

OUR MOTTO & VALUES

responsi**B**ility

gr**A**ttitude

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

hu**M**ility

persever**A**nce

Love

ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS

h**O**nesty and gener**O**sity

respe**C**t

friends**H**ip & family

A Place of Enthusiastic Learning and Achievement!

Dear Parents, Carers, and Community Members,

As we reach the end of the session 2024/25, I want to express my sincere gratitude for your continued support and partnership this year. Looking back, this year has been filled with many highlights, including the success of our football team and 3 football stars gaining the opportunity to develop their talents at Braidhurst. Thanks to Mr Paterson and Mr Clark for their continued support, together with Alexander from Kilsyth Academy. Our Dance Mania group also reached the North Lanarkshire finals at Airdrie Town Hall on 5th June, 2025, achieving 3rd place out of approximately 60 schools. A big thank you to Mrs Diamond and our P7 pupils (Sophia/Ella/Holly) for their time and dedication in supporting our young stars. Our netball team achieved 3rd place in the North Lanarkshire finals and our Cross-country participants reached the final in Wishaw. A big thank you to Mrs Grant, Miss Wright and Mrs Vernet for their dedication to sport. We continue to be fully committed to music provision with Mr Golding, Mr Sommerville and Mrs James, with some of our children having the opportunity to participate in the Kilsyth Academy concert. Our children have participated in a variety of events, educational outings to support learning across the curriculum and shared learning with you through their assemblies:

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|------|--|------|---|---|--|----|---|
| P1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glasgow Children's Hospital Visit Briarland's Farm | P2/1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summerlee Heritage Museum Vue Cinema | P2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glasgow Children's Hospital Visit Stirling Castle | P3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glasgow Children's Hospital Visit Glasgow Science Centre Assembly - Space |
| P4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Livingstone Centre | P5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bannockburn | P6/5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holyrood House | P6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science Centre Clyde in the Classroom Swimming Trials |
| P6/7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dalguise Residential (P7) Sky Academy Dumbreck & Garrell Film-making Project Victorian Classroom Swimming Lessons | P7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dalguise Residential Experience Dumbreck & Garrell Film-making Project | <p><u>Whole School</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Book Day – Pyjama Day Library Visits Colourful Clothes Day Author's Live Event P2-7 Reading Challenge Book Week Scotland National Storytelling Week Sports Day | | | |

I have also included our teacher judgement data in Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening and Numeracy and Maths from P1-P7 and Scottish National Assessment Data for P1 in Literacy and Numeracy and P4 and P7 in Reading, Writing and Numeracy and Maths for last session and this session:

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

| SNSA 2024-25 | PRIMARY 1 2024-25 BAND 3-6 | PRIMARY 4 2024-25 BAND 6-9 | PRIMARY 7 2024-25 BAND 8-11 |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| READING | 56/56 = 100% ALL | 42/52 = 81% MOST | 38/46 = 83% MOST |
| WRITING | N/A | 42/52 = 81% MOST | 40/46 = 87% MOST |
| NUMERACY & MATHS | 56/56 = 100% ALL | 36/52 = 69% MAJORITY | 32/46 = 70% MAJORITY |

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

| SNSA 2023-24 | PRIMARY 1 2023-24 BAND 3-6 | PRIMARY 4 2023-24 BAND 6-9 | PRIMARY 7 2023-24 BAND 8-11 |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| READING | 36/36 = 100% ALL | 48/50 = 96% ALMOST ALL | 62/66 = 94% ALMOST ALL |
| WRITING | N/A | 46/50 = 92% ALMOST ALL | 55/66 = 83% MOST |
| NUMERACY & MATHS | 36/36 = 100% ALL | 45/50 = 90% ALMOST ALL | 55/66 = 83% MOST |

