



'For every child to feel welcome, included and supported to become a confident individual, responsible citizen, effective contributor, and successful learner.'



Dalsersf Primary School

Newsletter – January/February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Primary 1 Enrolment

Registration for children beginning school in August 2026 has taken place this month. If you are aware of anyone who has yet to register, please ask them to contact the school office on 01698 882680.



Adverse Weather

During the Winter months, can you please ensure your child comes to school with a hooded waterproof jacket and accessories to keep warm when out in the playground. In the event of inclement weather before 9.00am, children should access the school via the gym hall door from 8.45am (unless already attending breakfast club).



In the event of extreme adverse weather, please check the School App and Ashgill Community Facebook page for information regarding school opening times.

After School Multisport Clubs

Chris McLaughlin, our Active Schools Co-ordinator has been running a multi-Sport afterschool club for P1-3 on 23rd, 30th January and 6th February and will begin a second block for P4-5 on 20th, 27th February and 6th March. The clubs will run on Fridays 3-4pm. The children have been enjoying all the exciting games and activities.



Music Tuition

The Youth Music Initiative sessions with Mr Steven Johnstone have re-started on Wednesdays for P4. Drum tuition continues on Thursdays in P6/7 with Mr Stephen Burns.



Showcases

Showcases for your child's class are listed below. Please enter the school gates and go to your child's outside classroom door where you will be invited in when the children are ready.

Room 2 - Thursday 26th March at 2pm
Room 1 – Tuesday 31st March at 2pm



Art Competition - Royal Academy Young artist summer show

With many talented artists in our school we have registered for those who wish to submit a piece of art to the Royal Academy of Arts competition. The competition is free to enter and for any young artists aged 4–18 years studying in the UK.

Each student can submit one artwork (any theme) which can be made using any material; it can be a painting, sculpture, photograph, installation, video, drawing, or a combination.

Each entry should include a copy of the artwork plus some information about the piece such as title, size, and some text written by the artist which can include why they created the work and what it means to them.

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The panel of judges will see the artwork and the selected pieces will be shown in our online exhibition. Some of the artworks will also be shown at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Art work can be brought into school for a copy to be taken or a picture of models and sculptures can be brought into school. Entries can be brought into school until the 20th February 2026. Judging will take place in May and the online exhibition will be available from 14th July 2026.

Artworks are viewed and judged by a panel of experienced and passionate artists and arts professionals and they work together to select which artworks will be shown online and which will be shown at the Royal Academy.

Judges are looking for imagination, originality and skill and seek to represent young artists across the breadth of the UK whilst considering a fair balance of state and fee-paying students.

Prizes are awarded each year for inspiring artworks. You can also vote for your favourite artwork at the annual People's Choice Award on Royal Academy Artwork.

We look forward to seeing our budding artists submissions.

Mrs Speirs.

Monthly Mantra, Right and Wellbeing Indicator of the Month

At assembly we have been discussing the importance of the 'Mantra of the Month' for January which is 'Feedback is a gift – accept it' as well as how to keep 'Active' for our Wellbeing Indicator. Our 'Mantra of the Month' for February is 'A goal without a plan is just a wish.'



School Uniform – Reminder

We ask all parents/carers to support the school by encouraging your child(ren) to adhere to the agreed dress code and the wearing of our school uniform. The wearing of a school uniform helps promote the identity of the school in the local community and helps create an ethos of sharing and pride in the school.

In addition, the wearing of a uniform helps towards increasing the protection of all pupils. The wearing of a uniform helps staff and the pupils to distinguish between who belongs to the school and those who may be visitors. This enables staff to approach and identify visitors more readily and helps in trying to offer a safer environment for pupils and teachers alike.

- Blue polo shirt */shirt/blouse
- Black sweatshirt*
- Black trousers/skirt
- School tie
- School shoes –(please ensure your child can tie their laces independently.)
- Indoor shoes (black gym shoe or trainers. No crocs.)

** embroidered items are available but not essential. You can purchase school embroidered items and ties from www.scotcrestschoools.co.uk or www.myclothing.com*

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Attendance

As you are aware, children's attendance is monitored across the school. You can now check your child's attendance on the Parents Portal platform. Please see information below which highlights the importance of attending school. If your child has a high number of absences, we will contact you to inform you as your child will be at risk of under achievement.

Above 95%	95% or less	90% or less	85% or less	80% or less
Well done!	Slight Concern	Concerning	Risk of Under achievement	Severe risk of Under achievement
High attendance leads to improved and high achievement which means greater success!	The same as 9 school days missed. (Nearly 2 weeks)	The same as 19 school days missed. (Almost 4 weeks)	The same as 27 school days missed. (Just less than 6 weeks)	The same as 36 school days missed. (Just less than 8 weeks)

If your child is going to be absent from school, please telephone the office on 01698 882680 to speak to our Team Leader, Mrs Morrow in the first instance. Alternatively, leave a message on the answering machine or email the office on gw14dalsferpsoffice@glow.sch.uk and your information will be recorded or concern/request will be passed on to the appropriate staff member.

