

Blackwood Primary and ELC Newsletter 1

August 2026

A very warm welcome to all our pupils, staff, and families as we begin a new school term. We hope you have had a good holiday and are ready for another busy school year. As we start the new term our children have been reminded of our school expectations to be ...

Ready Respectful Safe

It is also lovely to welcome Mrs Ruth Colquhoun, who rejoins the school as Acting Deputy Head Teacher.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office and ask to speak with myself.

Regards

Christine McMillan (Head Teacher)

How Good Is Our School?

Following a process last session of consultation and self- evaluation using "How Good is Our School?"- Leadership of Change (QI 1.4) we have created a new school vision ...

At Blackwood Primary School we REACH!

Together we reach, together we grow

Showing respect wherever we go

Striving for excellence & aiming high

Celebrating achievements of you and I

Building community in all we do

Being happy and having fun too!

We have also launched our new updated school and ELC logos today.



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Structure and Organisation of Staff and Classes

We start the new term with 8 mainstream classes and 2 supported classes. As you can see from the table below, we are working at capacity within this framework at Primary 1 through to Primary 6/5.

Class	Teacher	Class size	Outdoor PE	Indoor PE
P1	Mrs Robinson	25	Tuesday	Wednesday
P2/1	Miss Murray	25	Wednesday	Monday
P3/2	Miss Whitefield	25	Monday	Wednesday
P4/3	Mrs Barclay	25	Friday	Monday
P5/4	Mrs Waugh (Mon-Wed) Mrs Forbes (Wed - Fri)	25	Wednesday	Friday
P6/5	Miss Lothian	25	Wednesday	Tuesday
P6	Mrs Small	31	Wednesday	Tuesday
P7	Mrs Kellie	29	Wednesday	Thursday
SC	Miss Colquhoun	8	Friday	Tuesday
SC	Mrs Gray	8	Friday	Tuesday

On an outdoor gym please come to school wearing your PE Kit and remember to bring uniform in case a change is needed due to rainy weather!

Teachers providing CCC cover ...

Miss Stewart	Mrs Henderson	Mrs Stein	Miss Illingworth	Mrs O'Donnell
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Term 1

- Primary 5 will start a 12-week block of swimming at Larkhall baths on Thursday 20th August
- P4 will start a 6-week block of forest schools on Thursday 20th August
- P6 will start bikeability on Thursday 20th August.

DIARIES - Unfortunately there has been a delay at the printers and we have not received our new diaries for this school year. Please contact the school office if there is a message for the class teacher.

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Collection and Drop Off

A polite reminder that the car park on Southfield Road is the designated drop off and car park. The Carlisle Road entrance is for school staff and designated taxis at peak times from 8:30am and again at 2:30pm.

The front of the school is busy at peak times please consider a prearranged point slightly away from the school gate if your child is in Primary 4-7.

Meet the Teacher

There is a formal opportunity for you to "meet the teacher" on Wednesday 19th August at 3pm - 3:30pm. When you collect your child, you are invited to pop into their new class and take up this opportunity.

Parent Council

The first meeting of the Parent Council is on **Wednesday 2nd September at 7pm** in the school.



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

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

What can you do to help?

- Attend the meetings - only 5 per year
- 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.



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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>

A note from Mrs Bowman ...

I just wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone for all the kindness shown to me at the end of term when I retired after a long teaching career. I was truly overwhelmed by your generosity, the flowers, gifts, cards and messages of thanks given to me, it was so special and made me feel truly appreciated for the work I have done. Blackwood Primary has been a huge part of my life and I will miss having that community around me but at the same time I am excited about moving onto the next chapter and whatever that brings. Good luck getting settled into the new term.



Jenny Bowman



EDUCATION SERVICES

Executive Director: Lyndsay McRoberts

Blackwood Primary School - Head Teacher: Ms Christine McMillan