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENTS 2024-25

| | PRIMARY 1 | PRIMARY 2 | PRIMARY 3 | PRIMARY 4 | PRIMARY 5 | PRIMARY 6 | PRIMARY 7 |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| HWB | 46/56 = 82% MOST | 36/36 = 100% ALL | 44/44 = 100% ALL | 50/52 = 96% ALMOST ALL | 42/49 = 86% MOST | 46/47 = 98% ALMOST ALL | 45/46 = 98% ALMOST ALL |
| | N/A | +16% | Maintained | +9% | Maintained | +10% | +5% |
| READING | '44/56 = 79% MOST | '31/36 = 86% MOST | 38/44 = 86% MOST | 43/52 = 83% MOST | 36/49 = 73% MAJORITY | 30/48 = 63% MAJORITY | 31/46 = 67% MAJORITY |
| | N/A | +8% | +14% | +17% | +5% | +9% | +8% |
| WRITING | 44/56 = 79% MOST | 32/36 = 89% MOST | 36/44 = 82% MOST | 31/52 = 60% MAJORITY | 30/49 = 61% MAJORITY | 24/48 = 50% MAJORITY | 24/46 = 52% MAJORITY |
| | N/A | +17% | +8% | +9% | +11% | +10% | +2% |
| TALKING & LISTENING | 46/56 = 82% MOST | 33/36 = 92% MOST | 41/44 = 93% ALMOST ALL | 39/52 = 75% MOST | 38/49 = 78% MOST | 37/48 = 77% MOST | 27/46 = 59% MAJORITY |
| | N/A | +9% | +5% | +1% | +8% | +19% | Maintained |
| NUMERACY & MATHS | 46/56 = 82% MOST | '30/36 = 83% MOST | 40/44 = 91% ALMOST ALL | 34/52 = 65% MAJORITY | 33/49 = 67% MAJORITY | 26/48 = 54% MAJORITY | 26/46 = 61% MAJORITY |
| | N/A | '+2% | +10% | '+7% | +33% | +8% | +4% |

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENTS 2023-24








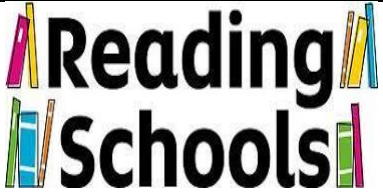



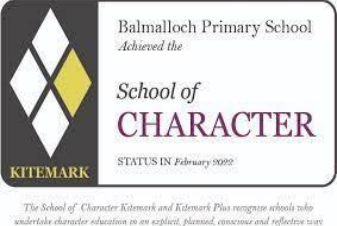


| | PRIMARY 1 | PRIMARY 2 | PRIMARY 3 | PRIMARY 4 | PRIMARY 5 | PRIMARY 6 | PRIMARY 7 |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| HWB | 31/36 = 84% MOST | 43/43 = 100% ALL | 46/53 = 87% MOST | 43/50 = 86% MOST | 42/48 = 88% MOST | 43/46 = 93% ALMOST ALL | 53/66 = 80% MOST |
| READING | 28/36 = 78% MOST | 31/43 = 72% MAJORITY | 35/53 = 66% MAJORITY | 34/50 = 68% MAJORITY | 26/48 = 54% MAJORITY | 27/46 = 59% MAJORITY | 40/66 = 61% MAJORITY |
| WRITING | 26/36 = 72% MAJORITY | 32/43 = 74% MAJORITY | 27/53 = 51% MAJORITY | 25/50 = 50% MAJORITY | 19/48 = 40% MINORITY | 23/46 = 50% MAJORITY | 36/66 = 55% MAJORITY |
| TALKING & LISTENING | 30/36 = 83% MOST | 38/43 = 88% MOST | 39/53 = 74% MAJORITY | 35/50 = 70% MAJORITY | 28/48 = 58% MAJORITY | 27/46 = 59% MAJORITY | 34/66 = 52% MAJORITY |
| NUMERACY & MATHS | 29/36 = 81% MOST | 35/43 = 81% MOST | 31/53 = 58% MAJORITY | 18/50 = 34% MINORITY | 22/48 = 46% MINORITY | 26/46 = 57% MAJORITY | 44/66 = 67% MAJORITY |





We also want to thank our families and the community for the support given to charity. We have raised

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| Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day £304.50 | Strathcarron Hospice Anderson Church Collection £152.00 | Brakes Road Safety Charity Anderson Church Collection £55.00 |
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A big thank you also goes out to our Captain, Vice-Captains and Prefects, supported by our Community Pupil Partnership Team, for their continued support across the school and nursery. We also wish to thank our Pupil Voice groups for the contribution they have made to improvements this session and in previous sessions, using National Frameworks to develop skills and achieving numerous awards.

