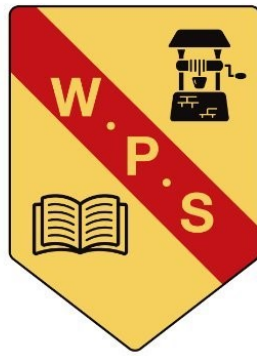


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October 2023



Newsletter

Welcome to our October newsletter. Term 1 has been very busy here at Wallacewell. The pupils and staff have all been working very hard. As a school community we have achieved so much in a short space of time. We have a clear vision for school improvement and have worked collaboratively to identify our school improvement priorities for this session—

- Achievement & Progress: Improve attainment in Literacy and Numeracy
- Wellbeing & Learning: Engagement, Participation & Inclusion - Enhance and embed inclusive practice across the school to further reduce barriers to learning
- Networked Learning Organisation: Working in partnership with our children, young people and families and community to ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning

As we move further towards more sustainable working practices, I would like to take this opportunity to remind families that our main methods of communication are via email and through the school website and Twitter page. We have received some very positive feedback about our updated website in particular the class blogs where families can find out more about learning across all of our classes. We do our best to ensure you are kept up to date with school information. You can help us by making sure we have all the correct contact details for you. If you change phone number or email address, or are moving house, please let the office know straight away.

As the days grow shorter and the weather becomes colder, we know it is hard to leave the comfort of our homes. However, you need to make sure that your children...

- Come to school each day (*unless, of course, they are unwell*)
- Arrive to school on time

Our school day starts at 9am. The start of the school day is vitally important, as routines, expectations, learning intentions and news are shared at this time. The expectation is that everyone lines up outside at 9am. All lateness adds up, meaning that some children are regularly missing between one hour and one day of education each week. This inevitably affects attainment and progress.

On a nicer note, we're just about ready to mention Christmas... look out for a full festive schedule coming home very soon!

Thank you as always for your continued support.

Miss L Davidson

Headteacher



Contact Details:

0141 557 5041

Headteacher@wallacewell-pri.glasgow.sch.uk

Child Protection Co-ordinator:

Miss Davidson (HT)

Deputy Child Protection Co-ordinators:

Mrs Taylor (DHT) or Miss Kelly (DHT)

Parent Council 2023-24

Below you will find details of our 2023-24 Parent Council along with their contact information. We will share Parent Council updates with families through our website.

Chairperson: Emily Clarke

Vice Chairperson: Ross Nisbet

Secretary: Elizabeth & Caryn Smith

Treasurer: Valentina Vagka

Contact Email: wallacewellparentcouncil@glow.sch.uk

Website Link: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/wallacewellprimary/>



Outdoor Learning

We aim to get our pupils outdoors as much as possible. This will inevitably mean that pupils (and staff!) will sometimes be out in the rain, so please provide your child with a waterproof jacket and appropriate footwear. The weather in Glasgow is unpredictable, so regardless of the forecast, we recommend coming prepared for all seasons.



Health & Safety Update

- Nuts—We want keep all our children safe. As some members of our school community have severe allergies to nuts we kindly request that families avoid giving pupils products containing nuts for break/lunch for example Kinder Bueno, Peanut Butter, Nutella & Snickers. We kindly ask that you check the ingredients of snacks before allowing your child to bring them to school.
- Toys—Please do not allow your child to bring any toys into school. We cannot be responsible for any loss or damage, and we have plenty of nice things to play with here in the school.
- Phones— An ever-growing number of pupils are bringing mobile phones to school. We understand there are various reasons for this. Pupils should ensure their phones are switched off before they enter the school grounds and should not be taken out of bags or used during the school day. Teachers remind pupils of this daily, but we would appreciate your support in sharing this message at home. We would also remind you that social media apps have age restrictions for a reason.

Attendance & Engagement

Wallacewell Primary are passionate about getting it right for the pupils we work with. In order for us to meet learners needs we require pupils to be in school on time each day. In Glasgow when a child's attendance falls below 95%, this becomes a concern for the school. We will follow the council and school procedures for managing attendance to support our families to ensure children attend school, on time, each day. This month we will be starting to issue families with letters, as per the council policy, if pupils attendance is becoming a cause for concern.

September 2023



Whole School

Average attendance

92.03% (-3.24% from August)

Lowest class
attendance rates

P2 – 77.9%

P6 – 81.42%

P7 – 83.02%

Attendance = Attainment = Wellbeing



Physical Education

As per Glasgow City Council policy, no jewellery is allowed to be worn during PE lessons, such as gym sessions, dance workshops and swimming lessons. This includes, but is not limited to:

- bracelets
- necklaces
- earrings
- nose-piercings

All jewellery needs to be removed before taking part in taught physical activities. This rule applies to boys and girls. We recommend that families take children to get ears etc pierced during the Summer break to allow ample healing time, 6 weeks, so that earrings can then be removed for PE. Glasgow's full Health and Safety document for physical activity can be viewed by scanning the QR code.

