



Dykesmains Primary School

Termly Newsletter



October 2024

Head Teacher welcome

We hope everyone had a great break over the October holiday and we'd like to welcome pupils back, ready for term 2. Thank you to our Parent Council for organising the Fancy Dress Disco for pupils across the school, it was a great turn out and much appreciated.

Please find below information for this term.

Learning at home

We have shared a draft policy on opportunities for parents and carers to support their children with learning at home. If you have not had a chance to look over the policy and provide feedback, you can follow the links below.

Draft Policy- <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/na/dykesmainsprimary/learning-at-home/>

Feedback- <https://forms.office.com/e/SguTZZwJnv>

Class termly newsletters have been provided for pupils to take home, this provides information that will support learning conversations at home and on the different ways to support your child to consolidate their learning in school.

Healthy Start- Breakfast club

We are delighted to announce that we have recruited two additional Healthy Start Workers, Ms Millar, Monday to Friday, and Mrs Young, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

Pupils are welcome to attend from 8.00am each day and will be provided with a healthy breakfast of fruit, cereal and toast. Children take part in activities until 8.45am before going into the playground where they are supervised by Pupil Support Assistants until the bell.

Clubs for children

Our teachers are dedicated to providing a wide range of lunch and after school clubs. Children contribute their ideas as to the activities they would like to be offered. We run a wide range of clubs including sports, drama, dance, art, cooking and coding. Please look out for opportunities across the year that may be of interest to your child. Information with specific dates and times will be shared with children who are interested in taking part.

Term 2 clubs	
Monday	P4-7 Drama club after school
Tuesdays	P4-7 Choir lunch time P1 Dance after school (UWS Student) P6 and P7 Athletics after school
Wednesday	P4-7 Dance club lunch time P7 Netball lunch time P6 and P7 Football afterschool Barnado's drop in club
Thursday	P4-7 Country Dancing after school
Friday- P7 clubs (adult supervision will be provided)	P3 Art Club P2 and P3 Dance Club P1- P5 Football skills (one class at a time)

Partnership working

Active schools

Jordan Stewart is our allocated Active School's co-ordinator. This term, he has collaborated with Ardrossan Academicals RFC who will deliver a block of Rugby to Primary 6 and 7.



Jordan has completed the Move and Improve young leader training with our Primary 7 class. They have now planned clubs that they would like to lead and will deliver a wide range of lunchtime clubs across the school, this will include sport and other clubs such as art. These will be offered as a drop in at lunchtime to different classes, please see club information above.

These will be offered as a drop in, **if you do not wish your child to take part, please advise the school.**

Barnardo's

Alana has had a busy term getting to know our children and families. Alana's friendly face is at the garden club on a Wednesday morning. Pupils across the school will have the opportunity to attend the garden club each week across this school year, their parents/carers/family members are welcome to join the session their child attends, look out for a letter in your child's school bag and on xpressions.



Any family members who have an interest in the garden are welcome to join any week they are able to, please contact the school if you are interested.

Alana has delivered Resilience and Friendship group work to our Primary 6 and 7 classes. She has had lots of feedback from children and will be delivering lunchtime clubs across the year. **Please contact the school if you do not wish your child to take part in any informal group work with Alana.**

If you would like to chat to Alana about what she can offer, she will be holding a stall at our Learning Conversations on Wednesday 6 November in the gym hall or pop in and see her on a Wednesday.

Communication

We value parents and carers as vital partners in our children's education. Good communication and regular sharing of information is key to this partnership. This termly newsletter will provide a brief overview of our highlights and planned activities across the year. Specific and more detailed information relevant to your child will be communicated in more detail closer to the date. We endeavour to communicate any information in a timely manner and provide a list of upcoming dates at the end of each newsletter to allow families the opportunity to plan in advance. At times, out with our control, dates, times and events can be subject to change. We aim to communicate as efficiently and effectively as possible.



Communication from school

We use an online app called Groupcall (Xpressions) to share important information and school letters with you. This app is free of charge, please get in touch with the school if you have any problems setting this up or you can access their set up page by clicking [here](#)

What to do if you have a question or concern

We wish to support your child fully to reach their potential. If at any time you wish to ask a question, share a concern or speak to a member of staff, please contact the school office in the first instance on **01294 461354.**

Uniform and accessories

Children across the school are looking smart in their school uniform, contributing towards our aim of an inclusive and equitable learning environment for all. We appreciate children grow quickly across the year and our Parent Council support this through their pre-loved uniform. This will be made available at various events across the year. If you require any support with uniform please contact the school office.

Labelling items

We advise that all jackets, uniform and accessories, such as packed lunch boxes, water bottles, pencil cases etc. should be labelled with your child's name using a permanent marker. This helps to avoid items being muddled or misplaced.

Water bottles - the importance of hydration

Children are encouraged to bring a labelled water bottle into school. We ask that bottles are labelled with pupil names using a permanent marker and have a closing lid. Children should arrive with their bottles already filled up containing only water. We would encourage you to purchase low cost bottles as they can often get lost, mixed up or knocked to the floor by accident.

P.E. uniform

All classes across the school will have 2 hours of PE each week. We ask that children bring in the following P.E. to keep in school; alternatively, you may wish to pack their kit on their allocated PE days as indicated below.

