



Co-operation Courage Respect Responsibility Resilience

"Learn and discover, care for each other"

Dear Parents/Carers,

This month I have the following news items:

Bikeability

Well done to all of our P6 pupils, who despite some heavy rain showers, successfully completed their Bikeability 1 programme this week. Thank you to parents, Stuart Johnstone and Mark Henton, who helped staff with the delivery of Bikeability. It is our plan that P6 will complete Bikeability 2 during the spring/summer term.

Ardroy

The date given to us for our P6 parent and pupil Ardroy information evening has been brought forward and will now take place on Wednesday 8th February at 7:00pm in the primary school

Parents' Evening

All parents should already have received their Parents Evening appointment. It is our expectation that consultations will remain on time throughout both evenings.

'Seesaw' is used in all classes and is an effective way for learning to be shared regularly with families. Pupil jotters will also be available in school to look through at the end of appointments with teachers, rather than being sent home prior to Parents' Evening.

Additionally, parents will have an opportunity to make a written comment on their child's progress using My Next Steps in Learning booklets, which will also include targets identified by pupils and teachers.

Children in Need Day – Friday 18th November

Pupils can come to school in non-uniform for Children in Need Day. P7 and P6 are currently working together to plan the day which will include a range of fun activities and competitions as well as getting a decorated biscuit made in school and drink of juice. There is no need for pupils to bring any money on the day – instead a donation of £2 **per family** can be made now to Children in Need through Parent Pay.

Class Committees & Lunch Club

This year, we are looking for effective ways to increase opportunities for all pupils to share their ideas. Teachers will be talking to their classes to identify which age and stage appropriate committees to form, based on areas of interest.

Additionally P5-P7 are planning on getting involved with some local community projects with the first link already arranged where P5 will be visiting the Thursday village Lunch Club on Thursday 8th December, held in Balfron Church rooms.

PEPAS – PE Kits for All

Please find an attached appendix detailing an initiative to ensure that all children in Stirling schools have access to sports and PE kits. Parents can donate or take any of the PE clothing which will be available in our school foyer in a clearly labelled box.

Lost Property

Lost school jumpers and jackets without name labels are also stored in the school main entrance. Please feel free to come and look for that missing item of clothing before or after school.

Balfron 10K

This month, we were delighted to receive £500 from the Balfron 10K committee. The money will be used to purchase a class set of litter picking equipment and also to help further develop the nursery garden.

Christmas

Village Tree

The village Christmas Tree will be having its light switch on celebration on Tuesday 6th December at 4:30pm. Children and parents are encouraged to come along to the tree which will be outside the library and sing some of the traditional carols that will be practised in class over the next few weeks. The carols will be accompanied by some of our P5 recorder group.

P1-P3 Nativity

This year our school nativity 'Christmas with the Aliens' will be held on Wednesday 14th December – morning and evening. At the beginning of December, each family from P1-P3 will be issued with two tickets for the 1:45pm performance and two tickets for the 6:30pm performance. Tickets are free although any coin donation on the day will be used for licence costs. Any tickets not needed should be returned to school for any family that requires an extra.

Christmas Parties

The dates of our class Christmas parties are shown at the end of today's newsletter. Pupils can wear party clothes to school on the day or be collected to go home to get changed over lunchtime.

Christmas School Lunch

Christmas lunch for pupils will be on Friday 16th December at Balfron High. Slips to order a meat or vegetarian Christmas lunch will be sent home in advance.

End of term church service

This year's service will be led by our P4 pupils on Thursday 22nd December at 9:45am in Balfron Church.

Parents are invited to attend and should sit in the balcony.

Our school term ends for all pupils at 1.15pm except for those who go home by bus or taxi. Packed lunches can be brought from home or ordered from Balfron High. As usual, there will be no early home lunches for any pupils.

P1 enrolment 2023/23

Arrangements for enrolling pupils to start P1 in August 2023 are attached to today's newsletter. Like last year, enrolment forms are online at Stirling Council's website <https://www.stirling.gov.uk>. Please note that this year there is a requirement for parents/carers to upload copies of relevant documents and all enrolment forms should be completed by Friday 13th January 2023 at the latest.

If you are putting in a Placing Request please submit this form at the same time as your enrolment form.

The new deferred entry form and updated information for parents around deferred entry is now available using the link:

<https://www.stirling.gov.uk/learning-education/schools/enrolling-your-child-at-school/deferred-entry/>

Deferred entry forms must be submitted by 31 January 2023.

From August 2023, all children in Stirling with birth dates from the first day of term in August (16/08/23) until the last day in February (29/02/24) are now automatically eligible for an additional funded year of early learning and childcare.

All children with birth dates between March and the start of term in August are not eligible to defer.

