



# Battlefield Primary School

## September 2023 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Office Staffing**

Unfortunately, Miss Megan Ewart left us in June to pursue a different career. We wish her well but she will be sorely missed. We have not been given a replacement member of staff for our school office and it is not guaranteed that this position will be filled. Hazel Chalmers will be working in the office on Monday and Tuesdays and Anne Marie Donaghy will continue to be there on Wednesdays and Thursdays but they will be on their own. As you know the office is extremely busy so please be patient if you don't get a response quickly. We will do our best but staff will be stretched. This is really difficult for the school as it also means that the office will be unmanned on a Friday so if you can, please make any calls or requests from Monday to Thursday and if it is an emergency email the HT email account on Fridays. It would be helpful if parents could also write a note to their child's class teacher if there is a change in pick up arrangements as often one member of the office team has to go around in the afternoons to let teachers know of the change of pick up. If we have to do that the phones will be unmanned. We are really disappointed that we have no replacement for Miss Ewart but unfortunately it is out with our control. Rest assured we will continue to do our best to respond to calls and emails.

### **Adult Learning Sewing Class**

We are delighted to be hosting our first adult learning sewing class on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August at 9:30am here in the school. We already have a number of parents signed up to join in these sessions with Clyde College tutors. If you are interested and have not yet signed up please contact Ms Flanagan on LFlanagan@battlefield-pri.glasgow.sch.uk

### **Family Fundraising Group**

The Family Fundraising Group are a team of volunteers who run events, in conjunction with Battlefield Primary School, to try and raise much needed funds the school's budget cannot stretch to. We try to make the school experience for all children extra special and lots of fun. Here is a look at events we ran last year and what we invested in.



This year we would love to help fund the end of school trip for all pupils, playground improvements, P7 residential week, more resources for the children and much more. This term we are hoping to run the annual spooky disco in October and the Winter Fayre at the start of December. We can only hold these with the help of parent/carer volunteers. Sadly, if we do not get enough volunteers we would have to cancel these events which would be a shame for the pupils as they are hugely popular. We understand not everyone can commit to meetings and planning events, but may still want to help. You can do this by adding your name to our volunteer list either in person, handing name to school office with your contact details or emailing us on [battlefieldparentcouncil@outlook.com](mailto:battlefieldparentcouncil@outlook.com)

Did you know that you can help raise funds whilst shopping on line by signing up to easy fundraising?

 **easyfundraising**

**You spend, brands donate.**

Sign up to easyfundraising and see your favourite brands donate to the cause you care about whenever you shop with them.



**What do I need to do to raise donations?**

Firstly, register with easyfundraising and tell us who you want to support. You can search for Battlefield Parent Council and follow the links. Then, next time you want to buy something online, log into easyfundraising first and click on the retailer you want to shop with. You'll then be taken to their website where you can continue to make your purchase in the usual way. But – crucially – because you visited easyfundraising first, your cause will get a donation. Thank you.

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/battlefieldparentcouncil/payments/9fb2cb/?utm\\_campaign=dd-aug-23&utm\\_term=Q223N](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/battlefieldparentcouncil/payments/9fb2cb/?utm_campaign=dd-aug-23&utm_term=Q223N)

Below are just some of the shops that can help us raise money!



If you have any questions or any funding ideas you would like to put forward/co-ordinate you can either contact us by email [battlefieldparentcouncil@outlook.com](mailto:battlefieldparentcouncil@outlook.com) Or via Facebook messenger, just search for Battlefield Primary School Parent Council.

**Child Protection**

If you have any concerns about the safety or welfare of any our pupils please report these to our Child Protection Co-ordinators. **Mrs Stacy Wilson (Head Teacher)** is the first point of contact for Child Protection in Battlefield. In her absence our **Deputy Child Protection Co-ordinators** are **Mrs Laura Imrie, Mrs Kara Milliken & Ms Louise Flanagan**. Mrs Wilson is also our **Care Experienced Co-ordinator** and is responsible for monitoring any children in the school who are looked after or in foster care.



**Nut Allergies**

We have children in our school who have severe nut allergies. Please help to keep all pupils safe and **DO NOT SEND** snacks or foods into school containing nuts. We have had a number of questions already about which products contain nuts. Can I ask that if you have any doubt at all that you send in an alternative as we must ensure that our vulnerable children are not put at risk. Thank you!

**Allergy Aware School**



**Healthy Snacks**

Can you please provide your child with a healthy snack for school and avoid too many sugary snacks. We would also ask you not to send in lollipops as these can be a danger in the playground. We have snack boxes in the school for anyone who forgets which have raisins and cereal bars in them. These or a small bag of crisps are ideal for children as they are not too much to eat during the break.

