

Ravenswood Primary School



January 2026

Parent/Carer Newsletter

Happy New Year! It has been lovely to see everyone return to school, we hope you had a great break. It has been wonderfully wintry however chilly! Please remember winter woollies for break times at school.

Dates for your Diary

12 th January	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	9.30am - 10.30am P1 Enrolment 1.30pm - 2.30pm P1 Enrolment
13 th January	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	9.30am - 10.30am P1 Enrolment
15 th January	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	1.30pm - 2.30pm P1 Enrolment
16 th January	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	1.30pm - 2.15pm - school open afternoon - all welcome 😊
20 th January	Summerlee	Primary 7 school trip
22 nd January	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	1.45pm - Burns celebration P6 leading, all welcome 😊
28 th January	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	Progress Conferences 3.15pm - 5.30pm 6pm - 8pm

Primary 1 Enrolment

It is that time of the year when we look forward to meeting the new Primary 1 pupils for session 2026-27. Please share the information attached with any families you think may be joining us. Posters have been attached around the perimeter fencing at Ravenswood Primary, Tiree Road to ensure everyone knows we are based at St Mary's this year. We can't wait to get to know our families.

Scottish Home Learning

Each class will be learning a Scottish song/poem as part of our Scottish celebrations in January. A winner of each class will be chosen, and classes will perform at the Burns celebrations on Thursday 22nd January at 1.45pm. Families will be notified if their child has won in advance of the celebrations. All welcome for the afternoon celebrations. 😊

Open Afternoon

On Friday 16th January Ravenswood Primary will open our school doors for families to come to classes to see their child's work in jotters and on displays. Due to the different school setup this year, we are restricting the visiting time from 1.30pm – 2.15pm. All families attending on this day will be met at the Ravenswood Primary School door entrance. Senior pupils and staff will escort families to classes through the school. Classes will be ready to welcome all who attend, this is not an opportunity to ask class teachers specific questions about your child's learning but an excellent opportunity to celebrate their hard work and success. You will be asked to sign in and sign out on this day. We hope to see you then. 😊

School Uniform

Most children continue to wear full school uniform each day, thank you for this. It is wonderful to see everyone looking so smart. Any other jumpers/cardigans that are not uniform cannot be worn in class. At times, parents/cares may be called to bring uniform to school if children are not dressed appropriately. We have no school stock, please send your child to school wearing uniform.

This is a gentle reminder that all children should be appropriately dressed for PE, we aim to go outside as much as possible and use our MUGA. Crop tops are not appropriate in school. We will request a change to be delivered to the school from home for those presenting wearing these. Plain t-shirts or polo shirts and dark joggers/leggings/shorts are ideal. No branded items or football strips are permitted. Please wear school jumpers/cardigans on PE.

If sourcing uniform is a problem, we can help. The Cumbernauld Clothing Bank are a great support and will happily assist once we know your child's size details. Request support by emailing the school enquiries address or talk to a member of the team.

enquiries-at-ravenswood@northlan.org.uk

School Car Park and Playground

St Mary's school car park is not the biggest and we are trying to squeeze two staff teams in! The car park is only for staff, including at breakfast club drop off, and for access for one child with a disabled badge. Please park and stride using designated parking spaces and leaving pavements clear for our children to walk safely to school. Please do not use the car park at the end of the school. Thank you to everyone who is parking safely in the community. There is a one way system in operation around St Mary's school with double yellow lines that must be kept clear. We understand parking locally is a nightmare and appreciate everyone in working together with the local community. 😊

All classes will be escorted to the playground by staff. There are artificial road markings (a solid white line) that we ask all parents/carers to stay behind so children and staff can clearly see parents/carers. This is for the morning drop off and afternoon collection.

We are escorting bus lines and ask that parents/carers leave a clear pathway. Staff will be on hand to help.

P1 – P4 children are escorted to the playground by the teaching staff to ensure they are met with a safe adult. P5 – P7 leave independently. Thank you for cooperation keeping our children safe.

Absences and Late Comings

Absence and late comings emails have been shared with parents and carers for those below 95% attendance at school. We are keen to support high attendance and punctual time keeping. Please speak to a member of the team if you are looking for supports.

enquiries-at-ravenswood@northlan.org.uk

The office role is very busy, please help us out by emailing or calling the school to inform us if your child is off. The school phone has an answering machine that is checked throughout the day. Please inform the school, ideally prior to 9am. This saves Mrs Reid or Miss Rose having to contact individual families. enquiries-at-ravenswood@northlan.org.uk 01236 632100

We are lucky that our school is well supported by a Family Engagement Support Assistant (FESA). The FESA supports families identified by the school whose attendance is concerning. Our aim is for children to attend at least 95% of the school year. We understand that this is not always possible. Communication is vital so we know why children are off school. We are keen to support in any way

we can. We have noticed that many children are attending late to school and missing vital teaching time. The school is happy to help families who are struggling with time keeping. I have attached the council Attendance Matters information guide for your reference.

