



Lawthorn Primary School & Early Years Class Newsletter

September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is a great pleasure to welcome all of our new and returning pupils to the new academic year. Our P1 children have settled into school life remarkably well, and I am immensely proud of the exemplary conduct and behaviour shown by students across every year group. They continue to embody our core school values of **kindness, honesty, respect, and responsibility** in everything they do.



I would also like to express our sincere gratitude to all parents and carers for your continued support of our school uniform standards. The children look exceptionally smart, and we firmly believe that our uniform fosters high standards of behavior and a strong, united community spirit throughout the school.

Staffing

There have been a few changes to our staffing this year.

School Office:

Mrs. Margaret Anderson has retired after many years with our children and families, and Mrs. Laura Anderson has been appointed as Education Business Officer for the St. Matthew's Cluster. We wish them both well.

We welcome Mrs. Agnew to our school office. Mrs. Agnew works from

Monday – Thursday and joins Miss Valentine, who works Monday & Friday. Both will be happy to help with any enquiries you may have.



We are currently in the process of recruiting for an additional EBA who will work Tuesday – Friday.

Pupil Support Assistants:

We could not do without our amazing Pupil Support Assistants within our school. They are always in the playground to greet our children every morning and work across different classes to support. I am sure you will recognise many names, but enable you to put faces to the names, I have included their photos below:



Annual Data and Photograph Consent

Thank you to those parents who have completed the annual data check, photograph consent, computer and internet use agreement, trip consent and special dietary (if required) forms. If you have not already done so, please sign up to Parent Portal using the following link:

parentsportal.scot | [The digital doorway to your child's school.](#)

Please note that ***we are unable to accept photograph consent forms with specific requests***. In line with North Ayrshire guidance, we can only accept forms in which parents/ carers have selected yes or no.

School Carpark

We have been working closely with the Parent Council over the past few years on safety within our school carpark. We understand that the carpark can be a source of worry and concern for many of our parents and we would therefore like to invite interested parents to join a working party to consider improvements to drop off and collection. If you have any ideas or suggestions or would be willing to join the group, please complete the following MS Form. We will have an initial meeting on Monday 28th September at 9.15am.

[Lawthorn Primary School Carpark Safety – Fill out form](#)

In the meantime, please remember to drive safely within our school carpark. The safety of all children must remain paramount and if it is essential for you to come to school by car, we ask that you drive slowly and do not park or stop on zig zag lines or zebra crossings. We also ask that parents and carers **do not** park in our drop and go zone at the front of the school. Thank you for your support.

Playground

The school provides supervision in the playground from 8.45am. We ask that children do not arrive before this time as they would be unsupervised.



A gentle reminder that dogs are not permitted within school grounds.



Bikes and Scooters

We are always delighted to see children cycle or scoot to school, however please remember that, to maintain the safety of everyone, cycling or scooting is **not permitted** within school grounds. Please ensure that children dismount on entering the school grounds and walk their bike or scooter to the gates when leaving at the end of the day. Thank you!

We would also like to remind all families about the rules regarding the use of electric scooters (e-scooters) for journeys to and from school, as well as on school grounds.

With the safety of our students and the wider community as our top priority, we want to make it clear that privately owned e-scooters are **strictly prohibited on school premises**. Pupils are not permitted to ride them on school grounds, nor are they allowed to store or lock them in school bike shed.

Under current Scottish law, it is **entirely illegal** to ride a privately owned e-scooter on any public road, pavement, cycle lane, or pedestrian pathway. E-scooters are legally classified as motor vehicles, meaning they require a driving licence, insurance, and vehicle registration—requirements that private e-scooters cannot meet.

Police Scotland actively enforces these laws. Parents and students should be aware of the following consequences if a child is caught riding an e-scooter illegally:

- **Fines and Points:** The rider can face a £300 fine and 6 penalty points.
- **Impact on Future Driving:** For underage riders, these penalty points are recorded on a "ghost licence" and will automatically apply to their official provisional licence when they turn 17.
- **Parental Liability:** Parents can be prosecuted, fined, or receive points on their *own* driving licences for permitting their child to ride an e-scooter unlawfully.
- **Vehicle Seizure:** The police have the power to instantly seize and confiscate the e-scooter.

We therefore kindly ask for your cooperation in ensuring your child travels to school safely and legally. We strongly encourage active travel, such as walking, cycling, or using standard push-scooters, provided students wear appropriate protective gear like helmets.