**Physical Education**

Glasgow City Council guidelines state that **“It is important that pupils come prepared to learn and for PE this requires appropriate clothing. All jewellery should be removed.”** If your child has their ears pierced please either remove their earrings on the days they have PE (or a sporting club) or ensure that they are able to do this for themselves. Staff are not able to assist with the removal and insertion of earrings. Unfortunately, taping over earrings does not provide the same degree of



protection as removal. If you are unsure about which days your child has PE, please check with us as we'll be very happy to let you know.

### **Attendance Matters**

The attendance of all pupils is always closely monitored. Glasgow City Council is passionate about improving children's level of attendance. We would ask the parents do their best to ensure that they do not take their children on holiday during term time. You should notify the school in writing (email or note) if you intend to remove your child from school for holidays, etc. You will be asked to come into the office and fill out a slip which details the dates of any holiday. Glasgow City Council policy states term time holidays will be recorded as unauthorised absences

We ask if you could phone the **Pupil Absence Reporting Line Service** on **0141 287 0039 instead of the school office**. You can call this line each day from 8am. This is to ensure that staff always know whether a child is supposed to be at home or school on a particular day. You should only phone the school for other reasons including:

- Requests for Religious/Parental holiday requests
- Illness of a family member
- Children's Panel
- Funerals
- Bereavements
- All exceptional circumstances



Mrs Wilson will also continue to monitor the attendance of all pupils in the school as the impact attendance and late coming has on a child can be significant. We may contact you if we have any concerns. Regular school attendance will mean that your child has a better chance in life. Your child will achieve better when they go to school all day, every school day.

***Surely 1 or 2 days absent a week doesn't seem much but this is how it is..***

If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that's...
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years

***If your child is late 10 minutes a day - surely that won't matter or affect my child..***

Only missing just..	That equals..	Which is...	Over 13 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1 ½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year
20 minutes per day	1hour 40minutes per week	Over 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 minutes per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years

### **Late coming**

Lateness has a negative impact on school life because being late can:

**Disrupt lessons      Affect achievement      Embarrass/upset your child**

### ***Is 80% good for school attendance?***

An 80% mark in an exam may be good but 80% attendance through four years of school equal **1 full school year** lost.

### **Being on time and at school means not missing out!**

If your child is late or absent from school on a regular basis – maybe we can help. Please contact the school office to discuss any issues.

This year we are going to track the attendance rate of each year group every month to see who are the best at getting to school so please make sure you support us in this. We want all year groups to be as close to 100% as possible. If you need help getting your child to school please contact Mrs Wilson who is able to support with this.

### **Free School Meals**

School lunches now cost £1.90 per day for children in P6-7 but are FREE for children in P1-5. Breakfast Club opens at 8am and costs £2 per day for your first child and £1 for any other siblings. Our Breakfast Club is not very busy. Although P1-5 pupils automatically get free lunches, they don't automatically get free breakfasts. If you apply online for your free school meals and Clothing Grant, your children will get free breakfasts too!



Children and young people whose families meet the criteria for free school meal entitlement will continue to receive a breakfast and school meals with no change. If you are receiving benefits you will be entitled to this too. If you would like to apply for this you can follow this link: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/schoolsandlearning>

The breakfasts are really nice and it gives your child a great healthy start to the day, ensures they are in school on time and also contributes to the number of teachers we get. The more families who apply for free school meals and clothing grants the more staffing allowance the school gets. Your child could be getting a free breakfast every day if you apply!!!! Just bring your child in any time between 8 and 8.30am for a healthy breakfast

### **Clothing Grant**

**You may be entitled to a Clothing Grant! You can apply at:**

<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=17885>

### **Glasgow Helps**

Glasgow residents who need emergency free food and help with energy supply, heating and other problems can now contact a new council service as the cost of living crisis hits families. Glasgow Helps has been assisting people to access food and source a £49 fuel top-up through third sector organisation Heat among other issues. The service, which was initially set up during the pandemic, connects people with the support they need in the city. Staff are on hand to offer confidential advice, support and information. To get in touch with **Glasgow Helps**, call 0141 276 1185 or complete an online referral form at [www.glasgow.gov.uk/glasgowhelps](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/glasgowhelps). More information is available at: [www.glasgowhelps.org](http://www.glasgowhelps.org)

### **Outdoor Learning**

Here at Battlefield we encourage as much learning outdoors as we can. Therefore, your children may be outside on cold or wet days. Please ensure you send your child to school dressed for all weather conditions. This will help keep them warm and dry as they play and learn.

