



HIGH BLANTYRE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



Ready Respectful Safe
"If you believe you will achieve"

Dear parents/carers,

I hope you all had a lovely October break and enjoyed spending the week with your children. It is hard to believe we are now into November, the last few months seem to have flown in and we are now starting to plan our Christmas Festivities at High Blantyre Primary School. Thank you to our Parent Council who organised another super **free** Halloween Disco last week, which was very well attended. I have been told by many of the children that it was the best ever and the dancing dinosaurs were certainly great entertainment at the P4-7 disco!! The children had a fantastic Halloween Fun Day last Friday with a whole school Halloween parade, dooking for apples, biscuit decorating and Halloween movies/parties in classes. All treats were donated by our amazing Parent Council. The next Parent Council event is the Christmas Fayre on Thursday the 30th of November at 6-8pm. This month is going to be very very busy, we have Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Children in Need, Book Week Scotland, ST Andrews Day and Anti Bullying Week. We will be learning about and celebrating these festivals and events in class and at weekly assemblies. We are really looking forward to a special visit during Book Week Scotland from a local author and former High Blantyre pupil, Zoe Dargue. Zoe has written and illustrated a children's book called Brae Discovers Blantyre, which is a great book all about about our town, Blantyre. We also have Gerry McGurk a local singing story teller visiting classes during this week too.

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.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership, *Kirsteen Hebbly*

Parentsportal



Please can all parents/carers ensure they are signed up for Parentsportal **asap**: <https://parentsportal.scot/home/>. If you have a mygovscot account, sign in, if not, select register. This will soon be our main way to communicate with parents/carers and collect our annual data returns, permission slips, etc.

Scottish Book Week



Scottish Book Week is the 18th-22nd of November this year. P1-3 will be given Book Bags and Read, Write and Count Bags, gifted by the Scottish Government during this week. We will be celebrating this week in school, through various activities in classes and at assembly.

Pupil Achievements



We have so many kind, caring and talented children at High Blantyre Primary School. Please encourage your child to bring in or share their achievements and acts of care and kindness out of school, at our celebration assembly on the last Friday of each month. We love hearing about all the great things our children do when they are not at school and want to recognise and celebrate their achievements with them!

Last month we celebrated Joshua and Christopher Pirrie becoming big brothers to their new baby brother Lucas. We also celebrated Oscar MacGregor being offered a place on the Young Musicians Award Programme. Oscar already plays the piano, drums, guitar, ukulele and sings!! We are delighted that his talent has been recognised through this opportunity.



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

John Muir Award



Our P6 and P7 pupils will soon be working towards achieving The John Muir Award. Through this award programme, the children will find out about the history of their local Green Space, The Calder and will participate in a range of activities through the 4 challenges of the award: Discover, Explore, Conserve and Share. The majority of the activities for this award will be outdoors and over a number of weeks the children will work in groups with staff, parents, grandparents, Bonnie Blantyre helpers and SLC Youth and Family Learning Service. We are very excited about this great opportunity for our senior pupils. Find out about Scotland's very own John Muir and the award our children will be participating in on the following website <https://www.johnmuirtrust.org>

Winter Weather



In the event of ice or snow our school janitor has an adverse weather plan to follow, as advised by South Lanarkshire Council. One pathway from the school gate to the front entrance will be gritted and we would advise all children and parents/carers to use this. The playground gates will be closed on these days and the children will be able to enter the school from the front entrance in the morning and leave from here at the end of the day if required. This will be communicated through the school APP. As the weather is becoming increasingly colder and as always unpredictable, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately and prepared for changes in the weather with a warm jacket and hat and gloves if required. Our children will continue to enjoy outdoor playtimes, unless the weather is extremely wet and/or icy.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 1/11	Parent Council 6pm
Wednesday 8/11	School Closed (Unison Strike)
Monday 13/11- 17/11	Anti Bullying Week
Monday 13/11-19/11	Scottish Book Week
Wednesday 15/11	Scottish Storyteller Visit
Wednesday 29/11	P6/7 Netball/Football Festival
Tuesday 12/12	Christmas Lunch
Monday 13/11	Inservice Day
Wednesday 15/11	Singing Story Teller visit
Thursday 16/11	School Book Swap
Thursday 16/11	Local author Zoe Dargue visit
Friday 17/11	Children in Need Dress Down Day
Tuesday 21/11	Parent Council 6-7.30pm
Thursday 30/11	Xmas Fayre 6-8pm
Friday 8/12	Xmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 12/12	School Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 13/12	Christmas Concert P1-7 pm
Thursday 14/12	Christmas Concert P1-7 pm
Friday 15/12	Nursery Nativity pm
Monday 18/12	Room 15&16 Xmas party pm
Tuesday 19/12	Room 11& 12 party pm
Wednesday 20/12	Room 5, 6 & 10 party pm
Thursday 21/12	Room 1, Room 2, Room 3 Room 7 and 8 parties
Thursday 21/12	Panto @ Carrigans
Friday 22/12	Panto @ Carrigans
Friday 22/12	School Closes at 2.30pm
Monday 8/1	School starts back
Wednesday 24/1	Scottish Assembly 1.30pm
Thursday 25/1	Scottish Assembly 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
Wednesday 13/3-15/3	P7 Residential
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 10/6-14/6	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