



Elderbank Primary School Newsletter

Welcome Back to Term 3 – Happy New Year!

We would like to wish all our children and families a very happy and healthy New Year and warmly welcome everyone back to Term 3. We are looking forward to another busy and positive term ahead at Elderbank Primary School.

Staffing Update

We would like to share some staffing news with our school community:

- Mrs Jarrott, Mrs Blades and Mrs McAree are all enjoying their very well-earned retirements. We thank them sincerely for their dedication and valued contribution to Elderbank Primary School over many years.
- We are currently recruiting for **Pupil Support Assistants** and will keep families updated as this process progresses.
- Mrs Connelly has now joined us on a permanent basis for two days per week and will be working in Classbase 11.
- We are delighted to welcome **Ms Alison Henderson** to our teaching staff on a permanent basis. Initially, Ms Henderson will assume responsibility for Primary 4P during Mrs Preiss' absence, before transferring to Supported Learning. We are confident she will be a real asset to our team.

School Minibus – A Wonderful Gift

In the final week of last term, we were delighted to receive the gift of our **school minibus**, generously donated by **Children's Aid**.



Our Values are a work of **ART** : Acceptance Respect Teamwork

We were pleased to welcome **Mr David Jaffe** and **Mr Tom Cromar** to Elderbank Primary School to formally hand over the minibus to our very excited pupils and staff. We are extremely grateful for this generous gift and look forward to putting it to excellent use to support learning experiences within the wider community.



Upcoming Events and Information

Early Years – Bookbug

- **Friday 9th January at 2:00p.m. in Elderbank Early Years**

We hope our Early Years families will be able to join us for this lovely session.

Breakfast Club

- Open daily from **8:10 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.**

Please note that Breakfast Club is **not a childcare service** and should not be relied upon as such, as it may be withdrawn at short notice. All children attending must follow our school rules and respect our school values. Any pupil failing to do this will have their place withdrawn as all participants and staff must be respected.

End of School Day Arrangements

To help ensure the safety of all children, we ask for your support with the following:

- Please ensure your child **knows their collection arrangements** at the end of the school day.
- Avoid last-minute changes wherever possible, as we have limited office cover at this time and cannot guarantee messages will reach classes.
- If you are collecting your child, please ensure you are **on time**. We are experiencing regular late collections, and we do not have additional staff to supervise children who are not collected promptly.

We trust this will be a priority for all families.

Attendance

We have included an **attendance target overview**, as good attendance is strongly linked to positive outcomes for all learners. If you have any concerns about your child's attendance or require support, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school.



Celebrating Scots Language

We are looking forward to celebrating **Scots Language** this month. All children will be learning poetry in preparation for our annual poetry recital.

Primary 7 pupils will also be preparing for the Burns' Supper, which they will be sharing with their Primary 6 friends.

Car Park and School Safety



The parking situation has become increasingly **dangerous**, and therefore we are **reverting to the permit parking system**.

- There is **no parking for Early Years or Primary families unless you have a permit.**
- A **drop-off zone** is available from **8:50 a.m.** This is a drop-and-go system—please drop your child and drive off promptly.
- Members of the Leadership Team will be at the front of the school to help welcome children safely into school.
- Staff overseeing the car park **must not be subjected to any form of abuse.** This will not be tolerated.
- The **speed limit in the car park is 5 mph** to ensure the safety of all pedestrians.
- Blue Badge Holders can access the disabled spaces from 08:55a.m. and 2:55p.m. as all Supported Learning transport will have left the car park at these times.



Our Values are a work of **ART** : **A**cceptance **R**espect **T**eamwork

Permits will be issued on the 5th January.

If you have a relative or child minder who brings your child to school, please ensure they are aware of the procedures. Thank you for your cooperation and continued support in helping us keep everyone safe.

School Improvement Priorities 2025–26

Just a reminder that this year we are focusing on:

1. **Deaf Learner – SMiLE Therapy Parental Engagement**
2. **Raising attainment in Numeracy**
3. **Improving consistency in Writing (P1–P7)**
4. **Meeting individual needs through SCERTS & Sensory Profiling**
5. **Improving pupil attainment and achievement**
6. **Strengthening parental engagement in Early Years**

As always, thank you for your ongoing support of Elderbank Primary School, Early Years, Supported learning and Enhanced Deaf Provision. We look forward to a positive and successful term ahead.

