Nether Robertland Primary School

October Newsletter



Head Teacher Update

Welcome to my October newsletter.

I hope everyone enjoyed a restful October break and had the chance to spend quality time with family and friends. As we begin a new term, we look forward to sharing our achievements, celebrating successes, and keeping you informed about the exciting opportunities and events ahead.

I am delighted to reflect on a highly successful start to the 2026/2027 school session. Our children have settled confidently into their new classes and continue to demonstrate our school values of Respect, Responsibility, Determination and Teamwork in all aspects of school life.

Learn Today, Lead Tomorrow

At Nether Robertland, our vision, Learn Today, Lead Tomorrow, remains at the heart of everything we do. This session, we have strengthened our approach to developing the meta-skill of leadership by ensuring that every child has the opportunity to take on a meaningful leadership role within our school community.

I am delighted to introduce our new Pupil Leadership Groups, which will provide all children with the chance to develop their confidence, teamwork, communication and leadership skills. Led by members of staff, these groups will meet every three weeks and will give pupils opportunities to share their ideas, contribute to school improvement, develop new skills and help shape the life and work of our school.

Our Pupil Leadership Groups have already met for the first time and will come together again this Friday to continue planning and developing their work for the year ahead. We are excited that every learner now has the opportunity to lead, make a positive contribution and experience the value of being an active member of our school community.

We look forward to seeing the confidence, responsibility and leadership skills that will flourish through this exciting new approach as we continue to empower our children to become the leaders of tomorrow.

I am delighted to announce our new House Captains for this session. Congratulations to all of the learners who were successful in securing these important leadership roles.

I would also like to thank every child who put themselves forward. Applying for a leadership position takes confidence, commitment and a willingness to make a positive difference to others. The high standard of applications demonstrated the enthusiasm our pupils have for contributing to school life and leading positive change within our community.

Our House Captains have already begun their leadership journey, and I look forward to seeing them work alongside staff and children throughout the year. I know they will be excellent role models, helping to inspire others and championing our school values as we continue to bring our vision, "Learn Today, Lead Tomorrow," to life.



I would like to thank all of our parents and families for continuing to communicate the importance of our whole school community working together to promote our school values as this supports our culture of working in partnership and in working together to create positive and supportive learning environments in school.



Meta-skills

As part of our School Improvement Plan, we are implementing a whole-school approach to meta-skills, ensuring these important lifelong skills are explicitly taught, modelled and embedded across learning. Meta-skills help children develop abilities such as communication, collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, resilience and self-management, preparing them for success both in school and beyond.

We are excited to launch our new Family Meta-Skills Missions starting next week. Each Monday, a new mission will be shared on the school app and class Blogs, giving families the opportunity to explore and recognise meta-skills in everyday life. Children can choose to record their participation in a Meta-Skills Passport, share a photo, draw a picture, write a sentence, tell their teacher about their experience, or simply enjoy completing the activity together at home. Participation is entirely optional, and we hope these fun family challenges will help everyone discover the valuable skills children use every day.



Some of Our Successes and Achievements – August to October

- P7 buddies have done a fantastic job in helping our new P1 pupils settle into school life. They have supported them in building confidence and in feeling safe, nurtured and included as they have transitioned into Nether Robertland Primary.
- Our Personal Learning and Achievement Assemblies have started off strongly this session. We have had two successful ones full of amazing successes and achievements. We recognise and value our young people's achievements beyond school. Thank you for sharing these with us!
- Our Macmillan Coffee Morning was a huge success! Thank you to Mrs Lindsay, our Parent Council and to our parents/carers for all the baking donations and for supporting us with the smooth running of the morning. Together, we raised a whopping £985.33.
- Our whole school took part in a range of exciting activities to celebrate Maths Week Scotland 2026! From problem-solving challenges and practical investigations to games and real-life maths activities, our children have been developing their confidence, skills and enjoyment of mathematics and numeracy. I am delighted to share some of the learning that has been taking place across the school. To see our Maths Week Scotland highlights, please click on the Sway link below:
    - https://sway.cloud.microsoft/MFRSJ3f7jDMpEsFg?ref=Link&loc=play

- A huge thank you to everyone who attended our Sharing of Learning Around the World event. It was extremely well attended, and we have received lots of wonderful feedback about the learning experiences on display. A special thank you goes to our children for all their hard work, enthusiasm and creativity. We would also like to recognise our class teachers for planning such innovative and imaginative interdisciplinary learning opportunities, and our parents and families at home for the encouragement and support you provided with the creation of the fantastic items on display. Thank you for helping to make this event such a success and for your continued support of our school community 🌍





- Our big fundraiser, the Skipathon, was a huge success! All children joined in enthusiastically with Miss Smith and P7 children leading, which was greatly appreciated. We will continue to collect in any donations until Friday 23rd October and on this day, we will draw the winning sponsorship form and announce the winner. As soon as we have a final total, we will share this with you.
- I am pleased to share some encouraging early impacts of the changes to our school day. Since reducing lunchtime from one hour to 45 minutes, we have seen a reduction in first aid incidents and a significant improvement in children's readiness to learn following lunch. Children are returning to class calmer, more settled and better able to engage in learning. We have also seen fewer relationship difficulties and incidents of dysregulated behaviour, resulting in less intervention being required from the Senior Leadership Team. These positive outcomes are supporting a calmer and more productive learning environment for all children.
- We will continue to share our successes and achievements in class and school through class Blogs so please take a look. You can access class Blogs through the menu on the whole school Blog.
    - https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ea/netherrobertland/

Our Parent Council

The annual AGM took place, and I am delighted to share that Colin Murdoch is our Chair.

