



HIGH BLANTYRE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



Ready Respectful Safe
"If you believe you will achieve"

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a very busy but amazing few weeks at High Blantyre Primary as we celebrated our school's 150th Anniversary. Thank you to all of our parents/carers and local community for attending our open day and shows last week. Our children were all absolute stars as always and loved another opportunity to showcase their learning and talents on stage. Thank you to our Parent Council for the pin badges kindly gifted to all of our children in recognition of 150 years of HBPS, and their support with our events. There are so many more people who all contributed to our celebrations, a huge thank you to Gavin Watson Printers for printing our programmes, souvenir booklets and photographs, courtesy of The Blantyre Project. Paul Veverka for his insightful talk about our school's history, Gordon Cook for his research and input, Ruth Gebbie for collating old photographs and memories, our amazing pianist Oscar Macgregor and our children and staff team for all of their hard work. We were also delighted to see so many special visitors to the school at our events, including former staff and pupils, our local councillors, Depute Lord Lieutenant Sandy Wilkie, Mary from Asda, Mr Murphy and MSP Caire Haughey, who presented the school with a record of our motion in parliament recognising our 150th year Anniversary. What a privilege it has been to be part of such a momentous occasion! We ended the celebrations with our annual Parent Council Halloween disco last Thursday night. Another super free fun filled event, which was very well attended. The next Parent Council event is the Christmas Fayre on Thursday the 27th of November at 6-8pm. November is also going to be very very busy, we have Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day, Dress Down Day for Children in Need, Scottish Book Week, St Andrews Day and Anti Bullying Week. We will be learning about and celebrating these festivals and events in classes and at weekly assemblies.

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 support and partnership, *Kirsteen Helsby*

Scottish Book Week



Scottish Book Week is the 17th-23rd of November this year. P1-3 will be given Book Bags and Read, Write and Count Bags, gifted by The Scottish Book Trust during this week. We will be celebrating this week in school, through various book related and reading activities in classes and at assembly.

Welcome back!

We are delighted that Mrs McAveety has returned from maternity leave and is now back teaching Primary 4. Mrs McIsaac has also returned to work in our supported classes.

Parent Helpers



We are always looking for parents/carers and grandparents to help in school, especially for school trips, as we are not able to send additional staff that are supporting children in the school. If you have any free time during the week and would like to help out in classes, with general admin, after school clubs or school outings, please contact the school office or speak to a member of staff. All helpers are now legally required to have a PVG for High Blantyre Primary School to help during the school day or at Parent Council events after school. The school office can support you with this.



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Pupil Safety



Unfortunately, we continue to have concerns with regards to pupil safety at drop off and pick up times, especially when it rains! Please can we kindly remind parents/carers of both school and nursery children that the staff car park is for **staff only**. Blue badge holders can access the disabled spaces at drop off and pick up times if required, after our ASN transport has left. If you have a blue badge, please show this to our school office and they will give you a school pass to display in your car. This will enable our janitor to easily identify cars permitted to enter the car park at these exceptionally busy times.

Unfortunately, there has been several incidents over the past few weeks where our janitor has been verbally abused by parents/carers at drop off and pick up times in front of children and their families. This is unacceptable and no one should have to experience this type of behaviour whilst at work and following procedures to ensure the safety of our children.

We would also like to encourage our children to walk, cycle, etc to school, where possible, to reduce the amount of cars around the school and parking in residential areas at drop off and pick up times. Unfortunately, some of our parents/carers are parking on zig zag lines outside Carrigans at these busy times, which is extremely dangerous. We have asked the community to police to help support us with this situation. We love seeing our children using our outdoor gym, which our Parent Council gifted the school. A kind reminder that the outdoor gym should not be used before school and children must be accompanied across the zebra crossing by an adult at the end of the day, to ensure their safety at this busy time! Please help us keep our children safe as they travel to and from school.

Dates for your diary



Please note we have changed the time of the Christmas Concert to 10am.

Tuesday 4/11	Author Visit: Ross Mackenzie
Wednesday 5/11	Netball Festival
Thursday 6/11	Room 15 and 16 visit David Livingstone Centre
Thursday 6/11	Parent Council @6pm
Friday 7/11	Pupil Voice Groups
Friday 7/11	Nursery and sibling photographs
Monday 10/11	Inservice Day
Monday 10/11	Anti Bullying Week
Friday 14/11	Dress Down Day Children in Need
Monday 17/11	Book Week Scotland
Thursday 27/11	Xmas Fayre 6-8pm
Monday 1/12 to	Xmas Jumper collection
Thursday 1/12	Xmas Jumper collection
Friday 4/12	Xmas Jumper Swap Shop
Wednesday 3/12	Football and Netball Festival
Wednesday 10/12	Xmas Concert @10am
Thursday 11/12	Xmas Concert @10am
Thursday 11/12	Xmas Jumper Day
Friday 12/12	Nursery Xmas Concert @10am
Tuesday 16/12	Room 15/16 Xmas Party @ 1.30pm
Wednesday 17/12	Room 10 and 11 party @ 1.30pm
Wednesday 17/12	Panto @ Carrigans Room 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 Nursery Group 1
Thursday 18/12	Room 5, 13, 6 and 9 party @1.30pm
Friday 19/12	Room 1,2,3 7, 8 and Nursery Xmas party @ 9.30am
Friday 19/12	Panto @ Carrigans Room 10, 11, 13, 15 and 16 Nursery Group 2
Friday 19/12	School closes at 2.30pm

School returns on Monday the 5th of January 2026