



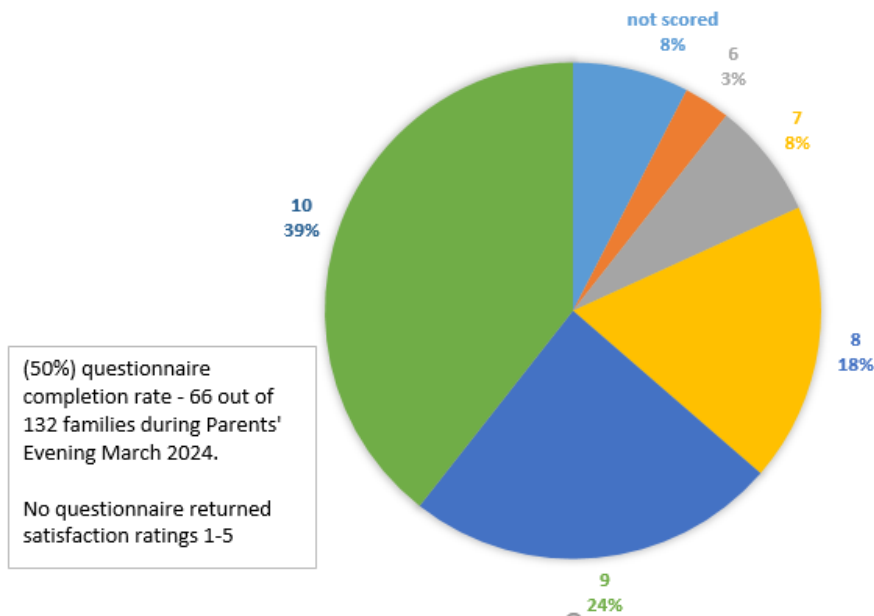
Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new term. This month I have the following news items:

Parent Questionnaire

In March, during our Parents Evenings, parents were asked to complete a school questionnaire, covering a range of key aspects. All the written responses, which are included as an appendix, will be valuable as the school identifies its improvement priorities for session 2024/2025. Thank you to everyone who took part.

**OVERALL SATISFACTION RATING WITH MY CHILD'S EXPERIENCES AT  
BALFRON PS 2023/2024 (1-10 SCALE)**



Fun Run

Well done to all those who took part in Sunday's Fun Run. The whole event was organised brilliantly by Parent Council members and other community volunteers, raising £872 for school funds through entry fees and catering. There were 70 pupils from our school taking part from a total of 117 children running, with 52 adults also joining in to provide support and encouragement.

Appeal by Parent Council

You may have seen from our Facebook posts that our upcoming Race Night isn't selling as many tickets as we'd hoped and unless ticket sales pick up by end THURSDAY 2 MAY, we will be left with no option other than to cancel the event (at a cost to the parent council).

Tickets can be purchased online at the following link. [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/balfron-primary-parent-council-race-night-tickets-878402364117?aff=ebdsshother&utm\\_share\\_source=listing\\_android](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/balfron-primary-parent-council-race-night-tickets-878402364117?aff=ebdsshother&utm_share_source=listing_android)

The Parent Council is also doing a special bank holiday weekend tuck shop after school on Thursday 2 May and we will be selling tickets at that too.

It is with regret that in the short term without the Race Night, the Parent Council may be unable to contribute towards the P7 leaving gifts and party and also not be able to host the end of term Fun Day that was a roaring success last year.

In the longer term, it is of concern that without support for the parent council together with the parent council events and initiatives, the parent council may cease to exist from the start of next term.

The Parent Council tries its best to enrich your child's experience at school. Last year and this year alone we have:-

- paid for/ subsidised school trips (at a huge cost);
- thrown fantastic parties (lots of fun)
- organised exciting movie nights (lots of stress but pulled it off)
- put on an end of term fun day (legendary);
- pushed for the reading scheme for the WHOLE SCHOOL to be brought up to date (very kindly supported by a donation from a grandparent);
- promoted equality for all students with a review of the school's uniform and bullying policies.
- plus much more...

However, we cannot stress enough that without the continued support from parents, carers and the local council all of these efforts will most likely come to a halt.

