



Neil Island Primary School Newsletter

May 2026



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

We have almost made it to the end of term 4. It has been a very busy year for us at Neil Island and so far, term 4 has been action-packed! We have many events and activities planned over the remaining few weeks and look forward to welcoming you over the last part of the term. As always, I would like to thank all of our families for their continued support.

Mrs Kelly

Reports

Our reports for all pupils will be issued on **Friday 5th June**.

Fayre

Our P1, P2 and P5 class are supporting the organisation of our Summer fayre which will take place on **Friday 29th May**. We are really looking forward to the fayre and hope to see as many people as possible there.



Calderside Music Tour

On **Wednesday 27th May**, our P6 and P7 pupils will go to Woodhead Primary School to attend Calderside Academy's music showcase. The music department will perform to P6 and P7 from both schools as part of their music tour. We are hoping that it might inspire some of our young people to take up an instrument!

Dance Festival

17 pupils from P4-7 took part in South Lanarkshire Council's dance festival on **Wednesday 6th May** in Hamilton Townhouse. They were coached by Caitlin Hutchison, our dance teacher who runs our dance clubs after school every Friday. She choreographed their routine. The troupe were absolutely outstanding, and we could not have been prouder of their performance.



Transitions

Our P7 pupils will attend their 2-day visits to Calderside Academy and Hamilton Grammar School this week. They have been engaging in a wide variety of transition activities in school too involving visits from various departments from Calderside Academy.

The P7 pupils are also very busy making plans for their end of term assembly. The assembly will take place on **Thursday 18th June at 1.30pm**.

We have already had our P1 induction visits on **Wednesday 13th May** and **Wednesday 20th May**. Our new P1 pupils will also be in to work with our current P1 pupils for an outdoor learning session and colour and play session. Our P6 pupils were very excited to meet their new buddies during their visits.

Attachment

Six of our pupils will attend the Banqueting Hall at Council HQ on **Friday 29th May** to represent the school at an Attachment event. They will deliver a presentation which reflects the ways in which our school demonstrates the Attachment pledge 'Hear Their Voice'. The event will be attended by schools across South Lanarkshire.



Neilsland Primary School Newsletter

May 2026



Sports Day

We will be having a whole school Sports Day on **Thursday 11th June at 1.30pm** (weather permitting). Parents/carers are welcome to attend.



Clubs

This term we have had many pupil led clubs including dance, multisports, French and chess. We are very proud of the enthusiasm shown by our pupils in taking responsibility to develop their leadership skills. All clubs within the school are well attended. To date, over 90% of our pupils have attended at least one extra curricular club this session.

Classes

At the moment, we are looking at staffing and planning for 7 classes next session. Class composition and staffing are both subject to change, however, it is our intention to tell the children which class they will be in next session before we break for the Summer holidays. Our pupils will also have the opportunity to meet their new teacher on **Tuesday 23rd June**.

Swimming

Our P4 pupils are almost finished their 12 week block of swimming lessons at Hamilton Water Palace. This is a fantastic opportunity for them to develop water confidence and an essential life skill. The children are making great progress and are an absolute credit to the school.



Parent Council

We welcome new members. If you would like to find out more about the work of the Parent Council, have any questions or queries you would like taken forward by the Parent Council or if you would like to join, please contact the chairperson Fiona Adam on neilslandparentcouncil@gmail.com.

Gifts

As we approach the end of the session, we are aware that many families wish to share their gratitude with staff in the form of gifts and treats. Whilst we welcome the kindness and thought that goes into this and are lucky to work with families that appreciate us, we feel that this year in particular, that appreciation can be shown in other ways and ask that NO gifts are given. Should you wish to thank a particular member of staff then we ask that children complete a drawing or write a small card. We are very conscious of the 'Cost of the School Day' and the fact that family budgets are tight and we do not want families feeling under pressure to purchase gifts. Please remember you give us the best gift everyday by sending your children to school for us to teach.

School Improvement

May and June are always very busy months within the academic session. We reflect on our achievements and developments over the course of the session and make plans for the next academic session.

We have consulted with parents, pupils, as well as staff at all levels, and will use these results to inform our targets for 2026/27. We will email the School Improvement Plan to all parents/carers and it will also be available on our school website.

Davy Cooper Soccer Sevens

Some members of our football team recently represented the school at the Davy Cooper Soccer Sevens even that took place on Sunday 26th April at Palace Grounds. Our team were outstanding and played incredibly well, only conceding one goal out of every game that they played. Their sportsmanship and teamwork were to be commended, and we could not be prouder.





Neilsland Primary School Newsletter

May 2026



School Fund

We continually aim to reduce the cost of the school day for our pupils. We do not charge for extra curricular activities or discos.

We will welcome 'Geez a Break' back to the school with their production of Cinderella on the morning of **Friday 12th June**.

