



Dear Parents and Carers,



A very warm welcome to our latest newsletter and our new term, it was a great first term back at school and I am delighted to share some of the goings on at Wallace.

Happy Together. Learning Together. Succeeding Together

Staffing Update

We were sorry to be saying goodbye to Mrs Nicola Jackson, Classroom Assistant who left us on 30th September and wish Mrs Jackson well in her new post and are very grateful she will continue her work with the netball club on a voluntary basis. We are delighted to welcome Ms Sara Casey to the team!

Meet The Teacher

Our Meet the Teacher event was a great success and we are delighted so many parents were able to attend. We hope you enjoyed meeting the staff and have the opportunity to see inside the classrooms.

Parent Council Update

Our new Parent Council have had two meetings so far and have been busy organising a Halloween Disco and a Christmas Fayre. Minutes are available on the school website. We are grateful to them for a great disco last night, the children had a ball and special thanks to Disco Dave for being an excellent DJ and giving up his time as a parent volunteer to give the children a fantastic night.

Following on from this very successful Halloween Disco last night, other dates below for your diary:

- Next meeting - Tuesday 1st November at 6pm
- Christmas Fayre - Saturday 3rd December at 10am

Successful Grant Funding

We are delighted to have secured the following funding for our gardening works. Huge thanks to Mrs Kidd for her hard work applying for these grants and her continued hard work with the Eco Committee and gardening work.

- Glasgow Airport Flight Path Fund awarded us £471 to fund a greenhouse, shelving and composter.
- Learning Through Landscapes awarded us a Local School Nature Grant which included gardening resources and staff training.

Mrs Kidd and the Eco Committee have worked so hard in our garden and had a very successful harvest which they have shared with the local foodbank.

Outdoor Learning

Last year on our Parental Surveys a number of parents mentioned the playground and outdoor learning as areas we can improve, we responded to this feedback and Outdoor Learning has been on our School Improvement Plan last year and this year.

Our new loose parts hub was part of this planning, you may remember we received Participatory Budgeting Funding when pupils, staff and parents all had a vote and the Loose Parts Hub was the winner. We upgraded our hub to the Premium Model thanks to funding from our sponsored Fun Run and a further £1,300 donation from our Parent Council.

Thanks to everyone who donated to our fun run and who continues to support our Parent Council allowing them to make this donation.



The hub is being well used by classes and we are developing a progressive learning pathway to support this as well as for free play during break time. This has been a huge success already!

Improving Our Playground

We are working to improve the pupil playground experience and have made some changes this term.

- Return to football on the main pitch, each class P2-7 have a timetabled slot twice per week.
- Introduction of reading areas and colouring areas for pupils to relax and enjoy varied activities.
- Primary 2 - 6 have a weekly 'Forest Fun' slot where they can enjoy the forest area.
- Primary 2- 7 have a weekly slot to play with the Outdoor Learning Hub Loose Parts.
- Primary 2- 7 have two weekly slots to play with the basketball shoot.

Our Pupil Council have been involved in setting this up, the representatives in Primary 6 and 7 have been excellent in supporting this.

House Captains

We are delighted to have our new House Captains in place and working hard to set a good example to their house and count the weekly house points.

Our winners for Term 1 were Kings and they had a great House Party on the last day of term.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

It has been great to have our clubs up and running, many children enjoyed the extra curricular experience. We are grateful to Active Schools for providing clubs for our pupils, as well as Mrs Brooker, Mrs Macaulay, Mrs Jackson and Miss Fredericks for giving up their own time to deliver these clubs to pupils.

If your child cannot make one week or has decided to stop attending it is important that you let the office staff know.

Pupil Belongings

We have an increasing number of children forgetting items required for school and these are then delivered to the office by family members. Whilst all staff are keen to help and wouldn't like anyone to be without an essential item required for school, the volume of deliveries is high and taking staff away from core tasks and often leaving the office unmanned. Please could we ask that we try to minimise these occasions as much as possible.

Pupil Attendance and Late-Coming

We continue to monitor pupil attendance and late coming, at each review point we issue letters to parents where attendance is below 90% (80% in October) and late coming instances are over 5. We do this to bring this to your attention and offer support where we can. If you have any worries with your child and his/her attendance or late coming please don't hesitate to contact myself, Miss Docherty or Mrs Brooker.

Registration for P1 for 2023-24

Register your child for school between Tuesday 1 and Friday 4 November.

If your child will turn 5 between 1 March 2023 and 29 February 2024, you should register them for school.

If you, or someone you're helping, can't register online, phone your local primary school and make an appointment to register in person during the registration dates.

If you want your child to go to another school outside of your catchment area, you'll need to register them at a school within your catchment area first, then make a placing request.

If you can't register your child for school till after Friday 4 November, please contact your local primary school directly.

If your child will still be aged 4 in August 2023, you can apply for an additional year of free nursery or childcare.

Visit [Renfrewshire Council's website](#) to apply for any of the above

Reminders

- Children should not bring toys to school or nursery.
- We are not keeping a school lost property stock so it is essential that all items have your child's name on them, they are held in class over the term and then recycled using our Rag Bag.

- We are a NUT FREE school and nursery and children should not bring nuts or nut related products, including Nutella and products like Kinder Bueno to school. We also have a child with a life-threatening wheat allergy and we would be grateful if you could discuss with your children about the importance of not sharing snacks.
- No dogs are allowed in the playground, this includes dogs which are being carried.
- If children or families are using school grounds during evenings and weekends please encourage children to be respectful of nursery equipment and to ensure there is no dog fouling in the playground.



Dates for your Diary

9.11.22	Parents' Night and Book Fayre - school and nursery
14.11.22	Book Week
30.11.22	St Andrews Day Holiday
7.12.22	Pupil flu vaccinations
13.12.22	P1-3 Nativity (AM and PM)
16.12.22	Nursery Christmas Production (AM and PM)
19.12.22	Christmas Service (Elderslie Kirk - pupils only)
20.12.22	House Reward
21.12.22	Non-uniform Day Stop 2.30pm for Christmas Holidays
22.12.22 - 4.1.23	Christmas Holidays
5.1.23	Pupils return
25.1.23	Burns Day Activities (P1-7 - optional wear tartan)
27.1.23	P6 Burns Supper

I would like to remind you of our open door policy at Wallace. Please don't hesitate to approach me or a member of the management team in the playground or by telephone or email

wallaceenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Susan Dalrymple
Head Teacher

