



Elderbank Primary, Early Years, Supported Learning and Enhanced Deaf Provision

Our School Values are a work
of ART

Acceptance **Respect** Teamwork

October 2024 Newsletter

Parking

Once again, the parking situation is becoming dangerous on St Kilda Bank. We are also receiving complaints from residents. In the interest of pupil safety please only park in the marked bays and preferably park away from St Kilda Bank and then walk the short distance to the school. The danger to pupils was discussed with the Parent Council and we would appreciate an increased focus on safe parking from all drivers.

Access to School Car Park

The school car park is for staff vehicles. A limited number of parking permits have been issued and are monitored by staff. Access for permit holders is from 08:55 and 14:55 only. Separate arrangements are in place for Supported Learning transport (contract and parents/carers).

From 08:50 each day a drop-off is available, but cars **MUST NOT** park in this lane.

IMPORTANT!

School Gates

In the interest of pupil safety and to ensure maximum use of our school grounds the car park gates will be closed at 09:15 each morning. There will be NO access to the car park. Access to the school will be via the side gate.

Mid Term Holiday

Reminder that the school and Early Years are closed on Monday 25th November for a holiday and also on Tuesday 26th November as this is an In-Service Day for staff.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is very popular and offers a positive start to pupils. Good behaviour and following our school values are essential for all pupils to attend.



There is no additional staffing in addition to the Breakfast Club staff, so all pupils accessing Breakfast Club require to do so independently.

Breakfast Club is accessed via the side door, by ringing the bell, from 08:10 each day.

Parent Council Update

The Parent Council have agreed to contribute to the cost of the Pantomime in school this year. This is greatly appreciated.

They have also agreed to contribute towards the cost of Primary 7 Leavers' Hoodies. Mrs MacFarlane will provide more information to Primary 7 parents directly.

The Parent Council are planning to organise a Christmas Jumper swap/donate event and they will issue more information.

They have also discussed supporting the local food bank and will share more information shortly.

As a school we are well supported by the Parent Council who are focused on ensuring the best for every pupil.



NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 27th November at 6:30p.m.

Respiratory Hygiene

We know as we approach winter a number of children will develop coughs and colds. We will remind pupils of good respiratory hygiene, of covering their mouths when coughing and washing their hands. We would appreciate it if you could also reinforce this at home with your child.



Parent Appointments

If you require to speak to a member of SMT about a particular issue please call the school office and make an appointment. Staff are more than happy to accommodate your requests.

Attendance

Thank you to everyone who has supported their child to attend school regularly.

Currently our most significant challenges are persistent late coming from individuals and parents/carers not informing the school office of absences.

The process for absence notification must be followed by everyone to ensure the safety of all pupils and to allow us to meet our responsibility in respect of absence recording.

The school office is manned from 08:30. Please call before 9am if your child will be absent and provide the reason and anticipated date of return, if known.

Thank you!

Head Lice

As we are all aware head lice can present at any time and like to feed off clean hair. They are easily passed between pupils and between adults and children. This can happen anywhere and not just at school or early years. We would advise that you check your child's hair regularly and if any evidence of lice are found, please obtain the head lice treatment from your local pharmacy through the Direct Care system, which is free. It is very important that the treatment is applied as directed, which usually requires a second application 7 days after the first application. If you have any questions then the school nurse will be happy to assist. She can be contacted via Greenwood Academy on 01294-213124.



Poppy Scotland Appeal

If your child wishes to support the annual Poppy Scotland Appeal, our older children will be selling poppies in classes from Tuesday 29th October. Your child can make a donation and receive a poppy.

Thank you in anticipation for your support of this good cause.

Danni Joyce- Deaf Olympic Swimmer

Our Enhanced Deaf Provision welcomed Olympic Swimmer, Danni Joyce to Elderbank on Thursday 24th October. All the pupils agree that she was a true inspiration and they are looking forward to welcoming her back on the 31st October and the 7th November.

Parents, carers or family members of pupils attending the Enhanced Deaf Provision are welcome to join the workshops with the pupils from 09:15. - 10:30 on these dates.



Primary 1 enrolment for August 2025

Pupils due to start school in August 2025 should enrol between Monday 11th November and Sunday 24th November 2024 using the link [Primary school enrolment](#).

If a parent or carer wishes to make a placing request, this can be completed after completing enrolment in your child's catchment school. If you plan to request a deferred entry to school for your child you **MUST** also complete the enrolment for school.

Any placing request decisions will be made by 25th April 2025. Our Primary 1 transition programme for pupils will begin in Term 4.

Any pupils in our catchment area and requiring an enhanced transition to Elderbank will begin a bespoke programme in Term 3. Early Years staff and Miss Auld will lead this transition process and involve parents and carers in the process.

Staffing Update

We are delighted to share that Mrs Cook has gained a promotion to Principal Teacher and her final day at Elderbank will be Friday 22nd November. Although we are pleased for Mrs Cook, we will miss her and are grateful for her hard work and dedication to the Elderbank community.



IMPORTANT!

Hidden Illnesses and Safety of All

We have a number of young people who have serious underlying health conditions.

Many of these are not obvious, but can be life threatening. It is crucial that we are informed immediately if your child contracts Measles, Mumps or Chicken Pox.

If your child has a sickness bug or diarrhoea then they must stay off school or Early Years for a minimum of 48 hours from the final bout of sickness or affected bowel movement.

We appreciate a child may appear well sooner than the 48 hours, but this timeframe is required as outlined by the NHS Guidelines.

Community Award

We are delighted that Yousef Al-Ahmed received a community volunteer award for his work with the pupils in developing our polytunnel.

Yousef is pictured below receiving his award at Saltcoats Town Hall.



Congratulations!

Open Afternoon Events

Parents and carers have now had the opportunity to visit the classes in mainstream, Supported Learning and Early Years.

Thank you to everyone who has provided feedback. This is really important to allow us to ensure we continually improve.

School Adaptations

We are delighted to report that we have had a new fence and gate installed at the infant playground to ensure the safety of our youngest pupils.

We are also having an additional soft play installed in Base 3 in December.

Zero Tolerance Policy

One of our core school values is Respect. In line with this, and as outlined by NAC, we ask everyone to treat staff with respect in all communications.

All of our staff work tirelessly for our pupils and we have a duty of care to ensure they are treated with respect, in a safe working environment. I am sure you will agree with us that as adults we must model this for our children.