### **Wet Weather**

On very wet days the staff will bring the children into school in the morning from 8:45am. We will gather children in the dinner hall and then send to classes at 9am. If there is just a drizzle we tend to leave children outside, however on very wet and/or windy days we will come and collect children from the playground.

### **Playground Congestion & Safety**

During the end of last term, we had a lot of issues due to the amount of people and dogs in the playground which meant teachers were finding it difficult to ensure that children were handed over safely to parents and carers. We need your help and support to resolve this situation. **With the exception of our Primary 1 parents and carers** who can enter the playground at drop off and pick up we would ask that all other parents and carers ensure they do not enter the playground during these times. At 3pm please ensure you stay outside the school grounds adjacent to where your child's class is dismissed from and teachers will send children out to you. Staff have all been briefed on this and will ask you to leave the grounds so we can resolve this situation to ensure everyone is safe. Dogs are not permitted in the playground either. We would also ask that parents and carers with nursery children do not enter the playground to drop off and pick up and instead use the dedicated nursery entrance. With nearly 400 children in the school being dismissed at the same time we would really appreciate your cooperation with this. Thanks.

*Thank you for all your support, if you have any questions please get in touch with the school office.*

*Stacy Wilson*



# Battlefield Primary School

## Key Dates 2023- 2024



Date	Event	Time
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> August	Meet the Teacher	3:15-4:15PM
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	Parent Council Meeting	9:30AM
22 <sup>nd</sup> and 25 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>September Weekend Holiday</b>	
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Numeracy Jotters/Work home	
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Numeracy Jotters/Work returned (parent/pupil feedback)	
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Inservice Day	
16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>October Week Holiday</b> (Inclusive dates)	
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Halloween Disco	P1-3 4:30-5:30PM P4-7 6:00-7:00PM
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	School Remembrance	
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	P6 Sharing of Learning	2:15PM
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Sharing of Learning	
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Parents Night (Late)	5:30-7:30PM
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Parents Night (Early)	3:00- 5:30PM
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	P2 Sharing of Learning	2:15PM
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Winter Fair	
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Class Assembly	
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	P1 - Nativity	9.30AM
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Writing Jotters/Work home	
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Panto Performance	TBC PM
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Writing Jotters/Work returned (parent/pupil feedback)	
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Early Close	2.30PM
<b>25<sup>th</sup> December – 5<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Christmas Holidays</b> (Inclusive dates)	
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Sharing of Learning	
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	P4 Sharing of Learning	2:15PM
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	P2 Class Assembly	9:30AM
12 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>February Holiday</b> (Inclusive dates)	
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>In-service Day</b>	
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	P7 Sharing of Learning	2:15PM
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	P5 Sharing of Learning	2:15PM
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	P6a Class Assembly	9:30AM
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Reading Jotters/Work home	
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> February	Reading Jotters/Work returned (parent/pupil feedback)	
TBC	P7 Residential (Inclusive dates)	
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Night (Late)	5:30-7:30PM
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Parents' Night (Early)	3:00-5:30PM
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Early Close	2.30PM
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Good Friday</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> April – 12 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Spring Break</b> (Inclusive dates)	
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	<b>Possible Election In-service Day</b>	
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Holiday</b>	
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	P1 Sharing of Learning	2:15PM
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	P5b Class Assembly	9:30AM
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	P4b Class Assembly	9:30AM
24 <sup>th</sup> May & 27 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Holiday</b>	
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Afternoon (First Choice)	PM
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	<i>Sports Afternoon (Reserve Date)</i>	PM
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 Leavers' Assembly	
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Reports Issued	9.30AM
June	P7 Transition Week – Shawlands Academy	TBC
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Early Close	1.00PM

## School Holiday Dates for 2023/24

Return dates for Teachers	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
Return date for Pupils	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
September Weekend	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2023 Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
First Mid-Term	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 (Inservice Day) Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 to Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 (October week)
Christmas/New Year	Schools close at 2.30 pm on Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2023 Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 (Christmas holidays)
	<b>2024</b>
Return to School	Schools return on Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
Second Mid-Term	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 & Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2024. Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2024 (Inservice day)
Spring Holiday	Schools close at 2.30 pm on Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024. Good Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2024  Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April - Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2024 (Spring Break)  Schools return on Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
UK Elections	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May (Possible Inservice day)
May Day	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024 (May Holiday)
May Weekend	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024 and Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
School Close	Schools Close at 1.00 pm on Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2024