



HIGH BLANTYRE PRIMARY SCHOOL

AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER



Ready Respectful Safe
"If you believe you will achieve"

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 rain! The sun always shines on the first day of school and it was great to see all our children (and parents/carers) smiling on their way into school on Wednesday and officially welcoming our new Primary 1 pupils to High Blantyre Primary. We are looking forward to meeting all of our new nursery children next week too! 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. On the first day of school we had a whole school assembly. I spoke to all the children about 'The High Blantyre Way,' which includes our school rules: Ready, Respectful and Safe, which are clear, concise and easy to remember. There is a copy of **The High Blantyre Way** in your child's homework jotter and all parents will be sent a copy through Parentsportal. **The High Blantyre Way** is an overview of our Positive Behaviour and Relationships Policy, which explains how we can all work together as partners in your child's learning. We have so much planned already for the new session and I am looking forward to sharing these plans with you all at the Parent Council AGM on the 2nd of October.

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 Wylie, Miss Baillie, Miss Thomas, Ms Montgomery and Mrs McMullan

Teaching Staff

Room 1 Supported Class Mrs Alexander
Room 2 Supported Class Miss Wilson/Mrs Alexander
Room 3 Supported Class Mr Dolan
Room 5 Supported Class Miss Marshall
Room 6 Primary 2 Miss Watt
Room 7 Primary 1/2 Miss Gudgeon/Ms McKinlay
Room 8 Primary 1 Mrs McLean
Room 9 Primary 3 Miss Gallagher
Room 10 Primary 4 Mrs McAveety
Room 11 Primary 5 Miss McDowall
Room 12 Science Lab Mrs Brown
Room 13 Primary 3, 4 & 7 Miss Cassidy
Room 15 Primary 6 Mrs Gallagher
Room 16 Primary 7 Mr Maslanka
Supported Classes CCC Mrs Faulkner
Inclusion Teacher Mrs Falder
Pupil Support/Nurture Mrs Cairns

Support Staff

Mrs Black will be working in the office. Mrs Ronald and Miss Hutchison (Room 1), Miss Dickson, Ms Craig and Mrs Ronald (Room 2), Mrs Mangat and Mrs Dawes (Room 3), Mrs Hogg & Mrs Hainie (Room 5), Mrs McSeveney & Ms MacBride (Room 13), Ms Quail (Room 8) Mrs Drummond (Room 6), Mrs Clark (Room 9) Ms Montgomery (Room 11 and 12), Mrs Elder (Room 15)

Dates for your diary

Please remember these dates are subject to change. We will always do our best to give as much notice as possible of any changes. All donations on Dress Down Days are voluntary!

Thursday 29/8	Parent Council 6pm
Thursday 19/9	Parent's Night Appointments 3-6pm
Wednesday 25/9	Parent's Night Appointments 6-9pm
Friday 27/9	Holiday
Monday 30/9	Holiday
Wednesday 2/10	Parent Council 6pm AGM 7.30pm
Wednesday 2/10	Dyslexia Awareness Week
Friday 4/10	Dress Down Day- Food Bank donations
Monday 14/10-18/10	October Holiday
Friday 25/10	Dress Down Day- Xmas Fayre donations
Wednesday 6/11	Flu Vaccinations
Monday 11/11-Friday-15/11	Scottish Book Week
Monday 11/11-Friday-15/11	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 11/11	Inservice Day
Thursday 5/12	Parent Council 6pm
Thursday 28/11	Christmas Fayre
Wednesday 11/12	Christmas Concert P1-7 1.30pm
Thursday 12/12	Christmas Concert P1-7 1.30pm
Thursday 12/12	Christams Jumper Day- toy donations
Friday 13/12	Nursery Nativity 10am
Monday 16/12	Room 15 and 16 Xmas Party 1.30pm
Tuesday 17/12	Room 10, 11 and 13 Xmas Party 1.30pm
Tuesday 17/12	Panto @ Carrigans 1
Wednesday 18/12	Room 5, 6 & 9 Xmas Party 1.30pm
Thursday 19/12	Panto @Carrigans 1pm
Thursday 19/12	Room 1,2,3,7 and 8 Christmas Party
Friday 20/12	School Closes at 2.30pm



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Parentsportal

Please can all Primary 1 and new parents/carers 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. All existing parents/carers should already be signed up for Parentsportal.

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 'The High Blantyre Way' for children, parents and staff, focused on positive relationships and restorative practice. A copy of The High Blantyre Way is in all pupils' homework diaries, displayed on posters around the school and is currently 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. We are a nut free school! No nuts or food containing nuts please!

School Lunches

Please note, for P1-5 pupils, school lunch is FREE and for P6-7 it costs £2.17. 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 30p.

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

Communication and Partnership

We will keep you up to date with current news and events through 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.