

Our Values are a work of ART : Acceptance Respect Teamwork



Elderbank Primary School Newsletter – April 2025

Dear parents and carers,

We are delighted to welcome all pupils back to school for term 4. We had a very busy term 3 and enjoyed celebrating our 10th birthday with families and friends of Elderbank. Term 4 looks set to be another busy and exciting term for all.

Staffing Update

Mrs Carruthers is leaving Elderbank on Friday 2nd May as she moves on to her new Early Years Manager post. We wish her the best of luck in her new role. Following competitive interview, Mrs Butchart was appointed as the new Senior Early Years Practitioner. We are awaiting confirmation of her start date and further information will be shared as soon as possible.

Mrs Dignam started her maternity leave early on 22nd April. Mrs Swan will be teaching Primary 3D for the remainder of the term.

Mrs McConnell will start her maternity leave from 27th May. A separate letter will be issued to P6/5 parents and carers shortly.

Following competitive interview Mrs Leishman was appointed as a Pupil Support Assistant 3 days per week. We are looking forward to her being part of the team on a permanent basis.

We are also delighted to welcome Mr Stewart and Mr Hughes as new Pupil Support Assistants to the Mainstream and Supported Learning.

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On 27th June Mrs S. McLarnon (Pupil Support Assistant in Supported Learning), Mrs Murray (Class Teacher in Supported Learning) and Mrs M. McLarnon (Pupil Support Assistant in Mainstream) will be retiring. We thank them for their dedication to our school and we wish them all well for their next adventure. Mrs Truss (Pupil Support Assistant in Supported Learning) is also leaving Elderbank this summer as she heads off to University to train as a Teacher. We wish her the best of luck in her new career.



Royal Navy visit: Primary 7 pupils enjoyed a visit and some free merchandise from the Royal Navy. They created their own flares and launched them in the playground with prizes for the highest.

Fundraising

Thanks to parent and carer participation in Asda the school were awarded £475 as part of their Parent Kind donations.

We would be delighted if all families who shop in Tesco Extra Irvine could support the school by collecting the blue tokens.

We submitted an application to Children's Aid Scotland in Glasgow recently to allow us to fund a school minibus. Miss Robertson, Mrs Bain and a group of pupils welcomed trustees to Elderbank on Friday 25th April and they were impressed with our work. Now we have to wait and see if our application makes it through to the next stage. We will keep you updated.



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K'Nex Challenge: We were delighted to attend the Regional K'Nex Final at Clyde College, being represented by Reece and Aidan from Primary 5. The boys made it down to the last 50 out of an original list of 3500 pupils from all over south-west Scotland, successfully navigating their class competition then winning their cluster schools competition. On the day, the boys were tasked with building a water wheel which could also raise a bucket from a well. This proved to be a real test of their technology skills but they rose to the challenge and produced an excellent effort. Aidan and Reece had a fantastic time and are already keen to test their skills again next year when the competition comes around again. Well done to both boys for representing Elderbank.



Primary 1 Transition

We were delighted to welcome our new Primary 1 pupils, parents and carers along to the first of our transition events on Thursday 24th April. Our Transition Thursdays programme runs across this term and we are looking forward to working with all families. Please remember that we require to copy your child's full birth certificate. This can be handed into the office to be copied during the transition events.

Early Years Transition

We are looking forward to welcoming a number of new children to our Early Years in August 2025. Miss Auld will be in touch with new families to arrange pre admission visits for June 2025.

Classes update

Staff are currently working on the class structure for next session. As we do not have our staffing confirmed we are unlikely to be able to confirm staff for each class until just before the Bump Up Day.



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Elderbank is 10: Thank you to all parents and carers who were able to attend our show to celebrate our 10th birthday. We were very proud of all the pupils. We are sure you will agree that we have some fabulous entertainers in our school. Thanks go to the staff for all their hard work and creativity.

Late coming

Just a reminder that we have a soft start from 8:50am, which allows all pupils to be in class and ready to learn at 9:00am. It is important that children are supported to be at school on time.

Lunch ordering: Please ensure you support your child to choose their lunch at home. This ensures that every child gets what their parent or carer wishes them to eat at lunchtime.



Break times

Every child has a morning break and should bring a healthy snack from home. Just a reminder that the snack trolley is no longer provided by North Ayrshire Council.

Lost property

Just a wee reminder that all items brought into school should be labelled with your child's name. There are a number of items waiting to be claimed within the uniform station in the main foyer. We encourage parents and carers to use this station.



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Suntan lotion : As the weather forecast looks promising for the coming weeks please remember to apply sunscreen to your child before they come to school.

School grounds

Just a reminder that dogs should not be brought into the school grounds.

Upcoming Events

Date	Details
1 st May 2025	Primary 7 Supported Learning pupils to Castle Semple
2 nd May 2025	Coffee Morning and Sharing the Learning
5 th May 2025	School and Early Years closed
6 th May 2025	P6 parents and carers residential information session 2pm
6 th May 2025	Booking system opens at 6p.m. for parent and carer progress meetings for Mainstream, Enhanced Deaf Provision and Supported Learning
21 st May 2025	Parent and carer pupil progress meeting 3:30 – 5:50p.m. (Mainstream, Enhanced Deaf Provision and Supported Learning)
22 nd May 2025	Parent and carer pupil progress meeting 3:30 – 5:50p.m. (Mainstream, Enhanced Deaf Provision and Supported Learning)
23 rd May 2025	Staff In-Service Day – closed for pupils
26 th May 2025	Holiday – Elderbank closed for pupils and staff
9 th June 2025	Greenwood Academy Parent Briefing Session 6-7p.m. Greenwood Academy Atrium



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Date	Details
11 th and 12 th June	Primary 7 Full day transition Visits to Greenwood Academy. Pupils make their own way to and from Greenwood Academy. 9:00a.m. – 2:30p.m.
18 th June 2025	'Bump Up Day' for Current Primary 1-6 pupils (Meeting new teacher)
20 th June 2025	Mainstream and Enhanced Deaf Provision Fun Day
23 rd June 2025	Mainstream and Enhanced Deaf Provision Primary 7 Leavers' Assembly at 1:45p.m.
25 th June 2025	Supported Learning Primary 7 Leavers' event in Supported Learning
26 th June 2025	Early Years end of year celebration 1:30p.m.

We are currently planning the Primary 7 end of term event. Mrs MacFarlane will send further information to parents and carers soon.

Thank you all for your continued support. We look forward to what promises to be another exciting term ahead!

Kind regards,

Miss Robertson

Head Teacher



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