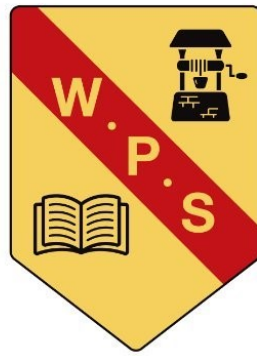


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February 2024



# Newsletter

Welcome to our February newsletter! The weather has certainly been appropriately wintry, but despite the snow, wind, rain and frost, the days are slowly getting longer and brighter days are ahead.

Last term was really busy, but also hugely successful, with lots of great things going on! Our Christmas Fair made £1500 for school funds. There was a terrific buzz around the school which reflected the ongoing support of our community. Primary 1 and 2 shone brightly as the stars of our Nativity, It's A Baby. The weeks of rehearsals, learning scripts, songs and choreography really paid off! P3 also did a fabulous job as the chorus. Thank you to all the staff involved.

We have had a busy start to term 4 last month with our Primary 7 Burns Celebration, Scots Language Week and Science Centre Trips. We are looking forward to Zoolab visiting our Primary 1-3 pupils this month and World Interfaith Harmony Week where we will be celebrating our wonderfully diverse school community.

We recently refreshed our school Equality Policy—*Everyone Is Welcome*. This highlights our commitment to promoting a positive and diverse culture in which all staff, young people and our wider school community are valued and supported. Our policy is on our website by scanning the QR code below.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, or if there is something I can help with, please do not hesitate to contact me. Yours

*Miss L Davidson* (Head Teacher)





Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



**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)

*Please ask to speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team if you have any concerns*

All educational establishments and services must take positive steps to help protect the children and young people in their care. A concern prompted by any of the following should be reported in accordance with the procedures detailed below:

- A specific incident
- A disclosure made by a child/young person or parent
- Information from a third party
- Adult behaviours/circumstances that may place a child/young person at risk of harm
- Child behaviours/circumstances that may place a child/young person at risk of harm
- A culmination of minor concerns over a period of time.

Should any member of our team have concerns regarding the welfare or safety of any child they have duty to report it to the Head Teacher our Child Protection or one of our Deputy Child Protection Coordinator in the absence of the Headteacher.

**Staff Training Update**—Every year all staff take part in Child Protection Training to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all of our children and young people. **ALL (100%)** of our staff said that the August Child Protection training was clear, beneficial and appropriate to their role. **ALL (100%)** of our staff said they were confident in what they needed to do to report a concern.

**Poverty & Child Protection**—'Poverty is a mediating factor among various factors that increase the risk of child abuse and neglect' (The Promise, p17). We are very aware of the impact the cost of living crisis continues to have on our school community. As such we are doing as many things as we can to support our families including -

- Being mindful of the 'Cost of the School Day'
- Reducing and, where possible, absorbing the cost of educational excursions
- Reusing pre-loved school uniform

*Please feel free to hand in any pre-loved uniform to our school reception*

- Encouraging families to sign up for Free School Meals and other associated benefits

*GCC are providing funding to support eligible families over the February mid-term breaks for children who are in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) P1 to S6. The payment for each child will be £20.00 (£2.50 per day). If you think you are eligible for FSM you can apply by scanning the QR code below -*

<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/schoolsandlearning>



## Parent Council 2023-24

Parent council meetings for the remainder of 2023-24. Meetings are held in the school & start at 6pm. All welcome. Childcare is available.

**Monday 19th Feb (CLOSED MEETING FOR ROLE BEARERS ONLY)**

**Monday 18th March Monday 29th April**

**Monday 27th May Monday 17th Jun**

**Parent Council Contact Email:** [wallacewellparentcouncil@glow.sch.uk](mailto:wallacewellparentcouncil@glow.sch.uk)

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



Our Parent Council welcome new members. For further information on how you can join and/or support please email our Parent Council using the email address above.

**Please note: For school specific enquires please contact the school directly as apposed to the Parent Council or another third party.**

## Health and Wellbeing

**PE KITS**— A reminder for children and families to remember to bring gym kits to school. Gym kits are required for health and safety reasons. Physical education is an entitlement of all children and as such, teachers at Wallacewell Primary plan for 2 hours of quality PE each week.

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. Please scan the QR for further information on the policy. Jewellery 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.

**NUT ALLERGIES**—We have pupils at Wallacewell Primary with nut allergies. Please ensure that playtime snacks and packed lunches do not contain any nuts. NB: This includes Kinder Buenos and anything with Nutella as both contain hazelnuts.