If a student brings an e-scooter onto school property, it will be safely confiscated, and a parent or carer will be required to come to the school to collect it.

House Assembly

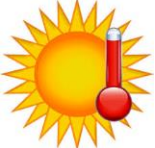
Our first House Assembly will take place on Friday 25th September. Children are invited to come dressed in their house colours (please no football or club clothing). We will also be taking a group photo of each house for display.

Our school houses are as follows:

KIRKGATE	
BRIDGEGATE	
SEAGATE	
RIVERGATE	

Outdoor Learning

Our children will have weekly opportunities to learn outdoors throughout the year. We therefore ask that children come prepared each day for the weather. Suggestions include:

		
Sunhat Sun cream	Waterproof jacket Wellies	Hat Gloves Scarf

PE Days

Gym days for each class are detailed in the table below:

	P1	P2/1	P2	P3	P4	P5/4	P5	P6	P7/6	P7
MONDAY			X	X	X	X				
TUESDAY			X	X				X		X
WEDNESDAY					X	X	X			
THURSDAY	X	X						X	X	X
FRIDAY	X	X					X		X	



To make changing more manageable for our children, we suggest they come to school dressed in a skirt or trousers and school polo shirt on PE days. We adhere strictly to health and safety guidelines and pupils must remove any item that may cause danger such as metal buckles and jewellery. These items are the responsibility of the pupil. Long hair should be tied back.

EY Care Plan Meetings

We would like to invite Early Years Parents/ Carers to attend a Care Plan Meeting on **Wednesday 23rd September**. Sign-up sheets are now available in the Early Years entrance area.

Parent Stay and Play & Project Showcases

We are delighted to invite our EY – P3 Parents/ Carers to a Stay and Play on the following dates/ times:



EYC	30 th October	1.45pm – 2.45pm
P1 & P2/1	28 th September	1.45pm – 2.45pm
P2	1 st October	1.45pm – 2.45pm
P3	30 th September	1.45pm – 2.45pm
P7/6	8 th October	2pm – 3pm
P6	4 th November	2pm – 3pm
P7	4 th November	2pm – 3pm
P4	13 th November	11.00am – 11.45am
P5/4	13 th November	1.45pm – 2.30pm
P5	13 th November	11.45am – 12.30pm

Maths Week Scotland

From the 21st of September we will be celebrating "Maths Week Scotland" with a range of fun and engaging maths activities taking place across the school planned for by the teacher. Pupils will have the opportunity to explore maths in different ways and discover how it plays an important role in everyday life.

We are also delighted to welcome a number of parents who have kindly volunteered their time to visit classes and talk to pupils about how they use maths in their careers. These real-life examples help children see the value of maths beyond the classroom and inspire them to think about the many ways maths is used in the world around us.

A big thank you to everyone who is supporting our Maths Week activities. We look forward to an exciting week ahead.

Pupil Parliament

Our Pupil Parliament took place on Friday 11th September. At the meeting, our P6 & P7 leadership groups and our school committees came together to define their duties and set their plan for the year ahead.

This year our leadership groups include:

- House Captains & Vice Captains
- Ambassadors
- Digital Leaders
- Playground Leaders
- Nurture Champions
- The V Team (Pupil Voice)
- Community Champions

This year our school committees include:

- Eco Schools
- Pupil Council
- Rights Respecting Schools
- Junior Librarians
- The Helping Hands Group

We look forward to sharing their progress throughout the school year.



Standards & Quality Report:

Our Standards & Quality Report provides information to Parents & Carers on the strengths of our school, our recent improvements and what we need to further develop. The report for session 2025-2026 can be accessed on our school website.

School Improvement:

Our school priorities for 2026 - 2027 are:

- *To embed a consistent approach to high-quality learning and teaching which develops independent, skilled learners through inquiry, effective learning environments and meaningful learner participation.*
- *To raise attainment in Literacy & Numeracy.*
- *To support the needs of neurodivergent learners and ensure the wellbeing of all children across the school and Early Years.*
- *To improve attendance by promoting positive engagement, robust monitoring and effective partnership working with families.*
- *To strengthen professional judgement through effective use of data, high-quality assessment and collaborative moderation to improve outcomes for all learners.*

Our School Improvement Plan can be viewed in full on our school website.

