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# Dalsersf Primary School

## Newsletter – December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Christmas Celebration

Well done to all our children who performed brilliantly at our recent Nativity 'It's a Baby' and our singers who entertained us with Christmas songs; It's Beginning to Look a lot like Christmas and Countdown to Christmas ending with signing in Makaton, We Wish You A Merry Christmas. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for our celebration and supported our stalls. It definitely is beginning to feel a lot like Christmas and the countdown is most definitely on. Please see below the winners of our hampers and class enterprise gifts.



- Adult Happy Hamper Winners: Mrs Bryson and Mrs Mulholland
- Lucky Programme Winners: Mrs Allison and Mr Barton

### Christmas Class Enterprises

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Christmas Class Enterprises this year. We raised the fabulous total of £613.86.

#### Room 4 – Happy Hampers

- Children's Happy Hamper Winners: Lucy R3 and Gracie R4.

#### Room 3 – St. Andrews Hospice Gift Sale

- A huge thank you to everyone who supported our gift sale. The amazing amount of £390.60 was raised for charity.



#### Room 2 - North Pole Quest

- North Pole Quest Winners: Isla R1, Ayuba R2, Cameron B R3.

#### Room 1 - Jolly Jackpot Raffle

- Please see attached note of all the winners for the Jolly Jackpot Raffle organised by Room 1.

### Christmas Parties

A reminder that our Christmas parties are on the following dates and times:

- ❖ Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – Room 2 Christmas Party at 1pm
- ❖ Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> – Room 3 Christmas Party at 1pm
- ❖ Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> – Room 4 Christmas Party at 1pm
- ❖ Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> – Room 1 Christmas Party at 1pm



Children who are home lunch can leave at the slightly earlier time of 12.00pm to get ready for their parties. However, children can also come dressed in their party clothes to school.

### Christmas Pantomime - Cinderella

This year we have purchased an online Pantomime, and children will be viewing 'Cinderella' during the last week of term in between parties, church rehearsals,



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and other Christmas festivities. Mrs Morrow has made colourful tickets for every child and classes will be viewing it on the big screen either in the hall or on their C-touch and will have a festive treat. We were able to fund this by using money raised by our parents/carers on the sponsored bounce day. Thank you!

### Christmas Church Service

We will be attending Dalsersf Parish Church on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December for our annual Christmas service at 10.00am. Parents and carers are welcome to join us.



### Winning House Treat



Our winning House for this term was Nethan with 32, 150 points. Well done to Nethan! They had a great time on Monday when Mr Lowrie and Jenny from MAD (Making A Difference) Ministries who came along to do balloon making with them!



### Class Newsletters

Staff have been busy working on their class newsletters for this term. These have been shared along with the December Newsletter. The Termly newsletters give you a flavour of the learning taking place in your child's class.



### School Improvement Plan 2025-2026 – Update

#### SLC Priority 1 – Literacy Improving our Writing (IOW)

This term staff have completed a rigorous self-evaluation to provide a clear focus for our writing improvement. Staff have implemented changes to planning approaches and routines in the teaching of IOW and have adopted regular evidence-informed practices (IOW sprints) to improve learning and motivation in writing.



All classes have been focusing on two key areas; identifying and fixing fragmented sentences and expanding sentences. To do this we have all been reading over our work and making sure our writing makes sense, so we do not have any scrambled sentences. To help us with this we have been using lots of connectives and a variety of punctuation. Once we mastered including key parts of a sentence and that our words were in the correct order, the children learned to identify key information in a sentence including; who, what, why, where, when and how to include these details to expand our sentences. Across the school we have noticed more detail being included in children's verbal and written communication.

#### SLC Priority 2 – Numeracy

As a staff, we have been introducing different approaches having attended the Maths Recovery training to increase practitioner knowledge, confidence and skills in teaching Numeracy and Mathematics using the pedagogical approach, incorporating a more active approach, at times, to allow further development and understanding of number and number processes.



We were granted some funding for additional numeracy resources to increase pupil access to a wide range of concrete materials during Numeracy and Mathematics learning. We purchased resources for each class such as dominoes, counting sticks, tens frames and counters. The children have enjoyed using these in the classroom.

You, Me Multiply family training will be presented to P3 and P4 parents in the new term. More information to follow.