Weekly Assemblies and Our Values

Every Friday morning, we have a whole school assembly, led by different members of the Senior Leadership Team. These are lovely opportunities for the whole school to come together to celebrate success, sing some of our assembly songs, and learn about different events of religious or cultural significance. They are also a chance to be reminded about our values, **Kindness, Respect, Responsibility and Honesty**, which we are very proud of, and which we hope to embody in our everyday practice. In March 2024 we plan to refresh our values by consulting with all stakeholders. This consultation will take place during our March Parents Evenings. We look forward to working with families as part of this refresh.



Consultation With Families



We want to work collaboratively with families to improve our school and get it right for all of our young people. As such we are introducing new ways for families to share their views and opinions. This includes our annual questionnaires, our topic specific consultations and opportunities to feedback at school events. We have introduced our new 'What's tops? What's pants? How can we pull our socks up?' board for school events to allow families to share their views quickly. It also is an opportunity for families to suggest solutions to identified problems. We used this approach at our recent open afternoon and family quiz night and are delighted to share the feedback we received below.

A good choice of lunches and nurturing dinner staff.

A good choice of snacks at quiz night and lovely to see the school bringing in local business.

Great communication with families, Improved communication this year. Issues always resolved quickly

We really liked seeing the classes working together in the open areas in the infant department.

A great day. It was good to interact with pupils and their friends and learn about the learning.

The staff really care about the pupils and want what is best for them. Duty of care to the children is 1st class.

The family quiz night was the best time we have had in a long time. Thank you. More events like this would be great.

A welcoming, homely feel about the school. There is a clear nurturing ethos. Staff are going a great job. Keep it up!

Lovely getting to meet other parents and working with staff out with school.

Based on families suggestions for improvement we plan to—

- Continue to improve the aesthetics of the school. We too think it is in need of a lick of paint! We just need to get creative with how we go about this.
- Offer more opportunities for parental engagement and family learning. Our plan is to host a family fun event once a term and more regular family learning events. Keep you eyes peeled on future correspondence for further info.
- We will also try to provide a bigger variety of snacks/drinks, including water, at family events and will speak to our Quiz Master about 'fact checking' some of the answers!

DATES FOR THE DIARY



We will always try to give families as much notice as possible about school events but would like to make families aware that this is not always possible. Our school diary is changeable based on the needs of our children and the opportunities that we have access to.

October 2023

- Wednesday 11th October 2023—Smithycroft Open Evening for P6 & P7 pupils
- Thursday 12th October—Primary 7 High School Transition Info Evening (6-7pm)
- Friday 13th October—Inservice Day (School closed to pupils)
- Monday 16th October to Friday 20th October—School Closed (Holiday)
- Wednesday the 25th October—New Primary 1 Open Evening (6-7pm). All pupils and families starting with us in August 2024 welcome.
- Thursday 26th October—Halloween Disco's

P1-3 = 4.30pm till 5.30pm & P4-7 = 6pm till 7.30pm

£2 per ticket - includes crisps and a drink

November 2023

- November 2023— Enrolment for Primary 1's starting in August 2024 begins. Further information will be issued by Glasgow City Council nearer the time.
- Thursday 2nd November —P7 Trip to City Chambers
- Tuesday 7th November—Flu Immunisation Programme
- Friday 10th November— Parent Council Fundraiser. Dress Down Day. All monetary donations welcome. Money will be collected in the morning at the school gates with a 'Chuck it in the bucket.'
- Week beginning 13th November—Anti-Bullying Week.
- Tuesday 14th November—Parents Evening (3.15pm-6.15pm)
- Tuesday 21st November—EAL Parents Day (Appointments will be given to individual EAL families)
- Thursday 23rd November—Parent Evening (6-9pm)
- Week beginning 27th November—Scots Language Week in school.

December 2023

- Christmas Activity Calendar—Will be issued to families November.
- Friday 1st December—Parent Open Afternoon (STEM) 2-2.45pm
- Tuesday 5th December - Primary 1 & 2 Pantomime Trip
- Thursday 7th December —Primary 3, 4 & 5 Pantomime Trip
- Friday 8th December—Christmas Fair (3.30-5.30pm)
- Wednesday 13th December —Primary 6& 7 Pantomime Trip
- Friday 22nd December—School closes at 2.30pm

January 2023

- Monday 8th January 2024—School reopens

Wallacewell Halloween Disco

Thursday
26th October 2023

P1-3 4.30 – 5.30pm

P4-7 6 – 7.30pm

Entry is only **£2**

(includes crisps and drink)



From tomorrow until 12th October, you can send payment into school in a sealed envelope with your child(ren)'s details and DISCO written on the front. Children will not receive a ticket, but their **name will be added to our guest list.**

Children should enter the disco by the main door. At the end of the disco, parents/carers should collect their child(ren) from Gate 1 (at the staff car park). All children **MUST** be collected due to the dark nights and no school crossing patrols at those times.