Parent Council News

Our Parent Council AGM took place on Monday 14th September. Office Bearers for 2026-2027 are as follows:

Chairperson: Emma McQueen

Vice Chairperson: Katy Andrews

Secretary: Jenn Risk

Treasurer: Natalie Henderson

Fundraising Coordinator: Ashley McDougall

If you have any ideas or suggestions, the Parent Council can be contacted via their mailbox: lawthornpc@gmail.com

Leavers' Hoodies

Our Primary 7 pupils always look forward to receiving their special leavers' hoodies. We are delighted that these will once again be generously organised by our Parent Council. Through their dedicated fundraising efforts, the Parent Council works hard to significantly reduce the cost of the hoodies, making them much more affordable for all our children and families. These are planned to be distributed around Christmas time.

Communication & Updates

I appreciate that it can be difficult for parents to know which method of communication should be used when receiving information from, or contacting the school. We have therefore provided the following table as a guide:

Method of Communication	What to expect from school	Suggested use for parents/ carers
Parent Portal	Letters requiring consent or parent signatures	Completing annual data/ parent permission forms
Email	- Monthly newsletters - School/ EY information - Information from other bodies e.g. Active Schools/ Greenwood Academy/ Music Services - Termly homework grids and parent information leaflets	Communication regarding pupil holidays/ appointments
Telephone	- Informing parents of accidents or incidents - Sharing of information	- Reporting sickness absence - In the instance parents/carers require to speak with a member of staff
Safer Schools App	Weekly announcements and reminders of upcoming events	Reporting sickness absence
School gates/ EY doors	Brief sharing of information	Brief sharing of information
Face to face appointments	More detailed information sharing	More detailed information sharing

If you need to speak with someone urgently, please contact the school on 01294 224548. Our phone lines for the school are open between 8.30am and 4pm.

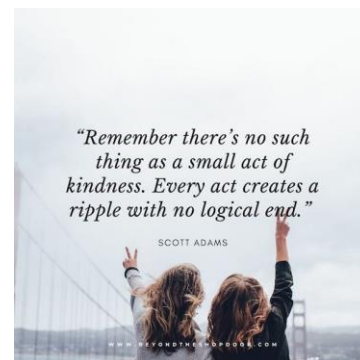
Dates for your Diary

We are aware that we have very busy parents and it can be helpful to have advanced notice of school events. Here are a few key dates for your diary this term. Should there be any changes to these or additional dates added, we will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible.

25 TH SEPTEMBER	HOUSE ASSEMBLY – WIDER ACHIEVEMENTS (WEAR HOUSE COLOURS)
28 TH SEPTEMBER	P1 & P2/1 STAY & PLAY: 1.45 – 2.45
30 TH SEPTEMBER	P3 STAY & PLAY: 1.45 – 2.45
1 ST OCTOBER	P2 STAY & PLAY: 1.45 – 2.45
7 TH OCTOBER	HARVEST SERVICE (P4/5 - 7 th Oct)
8 TH OCTOBER	P7/6 PROJECT SHOWCASE FOR PARENTS: 2PM – 3PM
21 ST OCTOBER	TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHY
30 TH OCTOBER	HOUSE ASSEMBLY – WIDER ACHIEVEMENTS (WEAR HOUSE COLOURS)
30 TH OCTOBER	EY HALLOWEEN STAY & PLAY
4 TH NOVEMBR	P6 PROJECT SHOWCASE FOR PARENTS: 2PM – 3PM
4 TH NOVEMBR	P7 PROJECT SHOWCASE FOR PARENTS: 2PM – 3PM
12 TH NOVEMBER	PARENTS' MEETINGS
13 TH NOVEMBER	P4 PROJECT SHOWCASE FOR PARENTS: 11AM – 11.45
13 TH NOVEMBER	P5 PROJECT SHOWCASE FOR PARENTS: 11.45 – 12.30
13 TH NOVEMBER	P5/4 PROJECT SHOWCASE FOR PARENTS: 1.45 – 2.30
17 TH NOVEMBER	PARENTS' MEETINGS
19 TH NOVEMBER	FLU IMMUNISATION
27 TH NOVEMBER	HOUSE ASSEMBLY – WIDER ACHIEVEMENTS (WEAR HOUSE COLOURS)
9 TH DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS FAYRE
WB 14 TH DEC	CHRISTMAS PARTIES
17 TH DECEMBER	EY CHRISTMAS STAY & PLAY

Thank you for your continued support!

Best Wishes,
Miss Grossart
Head Teacher



Kindness

Honesty

Respect

Responsibility