



HIGH BLANTYRE PRIMARY SCHOOL

AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER



Ready Respectful Safe
"If you believe you will achieve"

This will be the only printed Newsletter this session. All further communication will be through the School APP.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the start of the new term at High Blantyre Primary School and Nursery Class. I hope you all had a lovely summer with your families, despite the unpredictable weather! It was great to see all our children smiling on their way into school this morning (as the sun was shining!!) and officially welcome our new Primary 1 pupils to High Blantyre Primary. We are looking forward to meeting all of our new nursery children soon too! We have some new teaching, support staff and Early Years workers starting with our team this session, and a new Depute Head to lead our supported classes, Mrs Ciara Ferguson. We have lots planned already for the new session and I am looking forward to sharing our plans with our parents and carers next week at our open evening and 'Meet the Teacher' event on Thursday the 24th of August, where you will have the opportunity to visit your child's class, meet your child's teacher and have a look around the school. There will be a Parent's Night late September, where you will get the opportunity to speak with your child's teacher about your child's learning. Today at assembly I spoke to all the children about the 'The High Blantyre Way' and our school rules: Ready, Respectful and Safe, which are clear, concise and easy to remember. I will have the opportunity to share information with parents/carers next week at the open evening regarding 'The High Blantyre Way' and how we can all work together as partners in your child's learning. As always, please do not hesitate to contact myself or a member of the Senior Management Team if you have any questions with regards to your child's learning. Kind regards, *K. Helsby* Head Teacher

Staffing

Nursery Staff

Nursery Team Leader: Miss Orr
Early Years Team: Mrs McCafferty, Mrs Foy, Ms Edmond, Mrs Hunter, Ms Raymond, Ms Wylie, Miss Baillie, Miss Thomas and Mrs McMullan

Teaching Staff

Room 1 Primary 1&2 Mrs Alexander
Room 2 Primary 3 & 5 Miss Cassidy
Room 3 Primary 3 & 5 Mrs Alexander/ Mrs Faulkner
Room 5 Primary 2,3 & 4 Miss Marshall
Room 6 Primary 2/3 Miss Elliot/Miss Gallagher
Room 7 Primary 1/2 Ms McKinlay (Principal Teacher)
Room 8 Primary 1 Mrs McLean
Room 10 Primary 3 Mrs McAveety
Room 11 Primary 4 Miss Sim /Miss Watt
Room 12 Primary 5 Ms Lannigan
Room 13 Primary 3, 4 & 7 Miss Wilson
Room 15 Primary 6 Mrs Gallagher
Room 16 Primary 7 Mrs Brown
PE/Expressive Arts/HWB Miss Watt
Supported Classes CCC Mrs McQueen
P1 Pupil Support Mrs Falder
Pupil Support/Nurture Mrs Cairns

Support Staff

Mrs Black will be working in the office. Mrs McSeveny & Mrs Rodwell (Rm 1), Mrs MacBride & Miss Hutchison (Rm 2), Mrs Mangat & Ms McIsaac (Rm 3), Mrs Hogg & Mrs Ronald (Rm 5), Mrs Hainie & New SA (Rm 13), Ms Quail (Rm 8), Mrs Drummond (Rm 7), Mrs McDonagh and Miss Craig (Rm 6) Mrs Montgomery (Rm 11), Mrs Elder (Rm 12) Mrs Clark (Rm 15 & 16)

Dates for your diary

Thursday 24/8 Open Evening 'Meet the Teacher' 6-7pm
Thursday 24/8 P7 parents/carers Lockerbie Meeting 7pm
Wednesday 6/9 School Photographer
Wednesday 20/9 Parent's Night Appointments
Friday 22/9 Holiday
Monday 25/9 Holiday
Wednesday 27/9 Parent Council AGM 6pm
Monday 16/10-22/10 October Holiday
Monday 13/11-Friday-17/11 Anti Bullying Week
Monday 13/11-Friday-19/11 Scottish Book Week
Monday 13/11 Inservice Day
Wednesday 13/12 Christmas Concert P1-7
Thursday 14/12 Christmas Concert P1-7
Friday 22/12 School Closes at 2.30pm
Monday 8/1 School starts back
Thursday 25/1 Scottish Assembly 10am /1.30pm
Thursday 8/2 Parent's Night Appointments
Monday 12/2&Tuesday 13/2 February Holidays
Wednesday 14/2 Inservice Day
Thursday 7/3 World Book Day
Thursday 28/3 School closes at 2.30pm
Monday 15/4 School starts back
Thursday 2/5 Inservice Day
Monday 6/5 Holiday
Friday 24/5 Holiday
Monday 27/5 Holiday
Monday 10/6-Friday 14/6 Health Week
Tuesday 11/6 Sports Day am P1-3/pm P4-7
Tuesday 25/6 P7 Leaver's Assembly
Wednesday 26/6 School Closes at 1pm
A full list of holidays is available on South Lanarkshire Council's website.