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| Enterprising Schools Award – Bronze 2025 | Social Enterprise Award 2025 | Social Enterprise Award 2024 | Social Enterprise Award 2023 |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|

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| STEM Nation Award 2025 | ECO Schools 10 th Flag 2025 | Learning for Sustainability Award 2025 | Silver Reading Schools Award 2024 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Silver RRS Award 2024 | Fairtrade Active 2023 | Fairtrade 2023 | Scottish School of Character 2022 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Digital Leaders – Intergenerational Project Digital Schools 2022 | Young STEM Leaders Delivering Centre 2022 | | |
|  |  | | |
| <u>Areas for Development/Next Steps:</u> | | | |
| Schools Sports Scotland Gold Award | International Schools Award | Gold Reading Schools Award | Gold RRS Award |

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| Participatory Budget Group Development of the Outdoors | <u>2025-26 Improvement Priority</u> Raising Attainment in Writing (Year 2) | <u>2025-26 Improvement Priority</u> Raising Attainment in Numeracy and Maths (Year 2) | <u>2025-26 Improvement Priority</u> Development of Play Pedagogy, Outdoor Learning and Meta-Skills |

I want to give a special thank you to our staff for their commitment and hard work in creating a positive and engaging learning environment for our children. The clubs provided this session have given our children an opportunity to develop skills through extra-curricular activities, participation in a range of events, whilst having fun with their friends.

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| Christmas Choir Tesco – Spina-bifida Miss McDonnell & Mrs Macaulay | Choir/Musical Theatre Spring/Summer Fayre Miss McNeil | Cross-Country Club Cross-Country Final – Wishaw Sports Centre Mrs Vernett | Sportshall Athletics Club Mrs Vernett |
| Netball Mrs Grant & Miss Wright | Sumdog Club Mrs Hamilton | Minecraft Club Digital Leaders & Mrs Grant | Football Club P7 Mr Paterson & Mr Clark |
| Dance Club – P3 Mrs Diamond and P7 Leaders | Dance Mania Club Dance Mania Final – Airdrie Town Hall Mrs Diamond | Reading Club Mrs Murphjy | <u>Musical Tuition</u> Brass – Mr Golding pBuzz – Mr Golding Saxophone – Mrs James Chanter – Mr Sommerville Kilsyth Academy Concert – 10.06.25 |

The landscape of education has changed and as a school and nursery we have enhanced our practice through a range of professional development opportunities. Since September 2023, there has been a significant increase in the identification of Additional Support Needs which has increased from 4% in 2022/23 to 24% of learners in 2024/25 – 14 pupils to 82 pupils. We continue to develop our Character Education provision, Rights of the Child through the UNCRC and Pupil Voice Group, nurturing approaches through exploration of the 6 Principles of Nurture with the Educational Psychologist and deepen our knowledge and understanding of neurodiversity contributing to an inclusive environment. This year all staff engaged in ‘Keeping the Promise’ professional development, and we were the first school in the cluster to achieve the award. We will continue to work in partnership with our families to ensure all learners and staff have access to a safe, happy and productive learning environment. Our staff have also participated in professional development in the areas of Play Pedagogy, Outdoor Learning and De-escalation. Thank you to Mrs Murphy for leading ‘Seasons for Growth’ this session to support learners with their emotions.

Thank you also to our Parent Council and their contribution to school improvement over the session. Our PTA also deserve a massive thank you for the organisation of a range of events for our children and families. Their fundraising has enabled us to purchase storage for our gym mats and Studyladder to support homework and learning in school. We have also arranged events and communicated over the session to enable our families to be actively involved in children’s learning.

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| Mobile Phone Policy | Homework – Studyladder | Uniform Policy | Positive Relationships and Behaviour Policy |
| Information Evening & Meet the Teacher | Halloween/Valentines Disco | Christmas/Spring Fayre | Civic Week |
| Class Assemblies | Educational Outings | Pupil Progress Profiles | Progress & GIRFME meetings |
| Christmas Concert & P1 Nativity | Nursery to P1 Transition Enhanced Transition Nursery/P7 | Sports’ Day | Awards & Leavers’ Ceremony P7 Show |

All staff would like to thank Mr Hall, one of our grandparents, for the continued support he has provided in a voluntary capacity – he is just like one of the staff team. I truly don’t know where we would be without him – nothing is ever too much – the children know how lucky they are to have his support and undivided attention. Mr Hall displays the values we practise in our school, being a positive role model for others – every school should have a ‘Mr Hall’. A thank you also goes out to Mrs Hanning for supporting learners in P6/7 this year in Numeracy and Maths.

