



Elderbank

NEWSLETTER

September 2026



Welcome back!

We cannot believe August has come to an end. We are already starting our third week at school and Early Years.

We are delighted to have welcomed our new Primary 1 children, as well as eight new pupils across Primary 2–7.

Supported Learning is now full, with 64 pupils from Primary 1–7. We have also welcomed a new pupil to our Enhanced Deaf Provision.

Early Years currently has 36 children attending across morning, afternoon and a limited number of 9.00 a.m.–3.00 p.m. placements for returning children.



Allergy Aware School



Everyone at Elderbank must be allergy aware so that all pupils and staff are safe.

Some pupils and staff have severe nut allergies. No nut products can be brought into Elderbank. Please check every snack and packed lunch carefully.

If your child brings a nut product, it will be removed and an alternative snack will be offered.

Attendance



We are committed to working with pupils and families to support good attendance. We will celebrate positive attendance across the school. Well done to every child who has attended every day and arrived on time!

Please arrange family holidays during school holidays and not during term time. If your child will be absent, call the school office on 01294 218632 by 9.15 a.m.

Informal entry begins at 8.50 a.m. All children should be in school and ready to learn at 9.00 a.m.

DATES, SUPPORT AND FAMILY LEARNING

Breakfast Club



Breakfast Club provides a healthy start to the day and opens each morning at 8.10 a.m.

New Primary 1 pupils are welcome to attend from Monday 7 September.

Breakfast Club will NOT be open on Friday 25 September because of the planned Coffee Morning.

Parents Portal – Action Required



It is very important that every parent and carer signs up to Parents Portal. You can use it to manage your child's profile, update contact details and give consent for visits.

If you have not signed up, please do so now:

<https://parentsportal.scot/pportal/>

Office staff can help if you have any difficulties. Please phone or visit the office. Our aim is for everyone to be signed up this week.

Currently, 60% of parents and carers are signed up. Lets make this 100% this week!

Learning Cafés – Mainstream



Learning Cafés give parents and carers the chance to meet their child's teacher and take part in some learning activities, while also enjoying breakfast together.

Miss Farrell will soon send a consultation about the format of future Learning Cafés. Please look out for it—your views matter.

Wednesday 16th September

P5–P7 Learning Café • 9.00–10.00 a.m.

Wednesday 30th September

P1–P3/2 Learning Café • 9.00–10.00 a.m.

Wednesday 7th October

P3–P5/4 Learning Café • 9.00–10.00 a.m.

WORKING TOGETHER

Parent Council



Our Parent Council Chairperson, Mr Milligan, will share the meeting dates shortly.

We would be delighted to welcome more members. The work of the Parent Council is very valuable. If you are interested in joining, please contact the school office. Staff will pass your details to Mr Milligan.

Physical Education



Every child is entitled to two hours of high-quality Physical Education each week.

We encourage all children to change into their PE kit for every session. A separate grid showing each class's PE days has been emailed to families.

Homework



Homework will begin in all classes from Monday 7 September.

Homework will be issued on Monday and should be returned by Friday each week.

If your child needs any resources to complete the task, please contact the school office. We will arrange for the missing items to be sent home.

Communication



We will continue to use Learning Journals to communicate with families in Supported Learning and the Enhanced Deaf Provision.

There was very limited use of Learning Journals in mainstream classes, so we will not renew the mainstream subscription at this time. We will consult with the Parent Council and all parents and carers about communication as we move forward.

IMPROVING OUR SCHOOL

Meeting Pupil Needs 2026–2027



We have reviewed how we provide pupil support across the school to ensure that every child receives the right support at the right time. Our approach now includes Nurture Support through bespoke programmes, carefully planned targeted interventions for individual pupils, and thoughtful identification of children's needs. This will enable class teachers to provide effective support for individuals and groups within the classroom, working closely alongside our pupil support staff.

School Improvement Planning 2026–2027



We have attached an overview of the work completed during session 2025–2026, together with our improvement priorities for session 2026–2027. Throughout the year, we will share updates so that families can follow our progress and celebrate the difference this work is making for our children.

Thank you for your continued support

Together, we help every child learn, grow and achieve.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Miss J Robertson
Head Teacher