



Co-operation Courage Respect Responsibility Resilience

"Learn and discover, care for each other"

Dear Parents/Carers,

As this term draws to an end I have the following news items to share:

"Balfron Cares" – Stalls From Home Day

Organised by our Pupil Council On Friday there will be a range of Christmas stalls from home, raising money for identified charities.

Pupils are encouraged to bring a little money to buy some of the items which were listed and sent to families at the start of the week.

Christmas Parties & Hampers

Next week all classes will be having a Christmas Party.

The dates were shared in last month's newsletter and are again listed below:

- Monday 16th - Nursery and P3 & P4
- Tuesday 17th- P1 & P2
- Wednesday 18th- P5 & P6
- Thursday 19th – P7

With exception to the nursery, all parties will take place in the afternoon. On the day of their party, children are encouraged to wear or bring separately in a change bag, some party clothes.

We are very grateful to the Parent Council who will also be providing some party snacks of crisps, sweets and drinks.

This year, Parent Council will also be making up **Christmas food hampers** to provide as a gift where there is need. On the day of their party, children are therefore asked to bring to school a donation of an imperishable food item or a small unused toy as a donation.

Parent Council will also place a box in the entrance of the school where people can donate at school drop off/ pick up.

The finished hampers will be allocated by the school.

Advent Reflections

As in previous years, some classes will be going over to the Advent Reflections which is a quiet space in the Community Room at Balfron High, open also to members of the public after school.

P5 Open Morning

P5 are opening their classroom to P5 parents for a Christmas Enterprise morning on Tuesday 17th December 9.15am -10.15am The children have been very busy creating their own businesses, learning how to budget and are hoping to make a profit selling their Christmas crafts.

P4 Open Morning

P4 parents and carers are invited to come into class on Wednesday 18th December 9:15am – 10:15am to find out about a writing project taking place this term.

Christmas Dates

This year's service will be led by our P4 pupils on Friday 20th December at 9:45am in Balfroon Church.

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

Our school term ends for all pupils at 12.45pm except for those who go home by bus or taxi. Packed lunches can be brought from home or ordered from Balfroon High. As usual, there will be no early home lunches for any pupils.

X-Country

All P6 and P7 pupils took part in a local cross-country event at Balfroon High School along with the other local schools. Well done to the following pupils who have the opportunity to participate in the wider Stirling Schools cross-country event which is due to take place next term through their top 10 finishes –

P6 girls – Rosie Sutton and Jess Henton

P6 boys – Finlay Stevenson

P7 girls – Lacy Harrower (1st place) Rebecca Gribben (2nd place) Shona Coull, Emily MacDonald, Eva Hardie, Ashley MacDonald

P7 boys – Alex Bark, Kayden Smeed

Update from Parent Council

It's been a busy autumn session for all and we hope you are enjoying the festivities on the run up to the holidays.

The car boot sale fundraising event was a great success. The Parent Council would like to say a big thank you to all the organisers and helpers that made this possible as well as everyone that took part and supported our event. A total of £900 was raised.

The Asda cash pot for schools has just completed last week and together we have managed to raise £303.16. Again thanks to all that have taken part and signed up.

The funds raised will be used to support the school and this term we will be providing some juice and snacks for the Christmas parties next week as well as some other surprises we have in store for the kids before the end of term. We will also be complimenting the road safety banner with other traffic calming signage which is more important than ever with the loss of the lollipop ladies, and the new zebra crossings.

Other ongoing work has seen our new constitution updated and adopted to allow for more flexibility for the running of the council and increased ease for grant applications in future. The National Lottery Awards for all grant application for funding for the Trim Trail repair / replacement has now been submitted by the Parent Council.

The date for the next meeting is Monday 20th January at 7pm at the school. As always everyone is most welcome to attend and we appreciate all the help and support from parents and carers.

Lost Property

Parents are reminded to regularly check the school's collection of lost property – sweatshirts, jackets etc. – which is located just inside the main entrance area.

During the new term our Parent Council plan to gather any unclaimed items of lost property and organise them into a pre-loved display from which will be made available to all parents.

Assembly Visit

At assembly, earlier this month local historian, Jim Thomson explained the famous story of Scottish outlaw, Rob Roy hiding from General Wade's 'Redcoats' in Balfroon's Clachan Oak. We were also

delighted to have been given a lovely painting depicting the story which will be displayed in the school foyer for visitors and pupils to enjoy.

Children in Need

Well done to everyone who contributed towards the £372 raised during last month's Children in Need challenge day which was very successfully organised by P7.

P1 Enrolment 2025/2026

Please find attached Stirling Council's P1 enrolment procedures for session 2025/2026 for P1s who will start school on 13th August 2025. Further information for enrolment procedures can also be found at www.stirling.gov.uk

Campus Safety

Parking

- To help avert an accident from happening, entering the school grounds by car during busy periods including 8:45am - 8:55am and 3:15pm - 3:25pm, unless absolutely essential, is not permitted.
- Moor Road parking – the turning point or on the kerb at the playground double gates is not for parking. This creates additional congestion around the school which can be dangerous.
- Moor Road parking - some residents have contacted the school, requesting that cars are not parked across driveways, or on the white lines, even for a short period of time, as this is blocking access.

*A recommended alternative, used successfully by many parents, is **parking at Donaldson Park and walking the short distance to school via the path.***

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.

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.

Health & Well Being Survey

Next term all parents of all pupils in P5-P7 will be issued with information, as well as a withdrawing consent form, about their child's participation in a Council wide Health and Well-Being survey.

And Finally

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for the huge support and encouragement that is given to our school everyday. I hope that parents, pupils and staff have an enjoyable and safe Christmas holiday.

Yours sincerely



Angus Black
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary

December		
Thursday 12 th	P1-P3 Nativity	1:45pm & 6:00pm
Friday 13 th	Christmas Stalls from Home Day	
Friday 13 th	Nursery to Mugdock panto	
Monday 16 th	Christmas Party – Nursery	morning
Monday 16 th	Christmas Party – P3 & P4	afternoon
Tuesday 17 th	P5 Christmas Enterprise to parents	9:15am – 10:15am
Tuesday 17 th	Traditional Christmas Lunch for pupils	
Tuesday 17 th	Christmas Party – P1 & P2	afternoon
Wednesday 18 th	P4 Open Morning to parents	9:15am – 10:15am
Wednesday 18 th	Christmas Party – P5 & P6	afternoon
Thursday 19 th	Christmas Party – P7	afternoon
Friday 20 th	End of term church service – P4 leading	9:45am
Friday 20 th	End of Term	12:45pm
Monday 23 rd – Friday 3 rd January	Holiday	School closed to pupils and staff
January		
Monday 6 th	New Term	8:55am