HIGH BLANTYRE PRIMARY SCHOOL

AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER



Ready Respectful Safe
"If you believe you will achieve"

This will be the only printed Newsletter this session. All further communication will be through the School APP.

Parentsportal

Please can all parents/carers make sure that you sign up for Parentsportal: <https://parentsportal.scot/home/>. If you have a mygovscot account, sign in, if not, select register. This is how we will be communicating with parents/carers and collecting our annual data returns, permission slips, etc.

Top 10 Things You Need to Know!

The High Blantyre Way

Our School Rules are: Ready (to learn) Respectful and Safe. We have an agreed code of conduct for children, parents and staff focused on positive relationships and restorative practice. This information is in all pupils' homework diaries, displayed on posters around the school and is available on the school APP.

Attendance and Lateness

High levels of attendance at school is essential to ensure your child stays on track with their learning. We also expect all pupils to arrive at school on time, by 9am. If your child arrives after 9am, they will be marked late. If your child is ill, their absence should be reported to the school office by 9.30am. In line with South Lanarkshire Policy, holidays taken outwith term time can only be an authorised absence if accompanied by a request letter from your employer, e.g emergency services. Attendance and late coming will be closely monitored by the Head Teacher and Senior Management Team. Improvement in pupil attendance and punctuality is once again a major focus for our school this session.

Uniform

Pupils are expected to wear full school uniform at all times: a navy jumper/cardigan (if required), blue shirt and school tie, navy trousers/skirts and shoes (no bright coloured trainers please). Polo shirts can be worn on gym days. Coloured hoodies and jumpers are not acceptable to wear in the classroom. Gym shoes are required **every day** for indoors (no bright colours please). Please label all clothing to avoid loss. Children should **bring** tracksuit bottoms to school for outdoor PE if required. Tracksuit bottoms should not be worn to school, unless there is a specific reason, which has been agreed with the school.

Water and healthy snacks

Pupils are allowed to bring a refillable bottle of **plain water** which they may drink in class. We encourage children to bring a healthy snack to school each day as we are a Health Promoting School. No fizzy drinks, cans or bottles please.

School Lunches

Please note, for P1-5 pupils, school lunch is FREE and for P6-7 it costs £2. We use ParentPay, a cashless system. If your child is entitled to a free meal, an application should be made to South Lanarkshire Council every year. Your child would also be entitled to free milk. Children may purchase milk daily for 20p. **We are a nut free school.**

Wet mornings

In the event of extreme weather, pupils may enter school from the front entrance at 8.50am.

Car Park

Please remember that **cars are not to be brought into the staff car park at the front of the building in the morning or at the end of the day. Only ASN transport is permitted.** We encourage walking to school wherever possible.

Playground

Our playground is a dog free (guide dogs only) and smoke/vape free zone. Children are their parent's/carer's responsibility until 9.00am and from 3.00pm. Parents are responsible for ensuring that there are arrangements in place for their child at 3pm. During ice and snow, pupils and parents should only use the treated pathway cleared to avoid unnecessary injury.

Communication and Partnership

We will keep you up to date with current news and events through our School APP and Parentsportal. Class teachers will let you know about homework arrangements through childrens' homework diaries. Should you wish to speak with your child's class teacher or a member of the management team, please phone to make an appointment.

Parent Council

Our school has a very active, fantastic Parent Council, who play an integral part to the life and work of the school. Please contact the school office if you would like any information about joining/supporting the Parent Council and/or attend this year's AGM.

Cost of the School Day

Children do not need to bring any pens, pencils, etc, to school. Our school has a Cost of the School Day Policy and we are always looking for new ways to reduce the cost of the school day for our families.