As you can appreciate the office receives a high volume of messages via email, voicemail, or telephone before 9am and 3pm so please be patient and we will endeavour to respond as soon as we can.

For your information, we have a new telephone answering system in place:

1. Press 1 to report a child's absence.
2. Press 2 to speak to someone in the school office.

Please note as we have reduced support staff on Thursdays and Fridays so staff may be supervising in the canteen or playground. If the telephone line is unobtainable, please leave a message on the answering machine and someone will return your call. This will also be the case from time to time throughout the day when staff are attending children who require medical assistance or assisting elsewhere in the school. Thank you in advance for your patience with this matter.

Parent Consultations

Our Parent/Teacher Consultations will take place in the school Gym Hall as usual on Thursday 19th March. Bookings will be made on the Parent Portal as previously for our Parent Consultations. A reminder of the booking procedure will be shared when appointments go live in March. The scholastics book fayre will also be available during this week for those who wish to purchase a new novel or picture book for their child to encourage reading for pleasure at home.



Parent Council Meeting

Our next Parent Council Meeting will be held in the school staffroom on Thursday 5th February at 6.00pm. All new members welcome. Can you please email the office to confirm your attendance, thank you: gw14dalsferpsoffice@glow.sch.uk
We look forward to seeing you then.



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Nut Free School - Reminder

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.



Best wishes,

Ingrid Gardiner.

Ingrid Gardiner
Head Teacher

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Dates for Your Diary

January 2026

- ❖ Monday 5th – Happy New Year welcome back! Breakfast club at 8.15am.
- ❖ Friday 23rd - P1/2/3 Afterschool Multi-sports session 1
- ❖ Friday 30th – P2/4 You, Me, Multiply Parent/Carer Workshop 1
- ❖ Friday 30th - P1/2/3 Afterschool Multi-sports session 2

February 2026

- ❖ Friday 6th – P2/4 You, Me, Multiply Parent/Carer Workshop 2
- ❖ Friday 6th - P1/2/3 Afterschool Multi-sports session 3
- ❖ Monday 9th – P7 Residential visit to Sport Scotland, Inverclyde Day 1
- ❖ Tuesday 10th – P7 Residential visit to Sport Scotland, Inverclyde Day 2
- ❖ Wednesday 11th – P7 Residential visit to Sport Scotland, Inverclyde Day 3
- ❖ Friday 13th – Dress Down Day (DDD-No charge)
- ❖ Monday 16th – February Holiday
- ❖ Tuesday 17th - February Holiday
- ❖ Wednesday 18th – In-Service Day (Staff only, children do not attend)
- ❖ Friday 20th – P2/4 You, Me, Multiply Parent/Carer Workshop 3
- ❖ Friday 20th – P4/5 Afterschool Multi-sports session 1
- ❖ Friday 27th – P4/5 Afterschool Multi-sports session 2

March 2026

- ❖ Tuesday 3rd – Football 3
- ❖ Thursday 5th – World Book Day
- ❖ Friday 6th – P4/5 Afterschool Multi-sports session 3
- ❖ Thursday 19th – Parents ' Evening 3.15-7.00pm/ Scholastic Book Fayre

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- ❖ Friday 20th – Red Nose/Crazy Hair Day (DDD for charity).
- ❖ Thursday 26th – R2 Showcase 2.00-2.45pm
- ❖ Tuesday 31st – R1 Showcase 2.00-2.45pm

April 2026

- ❖ Friday 2nd – School closes at 2.30pm for Easter Holiday
- ❖ Monday 20th – School re-opens at 9.00am (8.15am Breakfast Club)
- ❖ Tuesday 28th – Football 4

May 2026

- ❖ Monday 4th – May Day Holiday
- ❖ Tuesday 5th – P1 Transition Day 1, 9.30 -10.30am
- ❖ Wednesday 6th – Hamilton Dance Festival (Time slot TBC)
- ❖ Thursday 7th – In-Service Day 5 (Staff only, children do not attend)
- ❖ Tuesday 12th – P1 Transition Day 2, 9.30 -12.00pm (Lunch at 11.30am)
- ❖ Thursday 14th – P6/7 Track & Field Event 10.00am
- ❖ Tuesday 19th – Football 5
- ❖ Thursday 21st – P1 & P6/7 Buddies, Teddy Bear's Picnic 1.30 -2.30pm
- ❖ Thursday 21st – P1 Transition Day 3, 1.30 -2.30pm
- ❖ Friday 22nd & Monday 25th – May Weekend Holiday
- ❖ Wednesday 27th – Sports Day at 10am
- ❖ Thursday 28th – P7/S1 Transition Day 1
- ❖ Friday 29th - P7/S1 Transition Day 2

June 2026

- ❖ Thursday 4th – P7 Leaver's and Summer Celebration
- ❖ Tuesday 9th – Robert Wilson Tournament (TBC)
- ❖ Thursday 18th – P7 Leaver's Treat

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- ❖ Monday 22nd – Dalsarf's Got Talent
- ❖ Tuesday 23rd – Movie Day
- ❖ Thursday 25th – School closes at 1.00pm for Summer Holidays & P7 Farewell.