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### **SLC Priority 3 - Health & Wellbeing**

This term all staff have completed an audit of Attachment-Informed, Trauma Sensitive practice as we work towards our first accreditation, 'Act to Make a Difference.' All staff members have a baseline understanding of attachment theory and developmental trauma and the potential impact on pupils and staff following Attachment online training. All staff wear pledge cards on their lanyard. Relevant digital resources have been added to a folder in the staff shared area for staff reference and recommended reading resources have been purchased and added to the staff CLPL room. All staff will attend Emotion Coaching Training on the next In-Service Day in February.



A working group including all stakeholders has been established. The first meeting was held in November, and the next meeting will be in January. Ambassadors have been chosen to represent P4, P5 and P6/7 and attend meetings and a noticeboard for the Attachment Team has been created to share information and progress.

Our newly established sensory room has been equipped with soft furnishings and relevant support materials. We are also sourcing sensory equipment to support children and the sensory room having received funding from the Scottish Government. We are planning an official opening in the new year.

### **SLC Priority 4 – Science, Stem and Technologies**

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) is key to building the future workforce, and so pupils at Dalserf Primary participate in a range of STEM learning. To develop STEM further we are working towards the STEM Nation Award which has five elements to achieve – Leadership in STEM, Family Learning, Employability and STEM Partnership Working, STEM Curriculum and Equity and Equality in STEM. At present we are working towards the STEM Curriculum element.



Next term the school has organised a loan of MakeDo construction kits from South Lanarkshire Council. The MakeDo kits include safe-saws, screwdrivers, and screws to allow the children to construct models and machines using cardboard.

### **Digital Schools Pupil Leadership Team**

The Digital Leadership Team presented at Assembly alongside the Respect Me Leadership Team during Anti-Bullying Week discussing Cyber Bullying. We discussed what to do if we believe we are being Cyber Bullied - Report (to an adult and the website), Save (any evidence of the bullying), Block (block on the website so it hopefully does not continue). The children participated in lots of anti-bullying related activities this week and designed posters to display around the school to promote awareness and encouraged everyone to follow the important messages.



*Mrs Kelly-Kerr and Digital Schools Pupil Leadership Team*

### **Eco Pupil Leadership Team**

In October, the ECO Team organised a Blue for a Loo Day to raise awareness of sanitation issues around the world and raise money to twin our school toilets. As part of this the ECO Team gave a presentation at assembly and organised activities for the children to complete in class. We raised £120 which allowed us to twin two of our toilets and help provide toilets for children in Malawi and Tanzania. A fantastic achievement.



The ECO Team undertook an audit of recycling bins in the school and discovered most were not being used properly. The team then shared about the importance of recycling at an assembly and showed which items should go in which bins. The ECO Team are continuing

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to monitor the bins and delighted to report that most bins are now being used correctly, although it is our ambition that all bins will be used correctly.

*Mrs Robb and Eco Pupil Leadership Team*

### **Pupil Council Pupil Leadership Team**

The team discussed the results from the Participatory Budget questionnaire for staff, parents and pupils then shared it with whole school at assembly and added the information to the Equity Wall in the school corridor. The information was also shared in the school newsletter, on the Parents Portal, School App and School Website.

The team have also discussed improving the way the House Points are counted. They looked at a variety of token counters to tally the weekly house points and display in the school. A new counter system will be implemented in the new year when it is in place.

Next term we will be looking at re-introducing lunchtime clubs as part of the Gold Sport Award.

*Mrs Gardiner and Pupil Council Pupil Leadership Team*

### **Reading Schools Pupil Leadership Team**

During Term 1 and 2, the Reading Schools Team have been working hard to continue to help everyone in school read for enjoyment. We participated in Book Week Scotland, with lots of reading and visits to the school library. We have also submitted our silver award and are awaiting feedback from the Reading Schools team. We have enjoyed visiting our library and encouraging everyone to take good care of it. We are also enjoying reading some of the new books which have been purchased.

*Mrs Murray and Reading Schools Pupil Leadership Team*



### **Respect Me Pupil Leadership Team**

The Respect Me Leadership Group led a very informative Assembly in the run up to Anti-Bullying Week. The children took part in various activities to get the Power of One message across. They wanted to promote the idea that we can all help to stop any form of bullying. At the end of the week, we got together to share what we had learned.

