

Co-operation Courage Respect Responsibility Resilience

"Learn and discover, care for each other"



Dear Parents/Carers,

This month I have the following news items to share:

School Lunches

School meal pre-ordering will be available to parents via Parent Pay after the October break. Please find attached further details for parents along with examples of red and green trays.

VSE

This week Balfron Primary are having visitors in the school helping with a Validated Self Evaluation (VSE) process which takes place, roughly every 3 years. Heads of three other Stirling schools who work in different partnerships with our school – Braehead PS, Deanston PS and Drymen PS – will be visiting classes and talking to pupils, staff, some parents and other agencies as part of a process which helps our school to validate its own established self-evaluation approaches.

Balfron 720

Pupils in P5 and across P6 will be taking part in medieval writing workshops with a visiting specialist on Friday, thanks to the organisation of Balfron's historical community group which is commemorating the 720th birthday of Balfron village through activities in the village, Balfron High and our own school.

1-2-1 Cycling Lessons

Recyke-a-bike are running some 121 cycling lessons over the October break. These are 30 minute sessions intended for students who would like to learn to cycle or improve their confidence. All lessons take place at Recyke-a-bike in Stirling and the team are able to lend a bike and helmet to anyone that needs them.

Further details can be found using the following link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/rab-holiday-hub-private-lesson-tickets-715862202117?aff=oddtcreator>

PE Specialist

Next term Miss McKie our visiting PE Specialist will be working with P1-P5 on Mondays. To maximise teaching time, pupils in P2 should come to school wearing their PE kits (uniforms in bags) as their class will be first thing in the morning.

Miss McKie will be returning in the summer term for a Monday afternoon block with P6 – P7.

A reminder to all parents that on days when children have PE, children should not come to school wearing earrings.

School Photographer

Individual and family photographs will be taken in school on the morning of Tuesday 24th October.

Parent Council Christmas cards

As agreed at the last Parent Council meeting, creation of the artwork for Christmas cards was sent home this week as optional homework.

If parents/carers prefer the art work to be done at home, children will have until Tuesday 24th October to return the art work to class. Please note this is an optional activity.

It is expected that most children and families will choose for card designing to be done in class as normal with teacher and peers. If the artwork is chosen as a homework task, meeting the deadline of Tuesday 24th October will be parents/carers responsibility.

We look forward to seeing the variety of lovely Christmas designs whether done at home or in school. Please see the below timelines:

Tuesday 24 th October	Pupils to return completed Christmas card design if being done as homework
Wednesday 8 th November	Return of art work to proofs school by design company and sent home to families
Friday 17 th November	Order deadline for families
Friday 1 st December	Dispatch of goods to school

Parent Council

Halloween Disco

The Parent Council will be running a Halloween Disco on Wednesday 25th October in the school hall.

P1-P4 6:15pm – 7:15pm

P5-P7 7:30pm – 8:30pm

Permission forms will be sent home later this week.

Next meeting of the Parent Council will be Wednesday 1st November in the primary school and online.

Parents Evening Appointments

Parents' Evening appointments will take place on Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th November in the primary school.

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

Tuesday 7th November 5:00pm – 7:30pm

Wednesday 8th November 3:30pm – 6:00pm

To help us arrange the appointments, parents are asked by Monday 30th October, 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>

Allocated appointment slips will be sent home on Wednesday 1st November.

Pupil Council / Anti Bullying

This term our Pupil Council have been discussing a range of topics including the work of our class community groups. Additionally a pupil friendly version of our approaches to preventing and dealing with bullying behaviours has also been a focus.

All classes have been consulted and a final pupil policy, 'No to Bullying!' is on display in every classroom and is attached for your information.

The school website will also be updated to show the new pupil policy while class newsletters for August – December and Class Charters are also in the process of being added.

Please visit our website at <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/balfronprimary/>

Christmas Service

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

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

Sickness

At the start of the year it is important to remind parents that in order to reduce opportunities for spread of infections, when children suffer from a sickness or diarrhoea bug they should not return to school until 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

Minor Injuries

Please find attached within our appendices some minor injuries advice which NHS Forth Valley have asked us to share with families.

Mobile phones

Mobile phones are not required in school to support learning in class and therefore the expectation is that they are not brought into school by pupils.

If on an exceptional case, some parents require their child to have a phone for contact purposes after 3:15pm, for example if attending an after-school club or bus journeys, phones should be kept in bags at all times during the school day.

Yours sincerely



Angus Black
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary

October		
Monday 9 th – Friday 20 th	Holiday	School closed to pupils and staff
Monday 23 rd	Winter term starts	8:55am
Tuesday 24 th	Individual and Family photographs in school	morning
Tuesday 24 th	Christmas Card artwork returned to school (if being done as homework task)	
Wednesday 25 th	Parent Council Halloween Disco	P1-P4 6:15pm -7:15pm P5-P7 7:30pm – 8:30pm
November		
Wednesday 1 st	Parent Council meeting	7:00pm
Friday 3 rd	P3 Class Assembly – Parents/Carers welcome	1:45pm – 2:15pm
Tuesday 7 th	P1-P7 Parents Evenings	5:00pm – 7:30pm
Wednesday 8 th	P1-P7 Parents Evenings	3:30pm – 6:00pm
Friday 17 th	Children in Need Day – details to be confirmed	
Friday 24 th	P5 Class Assembly – Parents/Carers welcome	1:45pm – 2:15pm
December		
Thursday 14 th	P1-P3 Nativity performances	1:45pm and 6:00pm
Friday 22 nd	Christmas Church Service - P4 leading	Whole school and families 9:45am in Balfron Church
Friday 22 nd	End of Term	12:45pm
Monday 25 th – Friday 5 th January	Holiday	School closed to pupils and staff
January		
Monday 8 th	New Term	8:55am