An update by our Parent Council:

Halloween Discos

Oh what a night at this year's Halloween Discos! There were some fantastic costumes, some great dance moves and lots of sweeties eaten!! The children had an absolute ball and were so well behaved. It was lovely seeing them altogether having fun.

The parent council would like to say a massive thank you to everyone that helped out before, during and after the parties. Thank you also to everyone who donated things (including their time) to help make the parties a huge success.

This event was all about the parent council doing something fun for the kids. Despite it not being a fundraising event, we still managed to raise £116 for our funds! Fantastic – thanks everyone for your generosity!

Easy Fundraising with Easyfundraising

With easyfundraising, you can help raise money for the parent council whenever you shop online. Easyfundraising is a free, simple to use fundraising platform. When you sign up and shop online, at over 7,000 brands, easyfundraising donate a percentage of your spend to the parent council. It is a great way for you to support the parent council without costing you a penny.

You can sign up for free at

<https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fefraising.org%2FusV6ISPRhj∓data=05%7C01%7CAnita.crozier%40cms-cmno.com%7Cd5412e2a9e8c4ae261c308dac6ec42ba%7C8ddab29711af4f76b704c18a1d2b702f%7C0%7C0%7C638041015280045389%7CUnknown%7CTWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljoiv2luMzliLCJBTiil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C&:sdata=LWCYmODUUikBKWmpiyGamN8xr%2Fihjem6SdRZIDwp0%2FQ%3D&:reserved=0>

We have been offered an additional incentive to help us raise more money.....Between now and 18th November, easyfundraising will give us a £20 donation if 20 new people sign up with a further £1 for every additional supporter. We only need 7 more supporters by the end of this week to hit our target!

So, if you are planning any shopping on Black Friday, this is a great time to sign up and remember to use the app!

Please let the Parent Council know if you have any problems signing up or using the app – balfronpspc@gmail.com

Movie Night – 9 December 2022

The Parent Council are hosting a Christmas Movie Night at the School on Friday 9 December 2022 – 6pm to 8.30pm for all the children.

We will be showing two Christmas Classics – Home Alone (PG) and Nativity (U). There will be hot dogs, popcorn and lots of tasty treats on sale for the children to tuck into. There will also be some Christmas games and activities!

Tickets are £4 and include a small gift.

So get your Christmas pj's at the ready, the onsies and the blankets laid out...it's going to be fun!

Please follow the Balforn Primary School Facebook page for all the details and if you have any questions, please email the Parent Council at balfronpspc@gmail.com

Raffle Tickets

The parent council is delighted to be hosting a raffle again this year. We have some fabulous prizes including tickets for the Glasgow Allied Tigers, Briarlands Farm and Go Ape together with vouchers from many of our local businesses.

A huge thank you to everyone who has donated prizes – it is very much appreciated. If you, or anyone you know, would like to donate a prize please email the Parent Council at balfronpspc@gmail.com.

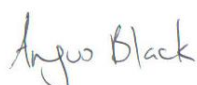
Tickets go on sale tomorrow and can be purchased from our parent council members at the parents evenings on Wednesday and Thursday this week. Please remember to bring some cash along for your tickets. There will be other opportunities to purchase tickets and the parent council will keep you posted.

The raffle will be drawn on Friday 16 December.

Tickets are £5 per strip or £10 for 3 strips.

Please follow the Balfon Primary School Facebook page for all the latest news on prizes.

Yours sincerely



Angus Black
Headteacher

| November | | |
|--|--|------------------|
| Wednesday 16 th and Thursday 17 th | P1-P7 Parents Evening Appointments | 5:00pm – 7:30pm |
| Friday 18 th | Children in Need Day | |
| Friday 18 th | P6 & P7 School Football match v Strathblane PS | 4:00pm |
| Friday 25 th | P7/6 Class Assembly – parents/carers welcome | 2:40pm |
| December | | |
| Tuesday 6 th | Village Christmas Tree Lights switch on | 4:30pm |
| Friday 9 th | Parent Council – movie night for pupils | 6:00pm |
| Wednesday 14 th | P1-P3 Nativity | 1:45pm or 6:30pm |
| Thursday 15 th | P3 & P4 Christmas Party | 1:30pm |
| Friday 16 th | Nursery to P7 Christmas Lunch | |
| | P1 & P2 Christmas Party | 1:30pm |
| Monday 19 th | P7s Christmas Party | 1:30pm |
| Tuesday 20 th | Nursery Christmas Party | 1:30pm |
| Wednesday 21 st | P5 & P6 Christmas Party | 1:30pm |
| Thursday 22 nd | End of term Christmas service in Balfon Church | 9:45am |
| Thursday 22 nd | End of term | 1:15pm |
| January | | |
| Monday 9 th | New Term | 8:55am |