*Mrs Barber and Respect Me Pupil Leadership Team*



### **Rights Respecting Pupil Leadership team**

At our last Rights Respecting Schools meeting the group found a song that they will share with the school at assembly. The children suggested having a focus day on rights in our classrooms and sharing our learning. As part of a rights day, we are organising a school quiz all about rights and a design competition. Thank you to the parents of the Rights team who were chatting about Children's rights with your child, it was great to hear of so many parents who are already aware of them. If you are a bit unsure do not worry more information is coming in 2026 and we cannot wait to share our rights with everyone.

*Mrs Speirs and Rights Respecting Pupil Leadership Team*



### **Road Safety and JRSO Pupil Leadership Team**

Throughout Term 1 and 2, the Road safety & JRSO (Junior Road Safety Officers) Pupil Leadership Team have consistently demonstrated their dedication to promoting road safety and helping others understand how to stay safe on our roads.



At the beginning of the new school year, each class participated in a national competition where posters were designed to reflect important road safety concerns. The entries were delivered to South Lanarkshire Council as we now await the results.

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In September, the JRSOs attended a training day at Chatelherault Park, where they received free resources and gathered key road safety messages to be shared with the Pupil Leadership Team, and wider school community.

The Pupil Leadership Meetings, held each month, offered a platform for the children to express their road safety concerns and discuss campaigns to effectively communicate our message. Showing confidence and enthusiasm, the team then presented at the school assembly, showcasing their key messages. This introduced our campaign 'Be Bright, Be Seen, Don't Cross Inbetween' – a particularly valuable message for the children walking to and from school during the dark, winter months. All classes were encouraged to participate in the campaign by designing a poster that clearly reflected our message, completed with an appropriate drawing. The JRSO's were given responsibility to select a winner from each class, resulting in the winning designs being displayed around the school.

The children are eager to participate in the Big Walk and Wheel in the new year, encouraging pupils to make active journeys to school each day.

*Miss Church and Road Safety Pupil Leadership Team*

### **Enrolment for Primary 1**

The Infant enrolment process for children due to start school in August 2026 will begin from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January.



Children who are age 5 between 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026 and 28<sup>th</sup> February 2027 are required to register their child for starting school in August 2026 by completing the online registration form on the South Lanarkshire Council website from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

This information and link will be promoted on SLC social media platforms. The registration form is available on the SLC website:

You will be required to upload your child's full birth certificate and two proofs of residence. Eg a utility bill, Council Tax statement, bank statement, etc. (preferably no older than 6 months).

We will contact you between Monday 12<sup>th</sup> and Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026 to discuss your registration.

Please pass this information on to anyone you may know who has a child ready to start school in August 2026. Thank you.

### **Afterschool Clubs**

Chris McLaughlin, our Active Schools Co-ordinator has arranged multi-Sport afterschool clubs for P1-3 and P4-5 on Fridays 3-4pm beginning in the new Term. More information to follow.



### **Dress Down Day**

Our next dress down day is on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Children can dress in their casual clothes and wear something festive.



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### **Nut Free School**

We are a nut-free school so do not allow nut products to be consumed on our premises. Hazelnuts fall under the nut-allergy umbrella, therefore Nutella, Bueno bars or chocolate spread containing nuts are not allowed. Can you please check your child's snack/packed lunch contents beforehand to help us to protect those children and staff with nut allergies who attend our school. Thank you for your support in this matter.



### **End of Term**

A reminder that school closes on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December at the slightly earlier time of 2.30pm. All staff and pupils at Dalsersf Primary School would like to wish all Parents/Carers and the wider community a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Best wishes,

*Ingrid Gardiner*

Mrs Ingrid Gardiner  
Head Teacher

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## Dates for Your Diary



### December 2025

- ❖ Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – Room 2 Christmas Party at 1pm (Home lunch at 12pm)
- ❖ Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> – Room 3 Christmas Party at 1pm (Home lunch at 12pm)
- ❖ Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> –Christmas Post Box last day
- ❖ Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> – Room 4 Christmas Party at 1pm (Home lunch at 12pm)
- ❖ Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> – Dalsersf Church Service at 10.00am (All welcome)
- ❖ Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> – Room 1 Christmas Party at 1pm (Home lunch at 12pm)
- ❖ Friday 19<sup>th</sup> - Dress down day, wear something festive/optional, no charge.
- ❖ Friday 19<sup>th</sup> – Schools close earlier at 2.30pm for Christmas Holidays

### January 2026

- ❖ Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – School re-opens at 9am. Breakfast Club at 8.15am
- ❖ Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – Online Enrolment for P1 opens on SLC website

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