

Newsletter Term 1 2026/27



Our Vision and Values

Our Vision

- Never Less than Our Best

Our Values

- Knowledge
- Wellbeing
- Perseverance
- Success

Welcome!



Dear Parents/Carers

We hope you have had a lovely Summer.

I am delighted to have joined the Kirkcaldy West community and want to thank everyone for making me feel so welcome. The children are an absolute credit to you all.

Primary 1 pupils have settled quickly and have already made new friendships and embraced all the school routines and learning at Kirkcaldy West.

We also welcome new staff- Miss Galloway in P2G, Miss Bruce in P4B, Mrs Laing EYO, and an official welcome to Miss Skivington, PSA and Mrs Sterling Clerical Assistant, who joined us last session.

Mrs Rae and Mr Thynne are working together with responsibility for P5-P7. Mrs Rae works Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mr Thynne works Thursday and Friday.

Miss Maxwell continues to have responsibility for Nursery and P1.

While we appoint a new DHT for P2-4, I will have responsibility for these year groups.

Message from Mrs Thomson

As you know I am now in my new post as Quality Improvement Officer. Mrs Julie Anderson and I have met regularly to ensure a smooth transition since schools returned in August. Mrs Anderson has had a warm welcome from the school community and is already feeling part of the Kirkcaldy West Team. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for continued support throughout this transition period and now leave the school and ELC in the capable hands of Mrs Anderson and the staff at Kirkcaldy West Primary School and ELC.

Wishing you all the very best for the next year and I'll see you all in August 2027.

Kind Regards

Elizabeth Thomson

Kirkcaldy West Primary School and Nursery

Newsletter Term 1 2026/27



School uniform

It has been lovely to see the children looking smart in their uniform. Our new to you rail is available at the front entrance.

Jumpers/cardigans and a waterproof coat will be needed to make sure children are warm and dry on rainy and cold days.



Free school meals and a school clothing grant is available if you are on a low income. The school clothing grant is £130 per child for primary school pupils and £160 per child for high school pupils. Apply here <https://www.fife.gov.uk/education/schools-in-fife/free-school-meals-and-clothing-grants>



Lost property- Please label all items of clothing as we already have a large amount of unclaimed lost property.

Snacks, packed lunches and water bottles

Due to **allergies** within the school, please ensure snack and lunches are nut free, including spreads.



In line with Fife Council policy, bottles should only contain water. These should be brought to school filled and taken home to wash daily.



Attendance & Punctuality

Our overall attendance for last year was 88% which was a decrease of 1% from our overall attendance the year before.

There are 190 school days in a year

Attendance	Days Missed	Days in School
100% Attendance	0 days missed	190 days in school
95% Attendance	10 days missed	180 days in school
90% Attendance	19 days missed	171 days in school
85% Attendance	29 days missed	161 days in school
80% Attendance	38 days missed	152 days in school
75% Attendance	47 days missed	143 days in school

We understand that there are times when being absent is unavoidable. If you are having difficulty getting your child to school, please contact us for support.

Parent Evenings

Parent evenings will take place in November and must be booked through Parent Portal this session.

Information on how to sign up will be shared again through Groupcall. Support to set this up will be available at the start of term 2 if required.

Newsletter Term 1 2026/27



School Improvement Priorities for 26-27

Priority 1: Learning, teaching and assessment

This year, we will continue to improve learning for all children by using digital technology, play-based learning and practical, hands-on resources.



Priority 2: Curriculum pathways

We will continue to strengthen numeracy and maths across the school through high-quality teaching and learning, helping all children build confidence and achieve their best.



Priority 3: Raising attainment and achievement

We will provide high-quality opportunities for P6 and P7 children to achieve success, ensuring all learners are supported, challenged and able to reach their full potential and work towards achieving the Fife Diploma of Achievement at the end of P7.



School News



Kirkcaldy West Primary School turns 150 years old this year.

Staff, children, and our Parent Council will plan events throughout the year to celebrate this big birthday. Look out for updates as dates for events are agreed.



If you have any photos, old reports, memories, or artifacts, we would love you to share them with us.

Contact

kirkcaldywestps.enquiries@fife.gov.uk if you have anything you would like to share.

Newsletter Term 1 2026/27



Diary Dates:

School Holidays (all dates are inclusive)

Holiday description	Start date	End date
Autumn - <i>lasting 12 days</i>	Mon 12 Oct 2026	Fri 23 Oct 2026
Christmas - <i>lasting 14 days</i>	Wed 23 Dec 2026	Tue 5 Jan 2027
Additional - <i>lasting 2 days</i>	Thu 11 Feb 2027	Fri 12 Feb 2027
Spring - <i>lasting 15 days</i>	Fri 26 Mar 2027	Fri 9 Apr 2027
Additional - <i>lasting 1 day</i>	Mon 3 May 2027	Mon 3 May 2027
Additional - <i>lasting 1 day</i>	Mon 7 Jun 2027	Mon 7 Jun 2027
Summer - <i>lasting 40 days</i>	Mon 5 Jul 2027	Fri 13 Aug 2027
School in-service day - <i>lasting 1 day</i>	Fri 13 Nov 2026	Fri 13 Nov 2026
School in-service day - <i>lasting 1 day</i>	Wed 10 Feb 2027	Wed 10 Feb 2027
School in-service day - <i>lasting 1 day</i>	Thu 6 May 2027	Thu 6 May 2027

Shared learning opportunities Term 1

23 rd September	Shared Finish (P1-4) 2.15pm-2.45pm
24 th September	Shared Finish (P5-7) 2.15pm-2.45pm

Learning targets were sent home at the end of last week.
PJSs will be sent home on the 2nd October.



Home learning will focus on reading this session. We are reducing written homework and encouraging time listening to stories, reading a wide variety of books and re-telling stories.

Newsletter Term 1 2026/27



Macmillan fundraiser



Our Macmillan coffee morning will run on the **25th September**.

Staff and pupils are busy organising this, so more information will follow soon.

If you can donate any items for our raffle prizes, these would be greatly appreciated.

Dalguise Information evening



P7s are going to Dalguise in October on October 26th.

Information about final details of the trip will be shared on **Wednesday 23rd September at 6pm**.

Parent Council



Come and join us for the first meeting of the school year- **Thursday 17th**

September 6-7pm

All welcome!

Wider achievement

Help us to recognise and celebrate wider achievements out of school by scanning this QR code to complete the form.

Further information about wider achievements can be found here- https://www.npfs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/wider_achievement_1906_E2.pdf

2026-27 Celebrating Wider Achievement of our Pupils



Once again, thank you for your support. It is important that we work together to get the very best for our children and families here at Kirkcaldy West Primary School. If you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us by phone on 01592 583432 or email at kirkcaldywestps.enquiries@fife.gov.uk

Kind Regards

Julie Anderson

Acting Headteacher