

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:

Morning Playground Lines

Parents/carers are asked, where possible, to stand back a little from the morning class line. We are always delighted to have parents in the playground, but appreciate when those who are not supporting an anxious or upset child, are able to watch their child into school, standing back, which will reduce a feeling of congestion and busyness for our youngest classes.

Standing back from the line will also be inclusive for children who do not have parents in the playground.

Road Safety – Respectful Cycling

This year all pupils who cycle to school are being asked to dismount from their bike when they reach the playground, before walking to the school bike racks. Pupils have responded very well to this expectation which has been set to ensure that parents and children who walk to school can do so without hazard.

Parents of children who cycle to school are also asked to reinforce to them the importance of safe and respectful cycling on their route home. This message will be regularly reinforced in class and at assemblies, while safe cycle training through Bikeability 1 and 2 continues for all pupils during P6.

Parents Evening

We look forward to opening our school for Parents Evening appointments on Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th October. Appointment slips were sent home last week.

A bell system will be trialled during this set of Parents Evening keeping appointments on schedule and ensuring that no parent is kept waiting beyond their allocated time. A short bell will ring every ten minutes, signalling the next appointment and parents are therefore asked to be on time.

When in school, please take time to visit our school uniform station in Room 7 which is opposite the school office/beside P6 classroom. We have a range of pre-loved items which have been washed and can be taken by parents either free of charge or by donating to the Trim Trail fund via a box bucket which will be in the room.

Parents can also visit the uniform station at other times during the school year - please just ask at the office to be accompanied to the uniform station if you are looking for any specific item.

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.

Halloween Disco – Wednesday 29th October

Permission forms for the Halloween disco are being sent home this week and should be returned to school beforehand.

Like last year a £4 donation per pupil on Parent Pay for the Halloween Disco will be used for the ongoing Trim Trail fundraising.

Staffing

We are delighted to have appointed a new SLA recently. Imelda Neale, who is a P1 parent, is due to begin her post at the start of term on 27th October and will work across different classes.

Pupil Council

This year's class representatives are - Krystal (P3), Phoebe(P4), Sophie (P5), Jude (P6), Fynn (P7) and Joe (P7). Each class rep is also joined by another class peer on a rotating basis to ensure maximum participation. There are usually three meetings each term, usually on a Friday morning, with pupils leading the discussion. So far this year, discussion topics have included bullying and learning. Pupil Council will also be organising the annual Stalls from Home morning, which will take place on Friday 12th December, and have decided that all money raised will be allocated to the Trim Trail. After each meeting, Joe and Finn provide a summary of discussion to the whole school assembly.

Reporting Framework

How schools across Stirling are reporting pupil progress is being refreshed this year. Details sent out earlier this month is repeated below for your information:

[Parent Information Video](#)

A link and code to access the Progress Report will be emailed to you from our platform's email address (noreply@inspirationalpedagogy.uk); please ensure we have your most up to date email address. This account is not monitored; please do not reply to the email; an automatic reply will ask you to contact the main school email address if you attempt to respond.

In our establishment, you will receive the key aspects of the framework at the following points in the session:

Progress Reports: Term 2 (October – December 2025) and Term 4 (April – June 2026)

Parental Consultations: Term 1 (7th - 8th October 2025) and Term 3 (4th and 5th March 2026)

Ongoing feedback on your child's learning via Seesaw (P1-P7), weekly homework, newsletters, Google Classroom (P5-P7), open mornings or class assemblies. At times additional meetings are also arranged to review individual pupil progress.

Book Festival

The following pupils visited the village Lunch Club recently to share some poetry as part of Balfron Book Festival events:

Torben Leitch, Caoimhe Haughey, Robbie Easton, Maia Dunaway, Effie Larkin, Joshua McDonald, Martha Callander, Violet Thomson, Aaron McLarty, Aaliyah Ali and Aiden McGuire

Allergy Aware Schools

Our school is moving from a 'nut free' school to an 'allergy aware' position. The reason for the change is:

- It is not possible to guarantee and enforce a nut free zone - staff cannot monitor all lunches and snacks brought from home.
- A 'free from' environment creates a false sense of security and does not safely prepare children for environments where nuts may be present.
- We need to consider other children with different food allergies and it is not practical to restrict them all.

