

Blackwood Primary and Early Learning & Childcare Newsletter – December 2025 Headteacher: Ms C McMillan



Christmas!

I hope you enjoyed “Carols Around the Tree”. A big Thank-You to the Primary 7 production team for facilitating and co-ordinating this event.



The Choir have been out and about in our local community and have been a credit to the school and their families - thanks to all the families who supported their participation in these events.

Primary 6/5 hosted the Christmas Nativity Assembly in Kirkmuirhill Parish Church on Friday 5th December for all their friends and families ... I'm told there was dancing in the pews!! Fabulous performance from all the pupils and Miss Lothian.

This week in school we have been celebrating the festive season with our parties and a visit from Santa for Primary 2 and Primary 1.

The winning house is **SYCAMORE** and their house treat will take place in school on Thursday 18th December.

Friday 19th is a dress up/down day in school. Please remember that school closes at 2:30pm. ELC children can be collected from 2:15pm. If your child is absent on Friday it would be appreciated if you could please follow normal procedures and report it on the absence line.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the school community staff for all their efforts this term. School is a very busy place, and we work together to ensure that our school values are evident in our day-to-day work.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Best Wishes to you and yours for 2026. Happy Hollydays!

CMcMillan



Staffing Update

Mrs C. Forbes (Wednesday - Friday) based in Primary 4/3 will be retiring on Friday 19th December. She has worked in our school since 2011 and has been a great asset. Starting in Primary 5, she has worked across the school community. In recent years she has led initiatives such as Forest School, Attachment and Health and Wellbeing. She leaves with our thanks and very best wishes for the future – Good Luck Mrs Forbes, we will miss you lots!





Miss Stewart has been successful at interview and is now the Acting Principal Teacher in our school on a Monday and Tuesday. This appointment means she is now in school Monday – Friday (am). She has been a member of staff for nearly 20 years and is known to all the pupils in our school.

Existing school staff will be redeployed in the new year to backfill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mrs Forbes.

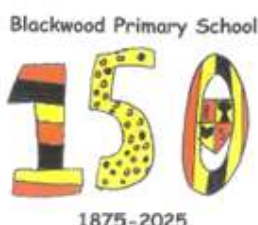
Primary 4/3 will now work with Mrs Barclay on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday (am) and Friday. Mrs Stein will be in on a Wednesday (pm) and a Thursday.

New Timetable for Term 3 (January – April)

- **Primary 5 will start weekly music lessons from SLC.**
- **Primary 5-7 will participate in Cross-Country for their outdoor PE this term.**
- **Please ensure a change of clothes is included for Outdoor PE this term.**

	Indoors PE	Outdoors PE
Primary 1 Mrs Robinson	Thursday	Wednesday (pm)
Primary 2/1 Miss Murray	Monday	Wednesday (pm)
Primary 3/2 Miss Illingworth	Monday	Wednesday (am)
Primary 4/3 Mrs Barclay	Thursday	Tuesday (pm)
Primary 4 Mrs Waugh & Mrs Forbes	Friday	Tuesday (am)
Primary 5 Miss Whitefield	Tuesday	Thursday (pm) Cross Country
Primary 6/5 Miss Lothian	Wednesday	
Primary 7/6 Mrs Small	Tuesday	
Primary 7 Mrs Kellie	Wednesday	
Primary 1-3 Supported Classes Mrs Gray & Ms Colquhoun	Tuesday	Thursday (pm)

Reflections of Term 2



Thank you very much for taking part in our 150th celebrations. It was great for the local community to gather and reminisce on the “*happiest days*” of their lives. We have a wealth of photographs demonstrating the wide range of learning from the past and look forward to adding to this collection in the years to come!



Our ELC led our charity day on Friday 14th November. They had huge fun and loved being “shop keepers”. In total £222.05 was raised and donated to this national charity.

Poppy Scotland Learning visited our school earlier this term and on the 11th November we sold poppies in the school. A donation of £130.73 was made to Poppy Scotland – thank - you. Our school chaplain Rev George Lynd led an assembly on the 11th November as part of our remembrance learning.



Primary 5 Class Assembly - School Award Water Smart

Having completed 12 weeks of swimming lessons at Larkhall Pool, the focus for Primary 5's class assembly was Water Safety. This class are working towards achieving the “School Water Smart” award.

A really informative assembly – Well Done!



Really important message shared by Primary 5 through this assembly. Amazing what I have learned today.

P5 Parent

Primary 6/5 Class Assembly – The Nativity



Primary 6/5 wrote, directed and performed their nativity story assembly - a real showcase of their skills. The nativity story was retold through interviews on national TV and had a few puns thrown into the script!

Well done to Primary 6/5 and Miss Lothian - awesome!

Primary 5 - 7 Virgin Enterprise



Primary 5-7 worked with Virgin Enterprise to make a range of crafts and host a craft fayre on Friday 28th November. Skills for learning life and work were the focus, and the event was a huge success. Many thanks to all the families who supported this learning activity.

In total £502.00 was made in profit! (Primary 5 – 7 will now decide how to allocate this profit as part of their business plan)





Parent Council 2025

The Parent Council work tirelessly to support all the young people in this school and ELC. Activities/Resources that your child has benefitted from are -

- *Sumdog subscription*
- *ClickView subscription (inc Disney +)*
- *Halloween/ Christmas treats*
- *Subsidised Primary 7 Leavers Hoodies*

What can you do to help?

- Attend the meetings - only 5 per year – 2 down 3 to go!
- Support the events and help fundraise

From the comfort of your own home ...

You can support the Parent Council when you shop online using easyfundraising.



As we shop more readily on the internet this is a great way to support the school and ELC without having to do anything. Our cause is listed as

Blackwood Primary Parent Council - Lanark.

Click on the link below to register your account :

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/register-your-good-cause/?invite=49bjqz&referral-campaign=s2c>

Contact details for the Parent Council are
blackwoodparentcouncil@gmail.com

**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 4th February at 7:00pm
on TEAMS**



EDUCATION SERVICES

Executive Director: Lyndsay McRoberts

Blackwood Primary School - Head Teacher: Ms Christine McMillan