We are already looking forward to the new academic year and are planning some exciting new initiatives, including a focus on Play/STEM, Outdoor Learning and Meta-Skills. We will continue to focus on Writing and Numeracy and Maths with the aim of raising attainment of all learners.

Our school will be closed from 1pm on 25th June, 2025 returning on 12th August, 2025 for staff. On the 12th and 13th of August, 2025 staff will be involved in 2 in-service days, children should not attend. Children will return on 14th August, 2025. Please ensure you refer to our Uniform Policy in the newsletter prior to purchasing uniforms. You will receive a 'Meet the Teacher' information sheet that you can discuss with your child to support transition.

Finally, we wish Mrs Diamond and her family all the best for her future in Dubai, I am sure she will let us know how they are getting on as soon as she is settled and enjoying the lovely weather. We also bid a fond farewell to Mrs Russell, Mrs Hamilton, Mr. Trainer, Miss. Luxton and Miss Finlay wishing them health and happiness for the future in all they choose to do. We look forward to also seeing Mrs Macaulay's new addition to her family, little Oscar – I am sure she will have a fantastic summer as a new mum. Please note, as advised in our previous newsletter, there will be no changes to classes as staff and the SLMT have worked extremely hard since the beginning of June to devise these ensuring we focus on the best composition for each of our learners.

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| P1 | 24 Pupils |
| P1/2 | 16 – P1 Pupils 8 – P2 Pupils |
| P2 | 30 Pupils |
| P2/3 | 18 – P2 Pupils 6 – P3 Pupils |
| P3 | 30 Pupils |
| P4A | 22 Pupils |
| P4B | 22 Pupils |
| P5 | 32 Pupils |
| P5/6 | 19 – P5 Pupils 5 – P6 Pupils |
| P6 | 30 Pupils |
| P6/7 | 11 – P6 Pupils 14 – P7 Pupils |
| P7 | 33 Pupils |

Next session, all schools in the cluster will have one permanent Learning Assistant. Our Learning Assistant will be Mrs Hourigan. All other Learning Assistants, Mrs Smith, Miss Carlin and Mrs Connolly will be allocated across cluster schools in consultation with the Cluster Integration and Improvement

Lead. Allocations depend on needs within each establishment – Kilsyth Academy, Banton Primary, Chapelgreen Primary, Kilsyth Primary and Balmalloch Primary. I want to thank all support staff for the contribution they have made to our children this year.

We have been very lucky in Balmalloch this session to receive support from the Cluster Support Teacher, Mrs Curran, and the Cluster Resource Teacher, Miss Mahmood, to support learners across the school. The impact of their support is clearly recognised and should be evident in your child's progress report if they were lucky enough to work with the ladies who add to our team.

Our Clerical Team all work part-time – Mrs Shona Mitchell, Miss Michelle Mitchell and Mrs Alison Agba – ensuring efficient service is provided to our families – a big thank you to them for all of their hard work. Mrs Agba was successful recently in achieving the role of Dining Hall Assistant, providing support for our children during lunch time. Mr Thomson is our Facilities Support Officer and continues to maintain school grounds and buildings – thank you to him for the service he has provided over the session. Mrs M. Hamilton runs a very well attended Breakfast Club for our children, which has been supported by Primary 6 and Primary 3 pupils. I am sure you will join me in thanking Mrs Hamilton and our pupils in their leadership roles for contributing to the positive start for our children each day. I know staff and children would also like to thank our catering team for providing a range of nutritious meals across the session and our cleaners for keeping our school and nursery clean on a daily basis, ready for the next day ahead. We are lucky to have such a committed team of staff in our establishment who go above and beyond each and every day.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support and for entrusting us with the education of your children. We wish you all a safe, happy, and restful summer holiday. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new academic year on 2025/26.

Best wishes,

Miss McCarthy, Mrs Diamond, Mr Paterson and the Balmalloch Team