So please buy your tickets asap (and horses when they go on sale), come along on the night (11 May 2024) and have fun - everyone is welcome (adults only). We have some really fabulous prizes on offer (to be revealed when the horses go on sale)!!

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Many thanks

Parent Council

#### Science Visit

On Thursday of this week, three classes were invited to the science department at Balfron High to learn about the moon, its surface and associated difficulties of lunar landings. P6, P7/6 and P7 also viewed rock fragments using microscopes.

#### Clubs

This term, some pupils have been enjoying being part of the following lunch clubs which are held at 12:45pm

P4 Coding (Wednesdays) – Mrs Darroch

P1 & P2 Music (Mondays) – Miss Mitchell

P5 Recorders (Thursdays) - Mrs Robertson

#### P6 & P7 Music Day – 12<sup>th</sup> May

Please find attached information about a Music Day at McLaren High for interested pupils in P6 & P7.

#### Samba Drumming

Well done to everyone in P4 and P5 who took part in drumming workshops on Friday afternoon, last week, with visiting music specialists. A performance to the whole school was followed up by a further performance to parents in the playground at the end of day pick-up.

#### Hygiene

We have been advised by several parents that their children have contracted threadworms, therefore we attach the NHS guidance for your information and would ask that you check and get the appropriate treatment from your GP/Pharmacist if required and remain vigilant over the coming weeks. Handwashing is particularly important and this message is also being re-enforced in school.

## [Threadworms | NHS inform](#)

We continue to have cases of slapped cheek syndrome. Please follow this NHS link which will provide parents/carers with further guidance.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/slapped-cheek-syndrome/>

Vigilance around head lice is always needed and again we attach NHS guidance for your information.

[Head lice and nits - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

### ASN Parent and Carer Support Group

Attached to today's newsletter is a flyer detailing support sessions for parents/carers of children with additional support needs. A diagnosis is not required. Organised by the Educational Psychology Team and ASN outreach team, these sessions will be held online and at Raploch Campus. It is essential for all participants to book prior to attending. Parents and carers can book by emailing [psychological@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:psychological@stirling.gov.uk).

### Footwear & Clothing Grants/Free School Meals Application Forms for Session 2024/25

Application forms to apply for the footwear & clothing grants/free school meals for pupils returning to school in August will be available online at the end of June 2024.

This is especially important for children starting school in August. If parents submit the application form that is currently available online this will be rejected and the parent advised to apply again at the end of June.

<https://www.stirling.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/free-school-meals-and-clothing-grant/>

Yours sincerely



Angus Black  
Headteacher

### **Dates for the Diary**

May		
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Staff Development Day	School closed to pupils
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Local Holiday	School closed to pupils and staff
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	P5 class trip to Glasgow Museums Resource Centre	Full Day
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	P4 Class Assembly	1:45pm
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	P5 Open Morning	9.45am
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	P1 to P7 and Nursery	Class Photos
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery to P7 School Sports Day	9:30am – 12:00pm
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	P1 Transition – lunch hall visit to high school with parents	11:15am
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	P7 – S1 transition – parent information evening	5:45pm
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	P4 class trip to Kelvingrove Art Gallery	Full Day

Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	P2 Class Assembly	1:45pm
<b>June</b>		
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> – Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	P7 transition days at Balfron High	
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	New P1 Induction Morning	9.30am-11.45am
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	New P1 Parent Presentation	9.45am
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	P1 Class Assembly	1:45pm
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	All P7s class trip to Gravity Active Glasgow	Full Day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	P1 & P2 class trip to Amazonia  All P6s class trip to Blair Drummond Safari Park	Full Day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	P1-P7 pupil end of year reports issued	
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	P7 Leavers' Assembly	1:45pm
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery Leavers Assembly	9:30am
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	P7 Leavers' Party	7:00pm – 8:30pm
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	P1-P6 Moving On Afternoon – visiting new classroom and new teacher	2:00pm – 2:30pm
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	P1-P7 Balfron Primary's Got Talent Show	9:30am
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	End of term	12:45pm
<b>August</b>		
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Development Days	School closed to pupils
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	New Term	School open to pupils