Our P7 pupils will also enjoy a fun day on **Monday 22nd June**. They have various activities planned over the course of the day and will enjoy a takeaway lunch.

Our school fund has also been used to subsidise the transport cost for all trips that have taken place over the course of the session. This helps to ensure that costs to families are kept to a minimum.

Money Matters

South Lanarkshire Council are keen to provide as much support as possible for all our families. Please see the information below on Money Matters should this be of support to you:

What we can help with

- **cost-of-living crisis, including advice on energy arrears**
 - **gas and electricity top-up vouchers**
- **debt advice, including mortgage and rent arrears and dealing with creditors**
- **help to check what benefits you can claim, and support with applications**
 - **budgeting**

For food or fuel emergencies: call us on 0300 029 0041

Phoneline opening times: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9am-4pm, Wed 11am-4pm

Phone: 0300 029 0041



Scottish Child Payment

Scottish Child Payment is a benefit which started in February 2021. This payment is for families on certain benefits or tax credits.

Scottish Child Payment helps towards the costs of supporting your family. It's a weekly payment of £28.20 that you can get for every child you look after who's under 16 years of age. You'll get the payment every 4 weeks if your application is successful.

To find out more about this payment and other benefits or grants to which you may be entitled, please access www.mygov.scot/benefits or call 0800 182 2222.

Preloved School Uniforms and 'Rake-n-Take'

We are an Eco School and our 'Rake-n-Take' rail is available daily at the front door. Preloved school uniforms are welcomed at all times.

We have a selection of non-perishable food items and toiletries available from the front entrance each day. This is freely available to our families. We replenish the stock available regularly. If you are clearing out any cupboards, we are always happy to receive any donations.

Period Positive South Lanarkshire:

South Lanarkshire Council has been consulting young people on the use of free Period Products in schools. Sanitary Products Sanitary products are freely accessible to all who need them. Our older girls know where they can be accessed in the school without causing any unnecessary embarrassment. Out-with schools, residents of South Lanarkshire have been able to order Period Products online which are then delivered to their homes. Products are also available in various locations throughout South Lanarkshire.





Neilsland Primary School Newsletter

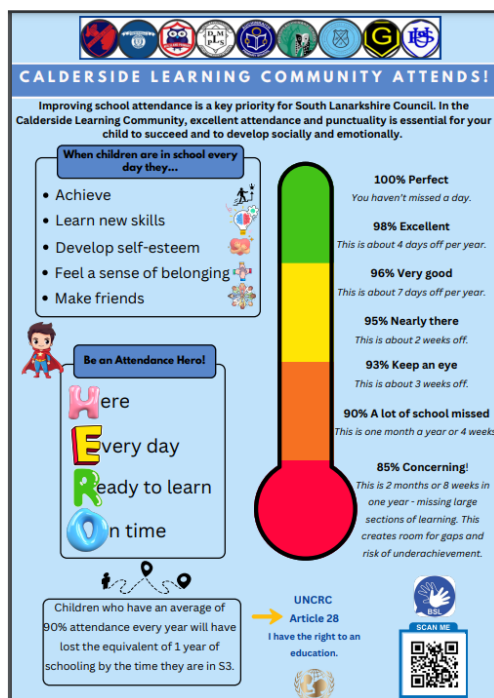
May 2026



Pupil Attendance

If your child is going to be absent from school, please contact the school before 9.00am. There is an answering machine for this purpose. Unexpected absences will be followed up by school staff, in line with SLC policy. Parents who have to take their child out of school during the day for an appointment, should send in a note in advance and collect their child from the School Office. Regular school attendance is essential for all our children to make good progress, achieve their academic potential and consequently have better chances in life. Our whole school attendance target is 95%. It is the responsibility of parents/carers and the school to achieve this. There are 190 school days across the school year, leaving 175 days to book holidays and attend non urgent appointments. We appreciate that children are unwell from time to time and that there can be exceptional circumstances for absences, but we ask that you think carefully about keeping your child out of school. There is a strong connection between attendance and achievement at school. Absence is proven to have a significant negative impact upon a child's educational attainment. We continue to monitor both punctuality and attendance on a monthly basis. The two reasons for children not attending school are due to illness and holidays. Friday continues to be the most frequent day children are ill.

Currently, our overall attendance is 94.08%



Key Dates

Friday 29th May	Summer Fayre
Friday 5th June	Reports out
Thursday 11th June	1.30pm Sports Afternoon
Friday 12th June	Geez a Break Snow White Panto
Thursday 18th June	1.30pm P7 Leavers Assembly
Monday 22nd June	P7 Fun Day
Tuesday 23rd June	Meet the Teacher
	1.30pm Shorts and Shades disco for winning house (To Be Announced)
Thursday 25th June	1.00pm School Closes