**STAYING HYDRATED**— Please provide your child with a full water bottle each day. Staying hydrated is really important! Remember that fizzy drinks, energy drinks and chewing gum should never be brought to school. We encourage healthy snacks where possible.

**WEATHER READY**—Gentle reminder that 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 (or sleet, snow etc), so please provide your child with a waterproof jacket and appropriate footwear. The weather in Glasgow is always unpredictable, so regardless of the forecast, we recommend coming prepared for all seasons.



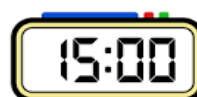
## Attendance & Engagement

The average attendance across the school between **August and December** was **92.47%**, which is below the average for Glasgow. A number of families are taking holidays in term-time. We understand the reasons for this, and offer no judgement or penalty. However, we need to remind everyone that this should be avoided, and attendance at school is essential for attainment, progress and well-being. From next week, we will re-start sending out letters to families where attendance has fallen below certain thresholds.

You should call the Pupil Absence Reporting (PAR) Team on: 0141 287 0039 to report your child absent from school. You can call the line every school day from 8:00am. You should call the absence reporting line before 9.30am on the first day of your child's absence. **Please do not use Groupcall to report your child's absence as this may not be seen by school staff and is not GCC protocol for reporting absence.**

At the end of the day, a number of pupils are still often not collected on time. Please ensure arrangements are made to have your children collected at 15:00.

Finally, please let us know if someone different is collecting your child at home-time (for example, a family member we haven't met before, or if they're going on a play-date). We know there are lots of friendship groups and family relationships across the school, but we just need to know who's collecting who, to keep us right and everyone safe.



### January 2024



# Whole School

## Average attendance

# 90.85%

(+ 7.54% from December)

**Lowest** stage  
attendance rates

**P3 – 88.44%**

**P5 – 88.70%**

**P6 – 90.37%**

Attendance = Attainment = Wellbeing

Due to a significant rise in late coming, some children are now regularly missing between one hour and one day of education each week. Our school hours are **09:00 – 15:00**. It is our expectation that *wherever* possible children should be in school on time, each day. This month we will be starting to message families when children are late to school. Messages will be sent out each day by the school office and are generated automatically.



## Lost Property

Our pupils come to us with a myriad of different talents and abilities, and impress us every day with their learning. However, one major skill that we continue to work on across the school is *looking after belongings*. You can help us with this by...

- labelling everything, especially items of clothing (as so many things look the same)
- reminding your child(ren) to place things where they belong
- encouraging them to remember where they've left items (jackets, jumpers, lunch boxes etc)
- asking them to check that they have everything they arrived with that day when they leave school

We will be placing all of our lost property out at our Parents Evenings in March. We would encourage families to spend some time looking through the items in case anything belongs to their child/children. We will look to reuse any clothing items, in good condition and without names on, in our Clothing Bank after the Easter Break. Our Clothing Bank is available for all families to use in a bid to be more eco friendly and save our families money.



## Communication

We continue to encourage all families to download the free **Groupcall Xpressions** app, which is available on all smartphones. The app gives families an easy way to get updates and information from the school, and all you need to use it is the email address you have registered with us. It doesn't cost us anything to send messages to the app, and you can reply directly to us from it. When messages are delivered via standard text message, it can cost over £5.00 to message the whole school.



## We Need Your Help

**We have two events planned this term that we would love some parent/carer help/support with. If you are interested and are available to help out on any of the dates shared below please contact the school office on 0141 557 5041. Thank you in advance for your support.**

**Dig In Day**—We take pride in our work, our school and our appearance We are looking to give our reception/main foyer a fresh lick of paint. We are looking for some parent/carer volunteers who would be available on Wednesday the 14th of February 2024 to help out.

**Anti-Racist Focus Group**— We are committed to promoting a positive and diverse culture in which all staff, young people and our wider school community are valued and supported. This year we are focusing on improving our approaches to anti-racism and celebrating our wonderfully diverse school community. We are looking to gather the views of some of our parents/carers who identified as Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME). We are planning on hosting a parent/carer focus group meeting on Tuesday the 19th of March 2024 at 9.15am.



## Dates for the Diary 2023-24

### February 2024

- 01.02.24 Primary 1 & Primary 7 Dental Inspections—Day 2. Info was sent out before Christmas.
- 08.02.24 P1-3 Zoolab Science Visit (In School)
- 12.02.24 Holiday
- 13.02.24 Holiday
- 14.02.24 In-Service Day. School closed to pupils.
- 16.02.24 Maths Family Open Afternoon (2-2.45pm)
- 23.02.24 Learning Community Celebrating Diversity Day—*DRESS AS YOU PLEASE*  
ASN Blether Café
- 28.02.24 Child Smile Fluoride Varnishing—Day 1. *Further info will be shared with families.*
- 29.02.24 Child Smile Fluoride Varnishing—Day 2. *Further info will be shared with families*

### March 2024

- 05.03.24 Parents Evening (Early) and Book Fair. *Appointments will be shared in due course.*  
Pupils Forum trip to City Chambers. *Info will be shared with families.*
- 07.03.24 World Book Day. *Event details to follow.*
- 08.03.24 Primary 3 Easter—Learning Showcase. *Info will be shared with families separately.*
- 12.03.24 EAL Parents Day 1. *Appointments will be shared in due course.*
- 13.03.24 EAL Parents Day 2. *Appointments will be shared in due course.*
- 14.03.24 Parents Evening (Late) and Book Fair. *Appointments will be shared in due course.*
- 22.03.24 Primary 6 Education—Learning Showcase. *Info will be shared with families separately.*  
ASN Blether Café
- 28.03.24 School closes at 2.30pm.
- EASTER HOLIDAY—Friday 29th March 2024—Friday 12th April 2024.

### April 2024

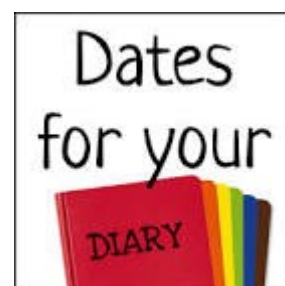
- 15.04.24 Return to school  
Learning for Sustainability Week (In School)
- 18.04.24 Community Clean Up Day. *More info to follow in future newsletters.*
- 22.04.24 Worlds of Work/DYW Week (In School). *More info to follow in future newsletters.*
- 25.04.24 Developing the Young Workforce Careers Fair (In School) *More info to follow in future newsletters.*
- 26.04.24 Primary 5 Diversity—Learning Showcase. *Info will be shared with families separately.*

### May 2024

- BLAIR DRUMMOND SUMMER TRIP—DATES/TIMES TBC
- PRIMARY 7 INDUCTION DAY (SMITHYCROFT) - DATES/TIMES TBC
- 10.05.24 P4 Children's Rights Learning Showcase. *Info will be shared with families separately.*
- 22.05.24 New Entrant Induction Day 1 (AM)
- 24.05.24 HOLIDAY
- 27.05.24 HOLIDAY
- 28.05.24 Rookie Rockstars (In School – Tue - Thur)
- 31.05.24 ASN Blether Café

### June 2024

- 05.06.24 New Entrant Induction Day 2 (PM)
- 06.06.24 Rookie Rockstar Concerts. *More info to follow in future newsletters.*
- 07.06.24 Sports Day. *More info to follow in future newsletters.*
- 10.06.24 Primary 7 Residential Week. *Info has been shared with families.*
- 13.06.24 P1-6 Summer Beach Disco. *More info to follow in future newsletters.*
- 20.06.24 Primary 7 Leavers Assembly (AM). *Info will be shared with families in due course.*  
Primary 7 Leavers Dance (6-8pm). *Info will be shared with families in due course.*
- 26.06.24 School closes at 1pm



## Dates for the Diary 2023-24

### School Term Dates

#### **January**

- Schools return on Monday, 8 January 2024

#### **February mid term break**

- Monday, 12 February 2024
- Tuesday, 13 February 2024
- Wednesday, 14 February 2024 (In-service day)

#### **April - Spring Holiday (Easter)**

- Schools close at 2.30 pm on Thursday, 28 March 2024
- Good Friday 29 March 2024
- Easter Monday 1 April 2024
- Monday, 1 April - Friday, 12 April 2024 (Spring Break)
- Schools return on Monday, 15 April 2024

#### **May**

- Thursday, 2 May 2024 (In-service day to coincide with UK Parliamentary elections, but may be subject to change)
- Monday, 6 May 2024 (May Holiday)
- Friday, 24 May 2024 and Monday, 27 May 2024 (May Weekend)

#### **June**

- Schools Close at 1.00 pm on Wednesday 26 June 2024

#### **August - Monday 12 August 2024 (Teachers return - amended)**

### School Term Dates 2024-2025



#### **August**

- Monday, 12 August 2024 (Return date for Teachers & In-Service Day)
- Tuesday, 13 August 2024 (In-Service Day)
- Wednesday, 14 August 2024 (Return date for Pupils)