



Kilbarchan Primary School

Newsletter 9

19/05/23



Dear Parents and Carers,

Head Teacher Update

It is with a heavy heart that I wish to announce that I will be leaving Kilbarchan Primary School at the end of June. I will be taking up the role of Workstream Lead Officer for the West Partnership which works across 8 local authorities, including Renfrewshire. This is a 23-month secondment and so the role of Acting Head Teacher of Kilbarchan Primary will be advertised next week. I will keep you updated on the progress and outcome of this process.

Leaving our children, staff and families is going to be the hardest part of all. The community of Kilbarchan is so very special to me and I have felt welcomed and supported throughout my time here. It has been an honour to work with your children and to forge such strong partnerships with families over the years. This school is an amazing place to be, and I know that whoever takes over for the next 23 months will be extremely lucky to do so.

I wish to thank you for all that you do to support your children and the school. You are an amazing community and I have loved every minute in my role as Head Teacher here.

Primary 1 Teacher

Mrs MacPhee will be finishing for her maternity leave at the end of next week, with her last day being Thursday 25 May. I am pleased to share with you that Mrs Baillie will be taking over until the end of term. Mrs MacPhee and Mrs Baillie will link closely on the needs, progress, and next steps for all pupils in the class and in addition, Mrs Baillie will spend time with the children on Thursday. The smooth transition will be overseen by the senior leadership team. Should you have any questions please contact the school directly where we would be happy to help.

Sports Day(s)

Our Sports Day will take place in the afternoon of Tuesday 6 June with our fallback date being the afternoon of Wednesday 7 June should the weather not be in our favour. We will be in touch with more details in due course.

School Trips

Primary 3 went to Finlaystone Country Park. Georgie said, 'I loved playing in the park! We ran around a lot and chased each other. We went into underground tunnels!'. Calum said, 'I really enjoyed building the dens. We had to use Y shaped sticks to make them'. Luke said, 'My favourite bit was building the dens. Ranger Ross sat us around the fire and taught us how to make them. We needed Y shaped sticks and another one to make a beam'. Emily-Rose said, 'I liked playing at the park, especially the Pirate Ship! We chased each other and tried to catch our friends. I liked eating outside'.

Primary 6/5 went to the Robert Burns Museum. Poppy explained, 'We got to put ourselves in that time and feel what it was like. We tried on costumes that helped us to understand it better'. Penny thought, 'It was great to see Robert Burns house because you wouldn't always get to see something like that. We got to see what the rooms were like, where they ate, where the cows would be and where they churned the butter'. Brody felt, 'It was a long drive but definitely worth it! It was a good experience, and my favourite part was seeing Milo and Morna in costume!'. Leo said, 'I liked acting like Robert Burns and his family. I enjoyed having my lunch out of school, who doesn't?!'.

Kind

Welcoming

Supportive

Determined

Primary 5 had a trip to Kelvingrove Museum. Sarah was clear that, 'Everyone at the museum was very good at explaining things. When we asked questions, they knew all the answers! They knew about the animals and where they came from. It was a nice quiet space and the people at the museum must have rehearsed everything they wanted to say!'. Ella agreed that, 'The museum guides made everything really clear and that the items were displayed well. Everything was well organised and we learned a lot'. Tianna enjoyed, 'sitting at the table, holding different objects. Whenever there were big words, the people there explained them and helped us to say them. We felt welcomed'. Dayle finished by saying, 'There was a high heel made out of animal skin and other animals from the past. We got to try lots of different activities'.

Primary 1 Induction

We welcomed our new intake of Primary 1 pupils into school this week, getting to know the building and their Primary 6 buddies. It was lovely to see the children interact, read stories with one another, play games and chat, as they got to know each other. I was proud to see our pupils embodying our school values of being kind, welcoming, supportive, and determined throughout and this ensured their first meeting went smoothly!

The children will spend more time together next week, with additional visits for pupils where this is required. The children in Primary 6 will continue with their Buddy training to ensure they are ready for their new friends and able to support them to the very highest standard when they begin in August.

Primary 7 Events

- The Prom will take place on **Thursday 22 June**, and we will be meeting at the Steeple, before being led up to the school by Kilbarchan Pipe Band.
- The Valedictory Service will now take place in the afternoon of **Friday 23 June** at Kilbarchan Church.
- Photographs for their yearbook will be taken on **Monday 22 May** so please ensure your child is wearing their smartest school uniform for this occasion. We would like as many of our pupils in a shirt and tie as possible however we recognise that not everyone will have these. We have some spares in the school which pupils will be able to borrow. If you have any additional spares at home, could these be brought in for children to borrow?

Further details on our Primary 7 events as we move towards the end of term will be released next week.

Contacting the School

Thank you for contacting the school early to inform us of any absences. This helps us to keep our children safe as we then know exactly where they are and why they are not at school.

Should you need to contact the school for any reason please call or email using:

0300 300 0163

Or

kilbarchanenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Yours faithfully,

Fiona MacKenzie
Head Teacher