Weekly Snapshots

We have started sharing weekly snapshots of learning to our school website class pages. These are updated every Friday for you to enjoy.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/ravenswoodps/>

Financial Inclusion Team

The Financial Inclusion Team help North Lanarkshire residents with money advice and welfare benefits. The team includes a combination of debt advisers and welfare rights staff. If you are worried about debt or experiencing financial difficulties, the debt advisers can provide free, impartial and confidential advice. If you would like Mrs. Hawthorn to make a referral please do not hesitate to contact the school. NLHawthornr@northlan.org.uk or 01236 632100

Cumbernauld and Kilsyth Care

Cumbernauld and Kilsyth Care are a registered charity, working since March 2016, with the aim of helping families in our community. They provide two services in our local area – a school uniform bank and a Baby bank, both of which support children of all ages. If this is a service that could help your family please contact the school. Mrs Hawthorn would be delighted to make a referral on your behalf. NLHawthornr@northlan.org.uk or 01236 632100

School Information

Keep up-to-date with the latest School news and events on:

School Website: https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/ravenswoodps

Please visit our School Website for more School, staff and class information.

Contact Us - Telephone - 01236 632100

First point of contact for all enquiries should be directed, in the first instance, to the School Office on the above telephone number. In most cases, these enquiries can be addressed and answered promptly by School staff. These arrangements should also be followed for any other specific issues which might require the

personal attention of the Class Teacher and/or Principal Teachers or Head Teacher during School hours.

Changes to information

Please note that some information included in this Newsletter may be subject to change. If any changes are made, Parents/Carers will be notified in advance via email, GroupCall and/or letter.



Diary Dates

It is possible that some changes will be made throughout the school year. Please keep an eye on newsletters and check your emails for updates from staff.

Important Dates 2025-26

12 th January	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	9.30am - 10.30am P1 Enrolment 1.30pm - 2.30pm P1 Enrolment
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28 th January	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	Progress Conferences 3.15pm - 5.30pm 6pm - 8pm
Monday 16 th February - Wednesday 18 th February	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY
Tuesday 31 st March	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	1.45pm Spring Service P5 leading, all welcome 😊

Tuesday 31 st March	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	PCA Spring Disco P1 - P3 6.30pm - 7.30pm P4 - P7 7.45pm - 8.45pm
Thursday 2 nd April	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	2.30pm - school closes
Friday 3 rd April - Friday 17 th April	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY
Monday 4 th May	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY
Friday 8 th May	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	9.30am - Potential Sports Day - more information to follow
Wednesday 20 th May	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	3.15pm onwards Progress Conferences
Friday 22 nd May - Monday 25 th May	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY
Wednesday 3 rd June	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	1.45pm whole school concert
Thursday 4 th June	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	1.45pm whole school concert
Thursday 11 th June	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	1.45pm Celebration of Achievement - all welcome 😊
Thursday 11 th June	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	PCA Summer Disco P1 - P3 6.30pm - 7.30pm P4 - P7 7.45pm - 8.45pm
Thursday 18 th June	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	1.30pm Summer service - P7 leading - all welcome 😊
Friday 26 th June	Ravenswood Primary at St Mary's	1pm - school closes

Ravenswood Primary School Enrolment 2026



Do you like to learn and play?
Do you like to make lots of fun memories?
Do you like working as a team?
If yes, then come and join our Ravenswood Primary School family!



Children who turn 5 years of age between 1st March 2026 and 29th February 2027 should be registered for school by the 16th of January.

We would like to welcome all Primary 1 beginners for enrolment at Ravenswood Primary on Monday 12th of January, this is the best day as we can assure you a dry waiting space. Please come along at a time that suits you best between 9:30am and 10:30am or 1:30pm – 2:30pm.

Enrolment will also take place on Tuesday 13th of January between 9:30am and 10:30am, and Thursday 15th of January between 1:30pm and 2:30pm. On these dates the enrolment queue will be outdoors. At the moment we are not in our Ravenswood building, you will find us at St Mary's Primary School, Liddel Road, G67 1JB.

You will need to bring...

- Your child's birth certificate
- A recent council tax bill, or some proof of address

For more information please don't hesitate to contact us on 01236 632100, or if the dates and times above are not suitable for you then please let us know and we can make alternative arrangements. If you would like to find out more about life at Ravenswood then please take a look at our school website -

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/ravenswoodps/>

Make every day count: what can you do to help?

- Think about the impact of regular absences - missing school is missing learning and play.
- Try to arrange non-urgent dental and medical appointments outside school hours and if an appointment must be made within school hours, try to ensure your child is back at school as soon as possible.
- Establish routines at the start and end of the day so your child is prepared for the school day ahead; building up habits of punctuality and attendance. Your child's school may have a breakfast club which will support you.
- Talk to your child's school - ask questions and have regular discussions which support you and your child.
- Discuss any problems or difficulties with the school: staff are there to help and will be supportive. You have support from school staff, the Head Teacher and Cluster Integration and Improvement Lead (CIIL) for the cluster.
- Let the school know if your child is absent due to illness or other reason. This can be a call or text.

DID YOU KNOW

What should I do if my child is anxious or worried about going to school?

Your child has a right to an education and to be safe and happy at school. But sometimes children and young people can be anxious or worried about going to school due to many possible reasons.

You may think letting your child stay off school when they feel this way is the best option, however experience tells us it is better to talk to the school about this as soon as you can. Longer absences make it harder for your child to return.

Your child's school staff are there to help. Your first point of contact should be the school. Staff in your child's school and the CIIL are keen to help and support you.

If you are unsure who to talk to in the school, ask to speak to the Head Teacher.

However there are also a number of agencies and services that can provide you with professional help and advice.

(Contact details can be found on the following page).

Support, information and advice

ParentLine Scotland

At some time all parents find that parenting can be difficult or stressful. ParentLine Scotland is the free, confidential, telephone helpline for anyone caring for a child in Scotland. You can call about any problem, however big or small. Phone: 0800 800 2222

On line at: www.children1st.org.uk/parentline-scotland

Parentzone

Parentzone provides information for parents and carers about how you can support your child's education.

On line at: www.educationscotland.gov.scot/parentzone

Childline

Children and young people can get confidential help about any question, concern or worry.

Phone: 0800 1111

On line at: www.childline.org.uk

Citizen Advice Bureau

Your local CAB can provide information and support about rights and responsibilities when it comes to schools and education. Information and advice on lots of areas at: www.adviceguide.org.uk where you can also find your local CAB.

Enquire

Enquire is the Scottish advice service for additional support for learning and operates a helpline for parents, carers and practitioners.

An interpreter can be arranged upon request.

Telephone helpline: 0845 123 2303

E-mail: info@enquire.org.uk

On line at: www.enquire.org.uk

ABEL

ABEL is a voluntary organisation that developed out of the strong desire of parents to do something for themselves to overcome the devastating effects that bullying can have on children, their families and their community. ABEL offers information and support to the young person being bullied and their family and the young person displaying the bullying behaviour and their family.

Contact them through their website at: www.antibullyingeastlothian.org.uk

National Parent Forum of Scotland

Provides parents with information and advice on understanding the new curriculum and supporting their child's education.

On line at: www.parentforumsotland.org



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

SUPPORT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



EMPOWERING OUR CLUSTERS | LEARN HERE

Why is school attendance so important?

We want all our children and young people to realise their full potential.

Excellent attendance at school is important to allow your child to fulfil their potential and for them to have the best start and brighter future.

Below are just some of the key reasons why it is so important children attend school:

- To have fun and opportunities to experience new things
- To develop new skills for learning, skills for work and skills for life
- To understand responsibility
- To make new friends and build positive relationships
- To develop awareness of other cultures, religions, ethnicity, and gender difference
- To celebrate achievements with friends and peers
- To attain in curricular pathways
- To build confidence, self-esteem and resilience
- To grow as individuals

Every school day counts

When you have a conversation with your child's school they will give you attendance in a percentage. This can be confusing!

Have you considered the following:

100% attendance	0 Days missed	Gives your child the best opportunities in their learning and achievement
95% attendance	9 days of absence 1 week and 4 days of learning missed.	
90% attendance	19 days of absence 3 weeks and 4 days of learning missed.	This will potentially impact on your child's progress in learning.
85% Attendance	27 days of absence 5 weeks and 3 days of learning missed. This is almost a half term.	This will impact on your child's progress in learning, achievement and attainment.
80% Attendance	36 days of absence 7 weeks and 3 days of learning missed. This is a half term.	
75% Attendance	45 days of absence 9 weeks and 1 day of learning missed. Almost a whole term.	

DID YOU KNOW

MISS SCHOOL MISS OUT

Did you know...?

There are 190 days in each school year

That means there are 175 non school days for holidays, haircuts and appointments!

90% attendance may sound good but... 19 days missed each year

2 school days missed each month during your school life adds up to 1 whole year of school lost

15 mins late every day = 2 weeks of lost learning each year.

In primary school there are 25 hours of learning each week. 4 weeks missed = 100 hours of learning missed.

Some Children and Teens find it hard to come to school. Tell the school as soon as you can if there is a problem.

Don't worry.. you are not on your own. We are here to help and to work with you and your family.

Working Together we can do it and make sure your child does not MISS OUT

LEARN HERE

Is it ever alright for my child to be off school?

Your child can be off school if:

- They are ill
- They are attending a doctor or hospital appointment
- They are going to a meeting about a Children's Hearing or court, or if they are going to a Children's Hearing, case review or court
- If they are involved in an activity and the school agrees in advance
- Someone close to your child has died
- There is a crisis or serious difficulty at home or in your family
- They are going to a religious ceremony or a wedding of someone very close to them
- You are a Gypsy/Traveller family and while you go travelling you keep in touch with your child's teacher
- Your family is returning to a country of origin for cultural reasons or to care for a relative.

DID YOU KNOW

As long as you have informed the school of the reason why your child is off, and the school is satisfied that this is a valid reason, these would be called authorised absences.

However this is still recorded as an absence for your child.

Top tips it's good to talk!

Any child currently avoiding school is likely to become nervous when they are asked about their worries or returning to school.

These questions can help to start the conversation about feelings and fears.

- What are the three best things about school?
- Would you prefer to text, draw or write about it?
- What three things are you most worried about?