- T-shirt or school polo shirt
- Indoor trainers
- Tracksuit bottoms, Leggings or shorts

On PE days, children should not wear any jewellery, particularly earrings. This is to avoid any injury to themselves or to others during P.E. lessons. If your child is unable to take them out and put them back in independently, we recommend that they do not wear these on their allocated days. In the likelihood a pupil has new piercings, micro-tape should be provided.

If children do not have their kits, we will happily call home for a quick reminder to pop their kit in the school bag.

Allocated P.E. days- Please note that times can change throughout the year to accommodate events or visitors, therefore it is best for pupils to keep their kits in school where possible.

Primary 1- Tuesday and Friday

Primary 3- Tuesday and Thursday

Primary 5- Wednesday and Friday

Primary 7- Monday and Thursday

Primary 2- Tuesday and Friday

Primary 4- Monday and Thursday

Primary 6- Monday and Wednesday

Football colours

Please note that children should not wear any football team colours, such as hats, pencil cases, bags etc. This is to avoid any conflict within the school community. At times during whole school theme dress down events, football attire representing national countries may be worn if appropriate to the theme.

Dates for your diary

We endeavour to ensure these dates remain the same, however there are times outwith our control where we may need to amend or cancel events. We will communicate this at our earliest opportunity.

TERM 2

Monday 21 October	School re-opens at 9 am	
Thursday 24 October	Parent Council Fancy Dress Disco P2 – P7 after school	Gym Hall
	P1 Fancy Dress Party in school 1.30 – 3.00 pm	Gym Hall
Friday 1 – 10 November	Poppies on sale in school	
Wednesday 6 th and Thursday 7 November	Parent/Carer/Pupil Teacher Learning Conversations P7 Bake Sale Fundraiser 3.15-5.15 Travelling books	Pupil class 3.15- 5.15 Gym Hall
Friday 15 November	Children in Need	
Monday 18 November	P1 visit to library- BookBug gifting	Saltcoats Library
Thursday 21 November	P2 & P3 Read, Write, Count gifting session	P2 & P3 classes 2.30-3.00
Monday 25 & Tuesday 26 Nov	School Closed Holiday/Inset Day	
Wednesday 27 November	Panto – Ayr Gaiety	
Thursday 28 November	Parent Council/School Christmas Fair 5.30 pm – 7.30 pm	
Friday 29 November	Day of Dance (Country Dance Class attendees)	Portal Irvine
Friday 6 December	Christmas Jumper Day – every Friday in December if they wish instead of their school sweatshirt	
Monday 9 December	Dental Inspections – P1 and P7	
Monday 9 December	Nativity Performance for pupils, staff and partners	Gym Hall
Monday 9 December	Primary 4 Christmas Party School Parties	Gym Hall
Tuesday 10 December	Nativity Performance P1-3 pm 1.50 – 2.50 pm	Gym Hall
Wednesday 11 December	Nativity Performance P1-3 am 9.20 – 10.20 am	Gym Hall
Wednesday 11 December	Primary 5 Christmas Party School Parties	Gym Hall
Thursday 12 December	Primary 6 Christmas Party School Parties	Gym Hall
Friday 14 December	Primary 7 Christmas Party School Parties	Gym Hall
Monday 16 December	Primary 3 Christmas Party School Parties	Gym Hall
Tuesday 17 December	Primary 2 Christmas Party School Parties	Gym Hall
Wednesday 18 December	Primary 1 Christmas Party School Parties	Gym Hall
Wednesday 18 December	Christmas Assembly Parents/Carers invited 9.15–10.15am	Gym Hall
Friday 20 December	School Closes 2.30 pm	



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TERM 3

Monday 6 January	School opens 9 am	
Friday 31 January	P7 Burns Supper 1.45 – 2.45 pm	Gym Hall
Wednesday 12 February	Open Afternoon Whole School 1.45 – 2.45	In classes
Friday 14 February	Parent Council Crazy Hair Day	
Monday 17 and Tuesday 18 February	School closed holiday/Inset Day	
Thursday 6 March	World Book Day	
Thursday 20 March	Parent Council Spring Disco	Gym Hall
Wednesday 26 March	Parent/Carer/Pupil Teacher Learning Conversations Session 1 – 3.15-5.15	
Thursday 27 March	Parent/Carer/Pupil Teacher Learning Conversations Session 2 – 3.15-5.15	
Wednesday 2 April	P4-7 School Show PM 1.30 – 2.30 pm	Gym Hall
Thursday 3 April	P4-P7 School Show AM 9.15 – 10.15 am	Gym Hall
Friday 4 April	School Closes 2.30 for Easter holidays	

TERM 4

Tuesday 22 April	School Opens 9 am	
Monday 5 May	School closed	
Tuesday 13 May	Ardrossan Academy Parent Information Evening	Ardrossan Academy
Wednesday 15 & Thursday 16 May	P7 transition days	Ardrossan Academy
Friday 23 & Monday 26 May	Inset Day/School closed	
Wednesday 28 May	Sports Day 9.20 – 10.20	
Friday 6 June	Parent Council Fun Day – school event	
Wednesday 18 June	Bump Up Day	
Friday 20 June	P1 Celebration – 9.15-10.15am	Gym Hall
	P7 Fleck – 1.45-3.00pm	Gym Hall
Monday 23 June	Dykesmains Got Talent Competition	
Wednesday 25 June	Summer Assembly 1.15 – 3.00 pm	
Thursday 26 June	P7 Leavers Party 1.15 – 3.00 pm	
Friday 27 June	School Closes at 1 pm	

