Respecting School Group received their Level 2 award in 2011
- Our staff organise after school activities Including cheerleading, dance, football, boot camp, garden club, chess, mental maths, cookery, drama, science club, netball and fun fit.
- The primary seven pupils attend an annual residential excursion along with the other primary seven pupils in the cluster.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Pupils are very active in the local community in East Renfrewshire.
The pupils regularly take part in local charity events.

The primary seven pupils are involved in visiting local council chambers for an annual debate and they also visit the Scottish Parliament to see at first-hand how our Scottish Government works.

The pupils raise money for a range of charities, most recently SCIAF, The Mission, Mary's Meals, LEPR, Yorkhill Hospital and Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice.