

Co-operation Courage Respect Responsibility Resilience

"Learn and discover, care for each other"



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year!

New P1s

Well done to all 25 of our new P1 pupils who have made such a super start to the new school year.

Meet the Teacher

We will be providing an opportunity for parents/carers to meet their child's new teacher on Wednesday 3rd September. This year there will be a new format; one which allows parents to drop-in for ten minutes at anytime between 3:30pm and 4:30pm to briefly meet their teacher, see the classroom and look at some resources that will be used during the year ahead.

There will be no presentation from the teacher with class newsletters being issued during the following week, summarising all key information including how learning will be planned from August to December.

Parents can of course bring their child to the Meet the Teacher drop-in session.

Flu Vaccine

Flu vaccines for P1-P7 will take place on the morning of Monday 16th September. Consent forms from NHS Forth Valley have been issued today and should be returned to the school office by Friday 29th August.

Parent Council

Parent Council is holding its AGM and first meeting of the year in our school hall on Wednesday 10th September at 7:00pm. An agenda will be sent out nearer to the date.

All parents from the both the primary and nursery will be very much welcome at the AGM/Meeting 1 and to be part of Parent Council this year.

Parents' Evenings

This year as part of Stirling school's new reporting framework, we have moved our first set of parents evening appointments to the week before the end of term one.

Parents who would like to request a specific day for October's parents evening should use the link below to indicate their preference. The link will close on Friday 12th September.

<https://forms.gle/eEtwqiD2HFZAYqgT8>

Appointment slips for the first set of parents evening appointments will be issued to parents on Friday 26th September.

Our Parents Evening dates for the full year are shown below.

- Tuesday 7th October 5:00pm – 7:30pm
- Wednesday 8th October 3:30pm – 6:00pm

- Wednesday 4th March 5:00pm – 7:30pm
- Thursday 5th March 3:30pm – 6:00pm

Additional Curricular Events

Established additional curricular events have been arranged across the school in the following way this year:

P1-P3 Christmas Nativity – Wednesday 10th December 1:45pm and Thursday 11th December 9:30am

P4 Christmas Church Service led by P4 – Thursday 18th December 9:45am. We usually hold our Christmas service on the last day of term, however, this year Balfron Church is available on the second last day of term.

The dates for class led assemblies to parents of pupils who are presenting is shown below. Parents should arrive just before 1:45pm for our Friday class assemblies.

As shown below, open mornings for some classes will take place with dates still to be arranged based on the curricular focus.

	Class Assembly to parents/carers	Other
P1	12 th June	P1-3 Nativity 10 th & 11 th December
P2	22 nd May	
P3	8 th May	

		Other
P4	Open Morning for parents/carers - Dates and times to be confirmed later in the school year	Leading Christmas Church Service 18 th December

	Class Assembly to parents/carers	Other
P5	20 th March	Open Morning for parents/carers - Dates and times to be confirmed later in the school year
P6	27 th February	Open Morning for parents/carers - Dates and times to be confirmed later in the school year

P7	Open Morning for parents/carers - Dates and times to be confirmed later in the school year	School Play – details tbc
		Leavers' Assembly – June date tbc

School Photographer

Individual and family photographs will be taken in school on the morning of Tuesday 28th October. We also plan to have a new whole school photograph taken in the summer term – the first since 2019.

Campus Safety

All parents/carers must now avoid driving into the campus between 8:30am and 3:30pm.

Recommended alternative parking is in the Church/Donaldson Park car park which is only a short walk to the school.

Ultimate responsibility for ensuring that pupils arrive and leave the campus safely, remains with parents and we therefore **anticipate and welcome an expected increase in numbers of parents walking to and from the school with their children, providing necessary supervision.**

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.

Attached to today's newsletter is helpful guidance for parents produced by Public Health Scotland on infectious diseases. Please take time to read this important information detailing periods when children should/should not stay off school –

Should I keep my child off school or childcare?



Yes

Illness	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the advice on NHS inform if they've tested positive for COVID-19
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics



No

but make sure you let their school or childcare know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Head lice	Threadworms
Glandular fever	Tonsillitis	Slapped cheek

Parents and carers can find further health advice on nhsinform.scot

Advice and guidance

To find out more, scan the QR code or visit publichealthscotland.scot/hpcyp



Nut Allergy

We aim to be a nut free school, as some of our pupils have related allergies. Children should therefore not bring nut based snacks into school.

School Website

Our school website can be accessed at <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/balfronprimary/> and we hope that parents/carers will use it as a reference point for key information, so please keep checking throughout the year.

The following key documents are available on our website:

1. Standards and Quality Report

Our school's 2024/2025 Standards and Quality Report details the progress made by the school last session as well as listing all of our improvement priorities for the year ahead.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/public/balfronprimary/uploads/sites/3193/2025/08/18120259/SQ-24-25.pdf>

2. School Uniform Policy

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/public/balfronprimary/uploads/sites/3193/2025/08/18104707/BPS-School-Uniform-2025-2026.pdf>

Lost Uniform Station

Our lost property area has moved from the main entrance foyer to a defined station in a nearby spare classroom. Regular opportunities for classes to visit the new lost uniform station will be provided by class teachers in the new session, while at events like Parents Evenings, clothes will be made available for parents. Additionally, please just ask at the office to be accompanied to the lost uniform station if you are looking for any specific item at other times.

3. End of Day Protocols

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/public/balfronprimary/uploads/sites/3193/2025/08/18134239/End-of-school-day-Protocol-Balfron-PS-August-2025.pdf>

4. The whole school Anti-Bullying Policy

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/public/balfronprimary/uploads/sites/3193/2022/09/07105614/Balfron-PS-Anti-Bullying-Policy.pdf>

b. Pupil Policy

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/public/balfronprimary/uploads/sites/3193/2023/10/26094810/No-to-Bullying-poster-Oct-2023.pdf>

c. Stirling Council's Policy – Respect for All which is aligned with our school approaches

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/public/balfronprimary/uploads/sites/3193/2024/05/23091259/stirling-g-council-approach-to-respect-for-all.pdf>

d. Respectme – national anti-bullying advice

<https://respectme.org.uk/>

e. Anti-Bullying : School Question & Answer

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/public/balfronprimary/uploads/sites/3193/2024/06/11071830/Bullying-Frequently-Asked-Questions.pdf>

5. Our established Homework Policy provides a summary of our approaches to supporting children and families with set home learning tasks.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/public/balfronprimary/uploads/sites/3193/2022/09/07105403/Home-Learning-and-Home-Work-Framework-2022-2023.pdf>

Homework for P1-P7 will begin on Monday 1st September

6. RSHP - As well as a range of other information our website also provides a link to our policies on Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood (RSHP)

Parents will be able to find links to the [Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood \(RSHP\)](#)

national resource <https://rshp.scot/> used by all teachers to support our updated school programme which is in line with Curriculum for Excellence. Lessons take place across all stages throughout the school year.

While this national resource is available in its entirety including lesson resources, our updated school programme is also clearly identified on the website at:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/balfronprimary/rshp/>

- *RSHP Curriculum for Excellence Outcome Overview*
- *Early Level progression – nursery to P1*
- *First level progression – P2 to P4*
- *Second level progression – P5 to P7*

Links to parent information videos on our website include –

- *Why does RSHP matter?*
- *Is the national RSHP age and stage appropriate?*
- *What do children and young people want from RSHP education?*
- *What is the role of parents and carers in RSHP education?*

Pupil Voice

One of our priorities this year is to continue fostering and promoting pupil voice, so that children's ideas are heard in the planning and decision making around our school. As part of this focus, each class will have its own theme to help lead, on behalf of the other pupils across P2 - P7.

P2	Eco Schools and Litter
P3	Eco Schools and School Garden
P4	Digital Well-Being Award/Cyber Resilience Internet Safety
P5	Inclusion Ambassadors – neuro-diversity awareness; anti-bullying; Show Racism the Red Card
P6	3Ls – Lost Property /School Uniform
P7	Sport & Health including First Aid
Pupil Council	Pupil ideas. Campus Road Safety. Young Leaders of Learning. Stalls from Home, UNCRC Assemblies
House Captains	Whole School Charity Events & UNCRC Assemblies

Learners in P1 and nursery will work together on helping develop effective transitions.

Ardroy 2026

This session P6 will take part in a residential excursion to Ardroy Activity Centre from Tuesday 2nd – Friday 5th June 2026.

School Lunches/Clothing Grant

To apply for free school meals and clothing grant (P1 to P7), parents should click on the following link [Free school meals and clothing grant | Stirling Council](#)

Whilst P1-P5 children automatically receive free school meals, holiday payments for P1-P5 is an entitlement under specific criteria which is explained within the link, along with eligibility for a clothing grant.

P6 & P7 parents/carers are able to apply for free school meals at any point during the school year, using the link below

<https://www.stirling.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/free-school-meals-and-clothing-grant/apply-for-free-school-meals-p6-p7-only/>

The cost of school lunches will increase to £2.60 from 4th August 2025.

P7 Roles

Throughout the year all of our P7s have different leadership roles and responsibilities, tasked with helping other pupils and staff while acting as excellent role models. We are delighted with the start to the year shown by our current P7 class.

The following pupils have already been given additional responsibilities:

House Captains

Donaldson and Burns – Rosie Sutton & Robin Fitzgerald

Gorman and Bruce – Aaliyah Ali & Heidi Harper

Thunberg and Wallace – Jess Henton & Lewis Corish

P7 Big Buddy Activity Co-ordinators

Ellen Christie, Holly Shearer, Holly Meighan, James Limbert, Alistair Ure & Aaron McLarty.

All P7 pupils also take on the role of Big Buddies, supporting and helping an assigned P1 settle into school and playground.

Sports Co-ordinators

Ellie Morrison, Ker Gilbert, Harry Morgan, Marc O'Neill & Finlay Stevenson

Wet Weather Class Monitor Co-ordinators

Ellie Morrison, Mairi Lengden, Lewis Skinner, Innes Nelson

Monitors

Aiden McGuire, Patrick Dunn, Harrison Richens, Joe Saunyama, Fynn Wyper, Logan Murray, Ellen Christie, Finlay Stevenson, Holly Shearer, James Limbert, Holly Meighan, Harry Morgan, Aaron McLarty, Alistair Ure, Marc O'Neill & Ker Gilbert

Pupil Council Co-ordinators

Fynn Wyper & Joe Saunyama

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. Please note that Smart watches with phone access should also not be brought into school.

Playground

Many of our children enjoy exploring our bushes and trees during playtimes. Playground staff as part of their supervision duties, encourage pupils to play creatively and the abundance of hedges and trees certainly support exciting and imaginative pupil ideas. While pupils are closely monitored and are not allowed to climb high within any hedge or tree, occasionally some children do get scratched by twigs etc. when they climb or get down. When a child does get a scratch or small injury a record slip will be sent home. If you do not want your own child to climb or explore within our school grounds please do make sure that they are clear of your expectations, as well as informing the school.

Dogs in the playground

Parents are reminded that dogs, even on leads, are not permitted in any part of the school playground either at the beginning or end of the school day.

Yours sincerely



Angus Black
Headteacher

Dates for the Diary

September		
Monday 1 st	Homework begins	
Wednesday 3 rd	Meet the Teacher drop-in session for parents	3:30pm – 4:30pm
Wednesday 10 th	Parent Council AGM and Meeting 1	7:00pm
Tuesday 16 th	P1-P7 Flu vaccines	morning
October		
Tuesday 7 th	Parents Evenings	5:00pm – 7:30pm
Wednesday 8 th	Parents Evenings	3:30pm – 6:00pm
Monday 13 th – Friday 24 th	Holiday	School closed to pupils and staff. Nursery remains open
Monday 27 th	Winter term starts	8:55am
Tuesday 28 th	Individual and Family photographs in school	morning
December		
Wednesday 10 th	P1-P3 Nativity	1:45pm
Thursday 11 th	P1-P3 Nativity	9:30am
Thursday 18 th	End of term church service – P4 leading	9:45am
Friday 19 th	End of Term	12:45pm
Monday 22 nd – Friday 2 nd January	Holiday	School closed to pupils and staff
January		
Monday 5 th	New Term	8:55am