All situations where children have allergies should be reported to the school office so that we can support them with a care plan where required. Meetings can also be arranged with the Council's catering team.

Parents, when preparing packed lunches, are asked to continue being allergy aware for other pupils by not including nut based products.

Themed Lunch Menu

A Halloween themed menu will replace the normal lunch options on Friday 31st October and is attached for your information.

Parent Council

Our school has now ordered the removal of our playground trim trail and the installation of a new trim trail. We expect installation work to begin next term, lasting for several days.

The full cost is £16,944

The project has only been made possible following tremendous fundraising and grant applications by our Parent Council. 50% of the costs have been paid to the school and it is planned that the remaining amount will be raised in the year ahead.

Minutes from the last Parent Council meeting have been attached as an appendix to this newsletter.

Questionnaires

This month parents/carers are invited to provide feedback on how our school encourages effective partnerships through the link <https://forms.gle/swHuVsd8rZDpLP4Q6>

Earlier this month we received comments via a questionnaire link on our Meet the Teacher drop-in event held at the beginning of September, which was a change in format:

Lovely to see the classroom and meet the class teacher. Great to see different learning methods used in school. My child loved showing me around and telling me all about his days in school. The classroom was great with a wide range of activities.

I thought the new, more relaxed format was great. Much more inviting and both myself and the kids got more from it than sitting listening to a presentation. Well done to the teachers and thank you for giving us your time.

It was lovely to be able to be taken around the class with our child and shown all of the things he does. Good to meet the teacher and gain that insight.

It was a lovely, informative session. The staff were so friendly and welcoming and the classrooms looked great with the work on the walls. It was fab to see what L and I have been busy with at the start of the term. Thanks to the wonderful teachers for their time

This format allowed for more interaction and flexibility. The majority of what is traditionally said in meet the teacher presentations is mostly already known through seesaw comms etc, so this new approach was good.

Very nice to meet both teachers and see what's been happening and ahead

It was great to visit the school, as always, and speak to the teachers and see the classroom. H loves it when I've seen his work on the walls, and seen the place he spends so much time in. It was useful getting the Seesaw sheet - a quick scan of the code and that's it done, it worked really well.

I thought the format worked well. By primary 7 we are familiar as parents with the rhythms of classwork, PE etc and so valued the time to talk with the teachers and see the work that the children have produced already.

Useful session to ask questions about learning and homework expectations

Prefer the old style of a presentation. There was no time to actually talk to the teacher.

Much prefer the old format- it's a better way to learn about what the class will be doing over the course of the session.

I preferred when it was a bit more structured where the teacher could flag what resources and things the students have been doing and then be given time to look around the class as otherwise some people did or didn't actually chat to the teacher and you didn't want to interrupt if someone else was chatting etc. so it felt more like it was just a wander around the classroom

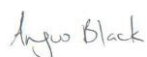
Thank you to everyone for their comments.

Staged Intervention Refresh

We are pleased to let you know that, following an extensive consultation process with families, schools, and partners, we are now ready to implement our refreshed Staged Intervention Framework. This updated approach aims to continue to ensure that children and young people receive the right support, from the right people, at the right time. We recognise that this is a new framework, and we appreciate your support during this period of change.

To help families understand what this means in practice, we have created a short guide [Stirling's Staged Intervention Framework: What Families Need to Know](#). The guide includes a brief recorded presentation explaining the levels of support, as well as a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section.

Yours sincerely



Angus Black

Dates for the Diary

October		
Friday 3 rd	P5 Active Stirling athletics festival at Balfron High	10:00am - 12:00pm
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
Wednesday 29 th	Halloween Disco	P1-P4
Friday 31 st	Halloween Theme lunch menu	P1-P4 6:15pm - 7:15pm P5-P7 7:30pm - 8:30pm
November		
Friday 21 st	P3 and P4 Active Stirling rugby festival at Balfron High	10:00am - 12:00pm
December		
Wednesday 10 th	P1-P3 Nativity	1:45pm
Thursday 11 th	P1-P3 Nativity	9:30am
Friday 12 th	Stalls from Home	morning
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	Holiday	School closed to pupils

January		and staff
January		
Monday 5 th	New Term	8:55am