

Co-operation Courage Respect Responsibility Resilience

*"Learn and discover, care for each other"*



Dear Parents/Carers,

This month I have the following news items:

### Staff

We are pleased to have appointed Mrs Jacqueline McLarty to our SLA team on a temporary basis. Mrs McLarty will begin her post on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February, where she will be working mostly across P1-P3.

Mrs Grisanti, one of our P6 teachers, will begin her planned maternity leave on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March. Mrs Witherspoon will increase her P6 teaching role to full-time until June

Mrs Small, one of our P3 teachers is currently unwell. During this period, Mrs Darroch will therefore teach P3 for some days in addition to her normal Wednesday – Friday pattern.

### Scots Poetry

Pupils have been busy this month learning their class Scots poem. Children that wanted to could also enter the school recital competition, with three pupils from each stage P1-P7, performing to the rest of the school on the afternoon of Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January.

Well done to everyone who learned their poem or chose to take part in the competition, with a special mention to the following pupils who were awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place certificates –

P1	My Wee Doggie	Cooper Christie
P2	Mince and Tatties	Eilidh Wyper
P3	Nessie	Elouise Sutherland
P4	The Sair Finger	Robin Fitzgerald
P5	A Dug, A Dug	Noah Spriggs and Alistair Christie
P6	The Ballad of Janitor Mackay	Brody Tucker
P7	Address to the Toothache	Fiona Campbell

### Class Newsletters

P1-P7 class newsletters detailing some of the planned learning and activities from January to June will be sent out to parents next week and also added to our school website <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/balfronprimary/>.

### Free Sanitary Provision

Our school, like all others across Stirling, continues to provide free sanitary related products. A range of items are available in the display cupboard at the main entrance door, to anyone within our school community including pupils, family and visitors.

### P1 Height and Weight

The Forth Valley nursing team will be in school on the morning of Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February to carry out P1 height and weight checks.

### Cross Country

Mrs Bradley will be taking our P6 & P7 cross-country team to a schools competition at Bannockburn High on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Good luck to all of the following runners –

P6 Girls	P6 Boys	P7 Girls	P7 Boys
Mollie Mackay Aila Stewart Connie Callander Millie Conway Karys Sutherland Charlotte Stevenson Arabella McClelland	Charlie Anderson Brodie Malley Donnie Cant Henry Beale Archie Kember Scott Muir Brody Tucker	Kate Twaddle Anna Youens Isla Limbert Sadie Greig Olivia Kinnear Sara Mitchell Cara Greenlees	Sam Currie Sonny MacFadyen Josh Nicholas Mark Nicolson Nathanael Allan Fraser Mitchell Josh Kinnear

### P1 and P7 dental inspections

Dental inspections are due to take place for pupils in P1 and P7 on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

### Staff Development Day

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February, school will be closed to pupils for staff development days. Some of the themes being looked at by the school team over both days will include our school aims; and the inclusive curriculum.

### Parent Council

The next meeting of the Parent Council will take place on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February at 7:00pm in the primary school.

### SNSA – P1, P4, P7

Pupils in P4 and P7 will be taking part in SNSA (Scottish National Standardised Assessments) as part of their class work during February. The assessments are part of established practice in Scottish schools covering curricular areas of reading, writing and numeracy. P1 pupils will complete their SNSA assessments after the Easter holidays.

### Parents' Evening Appointments

Parents' Evening appointments will take place on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March in the primary school.

Please note that Wednesday and Thursday start and finish at different times:

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 5:00pm – 7:30pm

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 3:30pm – 6:00pm

To help us arrange the appointments, parents are asked by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February, to complete the following very brief questionnaire, if they have a preference of day for their appointment:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1pQzGLBmBrf0xeUg52i5-qJAX3k-vXSYu4xScbmwzAeU/edit?pli=1>

Allocated appointment slips will be sent home on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

### Ardroy 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> March

More detailed arrangements for the P6 residential trip to Ardroy are currently being finalised, with an information pack being sent out to parents shortly.

An information evening for P6 parents and pupils will be held in the school hall on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 7:00pm

The plan for staff taking part in this year's trip to Ardroy is:

Monday to Friday	Mr Mayes, Mrs Bradley and Mrs Gifford
Monday – Wednesday (two nights)	Mrs Macmillan
Wednesday – Friday (two nights)	Mrs Quinteros

During the week of the residential there will be opportunities for all of the P7s to be together, taught by Mrs Witherspoon and at times, Mr Black.

### Bikeability 2

Pupils in P6 will be taking part in the next stage of their Bikeability training early next term. Having completed the first stage, Bikeability 1, with school staff and parents in November, cycle training including on roads will be delivered by the Bikeability team from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April. Further details will be sent to P6 parents nearer the time.

### Visitor Protocol

Attached to today's newsletter is our school visitor protocol which provides important information and is in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of learners, staff and visitors.

### Children in Need

The fantastic amount of £187.43 was raised and sent to Children in Need following our day of activities in November.

### Pupil Achievements

Well done to two of our P7 pupils, Cara Greenlees and Sophie Skinner who took part in a sponsored 5K Glasgow Santa Dash before Christmas and raised £405 for the Beatson cancer charity.

### Active Stirling

This term, on a Tuesday morning, different classes will be experiencing some Active Stirling sports taster sessions including P5 golf, P1 and P2 football along with P7/6 rugby. The programme of tasters will involve all classes over the course of the year.

### Lost Property

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

### Parking - Bus Lane /Disabled Space

Parents/Carers are asked to generally avoid parking in the bus lanes at the start and especially the end of the day.

Our school has only one disabled space and it is essential to those who require lower kerb access. Any car without a clearly marked blue badge should not use the disabled space.

### Head Lice

To help parents effectively check their children's head for lice I have once again attached the following link from NHS Scotland for your information

<http://www.healthscotland.com/uploads/documents/25-Head%20Lice-Dec2016-English.pdf>

Hedrin is one product which has been recommended previously by some parents as an effective treatment for head lice. Combs are also available from the school office on request.

Yours sincerely



Angus Black  
Headteacher

<b>February</b>		
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	P1 height and weight checks	
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	P6 & P7 cross-country team to schools competition at Bannockburn High	
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Headteacher Balfron High to all P7s	
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	P6 & P7 Netball Festival	Balfron High
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	P6 Parent and Pupil Ardroy information evening	7:00pm in school hall
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	P5 Assembly	2:45pm
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Development Days	School closed to pupils
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Mid-term holiday	School closed to staff and pupils
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Council	7:00pm in primary school
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening Appointment slips issued	
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	School Football – Killlearn Garage Cup weekly competition begins	4:00pm – 4:30pm
<b>March</b>		
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening	5:00pm – 7:30pm
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening	3:30pm – 6:00pm
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	P3 Class Assembly	2:45pm
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	P6 Excursion to Ardroy Activity Centre	
<b>April</b>		
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Holidays	School closed to pupils and staff
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Term Begins	8:55am
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Development Day	School closed to pupils
<b>May</b>		
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Local Holiday	School closed to pupils and staff
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Bank Holiday	School closed to pupils and staff
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	P4 Class Assembly	2:45pm
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	P2 Class Assembly	2:45pm
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	School Sports Day	9:30am – 12:00pm