Our Parent Council have planned many fundraising events throughout the session. We would very much appreciate any support you can provide to make these as successful as possible. If you'd like to contact the Parent Council, you can do this using the email below.

nrpsparentcouncil@gmail.com

Communication

As a school, we communicate in the following ways:

App – To provide instant information that includes calendar dates, messages, news items and ways to communicate with the school. You can also leave an absence message via the app. Last session we introduced a '**Weekly Roundup'**. This is added to the app every Friday and provides useful information about the week past, the week ahead and the following week. The aim of this is to provide parents with reminders and information in advance

Blogs – The whole school Blog provides information about all aspects of our school. This session, all classes will have a class Blog. All class teachers will be updating their Blogs regularly and they will now be sharing pupils' success and achievements this way. You will find the link to these from the whole school Blog in the menu tab.

Learning Journals – P1P will be using Learning Journals to communicate and share learning. The aim is to have these in place as soon as possible.

Teams – Due to the introduction of the class Blogs, Teams will be used as a teaching and learning tool in the classroom only. Teams will no longer be used as a way of communicating with parents.

Facebook – To replace X/Twitter, there is a new Nether Robertland Primary School Facebook page. This will be used to enhance communication and to share success and achievement at a whole school level.

ParentPay – We operate an online payment service called ParentPay, allowing you to pay for trips and events and to order your child's school lunch. This will be set when your child starts school.

Emails
If you would like to communicate via email, this can be done by emailing the school directly through the school app (information tab) or you can email myself or Mrs Lindsay. See emails below.

eanetherrobertland.ps@eastayrshire.org.uk
jackie.beveridge@eastayrshire.org.uk
debbie.lindsay@eastayrshire.org.uk

Diary Dates

This term is shaping up to be a very busy one. Our school app will have all of the dates for events this term but I thought it would be helpful to provide these in this newsletter too. Please note that some events may be subject to change. If there are changes, this will be communicated through our school app.

October

Rights Respecting Schools – Article of the Month

Article 14 – Freedom of Thought, Belief and Religion

Every child has the right to think and believe what they choose and also to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents to guide their child as they grow up.

Monday 19th October – In-service day
Tuesday 20th October – Children return to school
Thursday 22nd and 29th – P5 Bikeability Level 1
Monday 26th to Thursday 29th October – Come Dine with Me (See app for details)

- Monday – Ash
- Tuesday – Beech
- Wednesday – Chestnut
- Thursday – Hawthorn and P1P

Monday 26th to Friday 30th October – Inclusion and Diversity Week – Everyone Belongs!
Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th October – P1 and P7 dental inspections
Thursday 29th October – Halloween Disco

- P1 – P3 - 6pm to 7.15pm
- P4 – P7 - 7.30pm to 8.45pm

Friday 30th October – Wear a Halloween Costume

November

Rights Respecting Schools – Article of the Month

Article 26 – Social Security

Every child has the right to benefit from social security. Governments must provide social security, including financial support and other benefits, to families in need of assistance.

Wednesday 4th – Day of Dance for P4/5MH and P5D (More information to be given)
Wednesday 4th November – Parent Afternoon/Evening, 3.30pm to 5.30pm and 6pm to 8pm
Monday 9th November – Flu vaccination
Tuesday 10th November – Personal Learning and Achievement Assembly
Friday 13th November – Children in Need

- Wear Spots and Themed Lunch

Monday 16th to Friday 20th – Anti-Bullying Week: Break the Silence!
Tuesday 24th – Parent Council Meeting, 7pm at Stewarton Hub (TBC)

December

Rights Respecting Schools – Article of the Month

Article 20 – Children Unable to Live with their Family

If a child cannot be looked after by their immediate family, the government must give them special protection and assistance. This includes making sure the child is provided with alternative care that is continuous and respects the child's culture, language and religion.

Tuesday 1st to Tuesday 15th December – Reverse Advent Calendar
Wednesday 2nd – Whole School Pantomime
Tuesday 8th December – Personal Learning and Achievement Assembly
Thursday 10th December – Christmas Concert

- Afternoon – 1.15pm to 3pm
- Evening – 5.45pm to 7.30pm

Friday 11th December – Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 14th December – Pupil Christmas Shopping Event
Friday 18th December – House Reward
Friday 18th December – Last Day of Term and Dress as You Please

Christmas Party Dates	
Tuesday 8th December All P1 children	Wednesday 9th December All P2 children
Friday 11th December All P3 children	Monday 14th December All P4 children
Tuesday 15th December All P5 children	Wednesday 16th December All P6 children
Thursday 17th December All P7 children	

Kind regards,

Mrs Beveridge