



Dear Parents and Carers,



Happy New Year!

A very warm welcome to our latest newsletter, our last term was a busy one, filled with lots of festive fun. Please find some information below as well as some reminders and dates for the New Year! **Happy Together. Learning Together. Succeeding Together**

### Christmas Performances

What a wonderful festive period we had at Wallace filled with fun and celebration. Well done to all of the pupils involved in our P1-3 and Nursery shows and thanks to all staff for their hard work preparing for these wonderful performances.

Your kind donations at these events raised £154.32 for the school fund and £188.50 for the nursery fund. This money is used to fund activities like Christmas parties, subsidise trips, house rewards and additional resources to improve learning experiences. **Happy Together**

### School Choir

Our school choir had an exciting festive period performing around the community. This included singing as part of Quarriers Festival of Choirs at Braehead, performing with Johnstone Brass Band at a Brass and Voices concert and at the Elderslie Light switch on.

Their performances were excellent and really got audiences into the Christmas spirit. Thanks to Mrs Wilkie for her hard work in leading the choir and co-ordinating these events, thank you also to Ms Crawford who has also been working with the choir this year.

**Succeeding Together**



### Sporting Success at Wallace

Children across the school have had various opportunities to represent the Wallace Primary in sporting events. These have included netball, football, dodgeball, basketball and running. Our football (girls and boys), netball and basketball teams have all competed against local schools and been successful in winning a number of their games.

In November, P6 and P7 children participated in the Renfrewshire Road Race with all children competing well. Primary 6 boys were particularly successful and together their places secured them the 3<sup>rd</sup> place team trophy.

Primary 5 pupils competed in the first ever Renfrewshire dodgeball tournament. They worked extremely hard as a team and went on to secure one out of two top places to be selected to participate in the Renfrewshire Primary Games Competition in June.

**Well done to all children selected to represent Wallace, you are all a credit to the school.**

**Ambition Respect Succeeding Together**



## Parent Helpers

We now have 6 parent helpers and 2 external volunteers coming into school to support. We are so grateful for this support and the benefit it has for our pupils. Please contact me if you would be interested in supporting us as a parent/carer/grandparent helper. **School Value: Learning Together**

## Parent Council Update

We had a very successful Christmas Fayre which raised over £3,000. Thank you to our Parent Council for their hard work organising this. Thank you to everyone who donated a prize, bought a ticket, attended on the day or helped out. Special thanks to P7 pupils and members of the Eco Committee who helped at stalls on the day.

The Parent Council are donating this money to the school which will be spent on ICT and Outdoor Learning, details to follow. In addition, they provided presents for the Nursery and P1-3 for their parties as well as funding snacks, drinks and prizes for all Christmas parties!

**Succeeding Together. School value: Kindness**



### House Party

Our winners for Term 2 were Kings and they had an excellent Christmas themed party! Congratulations to all the pupils in Kings!

**Happy Together. School value: Ambition and Friendship.**

## Football Colours

We have noticed a number of children wearing football colours to school. This is something we have always discouraged and not allowed pupils to do, however I think with a more relaxed uniform and a lack of reminders it has crept back in. No children should be wearing any club or country football colours to school. This includes non-uniform days. We would also like to discourage this in jackets, bags and pencil cases, however, appreciate this is a big expense if your child has already has a bag or jacket like this and would not expect an instant change. We respectfully ask that when replacing any items like these you purchase one without football colours or badges. **School value: Respect**

## Extra-Curricular Clubs

We have had two successful terms of extra-curricular activities being available for children from P1-P7. There has been a varied range of activities on offer including a range of sports, cooking, forest fun, technology and Spanish. We are very grateful to the Active School's coaches and school/nursery staff for giving up their time to deliver clubs for the benefit of all children. This term's extra-curricular will begin in February and we would welcome any family volunteers who would be available to give up their time to support the extra-curricular life of the school. Please contact Mrs Brooker directly via Seesaw. **Learning Together**



## Pupil Attendance and Late-Coming

We continue to monitor attendance and late coming in our pupils, at each review point we issue letters to parents where attendance is below 90% 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's attendance or late coming please don't hesitate to contact myself, Miss Docherty or Mrs Brooker. **Learning Together**

## 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.

Towards the end of term a message was sent on Seesaw to ask children to bring a spare pair of trainers/indoor shoes to wear. This is due to the wet and muddy conditions in the playground when the children are out playing and learning. These should be brought into school in a labelled bag.

## Smart Watches



We have noticed lots of our pupils received SMART watches for Christmas and have been wearing these to school, we understand the benefits of helping to tell the time and keeping a note of steps to stay active. As children are not allowed mobile phones on at any time during the school day the same rules would apply to messaging or calling through these watches, this is not permitted. All communication with pupils from parents during the school day must come from the school office. Children must not take photographs or videos with these watches at school. We have strict permissions in place with regard to the use of pupil photographs and these cannot be followed when children are taking photographs. **School value: Respect**

## Reminders

- Children should not bring toys to school or nursery.
- We are not keeping a large 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.



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](mailto:wallaceenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk)



Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Susan Dalrymple  
Head Teacher

## Diary Dates for 2023

Please find below the dates for the rest of the year.

Please note due to a proposed strike day the Burns Supper has been moved to Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January.

P6 pupils will be able to invite one guest to this each.

25.1.23	Burns Day Activities (P1-7 - optional wear tartan)
31.1.23	P6 Burns Supper (P6 pupils may invite 1 guest) <b>NEW DATE</b>
13.2.23 and 14.2.23	HOLIDAYS
15.2.23	IN-SERVICE DAY
27.2.23	Fair Trade Fortnight
2.3.23	World Book Day 'Dress Up or Dress Down' Come as a character, in your own clothes or PJs
9.3.23	Parents' Evening
29.3.23	Easter Service (Elderslie Kirk - pupils only)
31.3.23	House Reward Afternoon
31.3.23	Non-uniform Day Stop 2.30pm for Spring Break
3.4.23 - 16.4.23	Spring Break
17.4.23	Pupils return
1.5.23	School holiday
8.5.23	Health Week
9.5.23	Scooter and Cycle Day P5-7 Cycle to Lochwinnoch
10.5.23	Sports Day
19.5.23	New P1 Induction Session 1
25.5.23	New P1 Induction Session 2
26.5.23 + 29.5.23	Holidays
30.5.23	In-service
2.6.23	P1 Induction Session 3
5.6.23 -9.6.23	P7 Residential Trip Monday - Friday
8.6.23	P1 Induction Session 4
13.6.23 - 15.6.23	P7 Induction at Castlehead
14.6.23	Nursery Induction - August 2023 intake
20.6.23	P7 End of Year Event
23.6.23	P7 Valedictory
26.6.23	House Reward Afternoon
26.6.23	Nursery Graduation
27.6.23	Non-uniform day & 1pm stop