



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



Dalserf Primary School

Newsletter – November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Anti-bullying Week

Everyone learned about the importance of why we mark Anti-bullying week annually during class lessons and shared their learning at assembly. Listening to others and being a good friend were running themes from the classes.



Charities Pupil Leadership Team

The fantastic sum of £186.00 was raised for Children in Need. A big Thank you to the charities leadership team and Mrs Barber for raising awareness and organising activities for this worthwhile cause.



Reading Schools Pupil Leadership Team

A big thank you to Miss Tariq and the Reading Leadership Team who organised a variety of fun activities for Book Week Scotland. Well done also to Miss Tariq, Mrs Barber and Miss Kelly for their presentations to parents/carers of the book bug and Read, Write, Count bags to children in Primary 1, 2 and 3 and for making the parental engagement session, along with support staff such a success. It was a great turn out with lots of positive feedback!



Eco Schools Pupil Leadership Team

Mrs Robb and the Eco team were raising awareness of our recent Rag Bag collection by compiling and distributing posters to the classes and sharing the information with parents/carers. A big Thank you to them for promoting the recycling of unwanted clothes which in turn adds a small amount to our school funds. We look forward to finding out how much we have raised and sharing this with you soon.



Wellbeing Indicator of the Month

Our focus for November is Achieving. Classes have been discussing how to develop a sense of their own skills, interests, abilities and targets. Children will know they are successful if they can identify things they are good at or want to achieve and participate in a range of activities which enables them to explore their own interests, skills and abilities.



Growth Mindset

The monthly mantra for November is 'I am a valued member of this learning community.' Children have been exploring what they could do to ensure this at assembly. Being polite, kind and respectful to others as well as being helpful holding the door open at the shop and asking people how they are, were a few suggestions.



Peer Review

This week we welcomed Mrs Mooty from St. Louise's Primary School, East Kilbride who will form a trio with Mrs Kennedy from Coulter and Lamington Primary Schools and myself to review and support a theme in each of our schools. We have chosen Wellbeing and Relationships. During their visits they will have a tour of the school, meet and chat with staff and have the opportunity to meet focus groups of children from all stages across the school to discuss aspects of wellbeing in our school curriculum and how we build and



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maintain relationships with others. We look forward to sharing their feedback when the review is complete.

Homework

Homework has now paused for the rest of the term to allow for rehearsals for the Nativity and Church Service. It will re-start again in the New Year on Monday 13th January. Please contact your child's class teacher/s if you have any queries.



Dress Down Day

Special request – One of our children asked me last year if they could wear something festive to their Christmas lunch, what a great suggestion! Our Christmas lunch on Wednesday 11th December.



Our next dress down day is on Friday 20th December. Children are invited to wear something festive on our last day of school for this session. There will be no charge, and this is optional.

December Diary

We have many festivities coming up in the month of December so please see the additional December Diary attachment which will be added along with the November newsletter.



Christmas Fayre

Just a reminder, our Christmas Fayre is on Thursday 5th December, 4.30-6.30pm with stalls selling a variety of goods including: home baking, raffle, teas and coffee, a visit to Santa to have a selfie and class Christmas crafts which the children will be selling as part of their learning in Enterprise to name but a few. Entry for adults is £2, children are free. Please pay at the door. We hope to see you there!



Nativity

Our Nativity performances by P1-3 'Everybody Loves A Baby' will be on Thursday 12th December at 1.30pm and Friday 13th December at 9.45am. P4-7 will also be singing some well-known Christmas songs. Tickets will be issued on a first come, first served basis. There will be no charge in keeping with our updated Cost of the School Day Policy. More information to follow this week.



Parent Council

The Parent Council would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Asda Cashpot for Schools fundraiser which generated a grand total of £434! Well done what a super amount raised.



They will also be holding a Christmas raffle for hampers at the Nativity performances so any donations would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to make a donation, please hand in items to the school office before Thursday 12th December. Thank you.

Wet Weather Day and Stem Boxes

We are appealing for any unwanted Lego, Meccano, jigsaws, board games, books, craft materials snap cards, etc. to add to our wet weather and Stem boxes in each of our



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classes. If you have any unused (good quality) items you no longer need we would be delighted to give them a new home.

Parent Portal

Ms Graham will be in touch if you have not already signed up to Parent Portal. The Parent Portal allows you to have direct communication with the school, to view your child's attendance, report cards, update your child's details, give online permission for excursions/after school clubs and view the calendar of events for the school year. We are for aiming for all Parents/Carers to be signed up this session.



Equity – Participatory Budget

Thank you to everyone who voted. The most popular choice to spend 6% of our Pupil Equity Funding was zero cost to school trips (9am-3pm). We look forward to sharing photographs of the classes on their school trips on the Equity display board and future newsletters. Thank you to everyone who voted.



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 falls below 90% we will contact you by letter 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, Ms Graham in the first instance. Alternatively, leave a message on the answering machine or email the office on office@dalsersf-pri.s-lanark.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 so try again if the telephone line is unavailable.

Please note we have less staff on Thursday at lunchtime and Fridays. If you are unable to speak to someone, please leave a message on the answering machine and someone will get back to you. Thank you in advance for your patience with this matter.

Christmas Tree Light Switch On

A huge thank you to Miss Kelly for leading the choir this year which included P3 to P7!

I enjoyed listening to the upbeat songs, 'Santa Claus is Coming to Town' and 'Revvin Up the Reindeer' during rehearsals and watch the choir grow in confidence over the lunch time sessions. Unfortunately, Miss Kelly took unwell during the week of the switch on and was unable to lead the choir on the night. However, thank you to Mrs Robb who continued rehearsing with the children in school. Due to illness and other commitments staff were unable to accompany



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the children. A big thank you to the Parent Council who took over the role this year to ensure the ceremony was a great success!



Adverse Weather

As the weather begins to get colder and periods of ice or snow become more frequent, can you please ensure your child comes to school with a hooded warm waterproof jacket, hat, scarf and gloves. The playground is not supervised until 8.45am so if your child is dropped off before this time, please be aware of this. In the event of wet weather before 9.00am, children will access the school via the gym hall door from 8.45am (unless already attending breakfast club).

In the event of adverse weather, parents/carers will be notified of any changes to the school day via the school app, Ashgill Community Facebook page and South Lanarkshire Council Twitter/Facebook page. Please check platforms when adverse weather conditions arise, thank you.

Social Media

Can I ask if you have any concerns about the school, please get in touch and we will be happy to clarify information or misunderstandings before posting anything negative on social media. All staff in our school very often go above and beyond, sacrificing their own time to offer the best educational experience possible for your child but can't always attend activities out of school hours due to personal commitments or illness. Therefore, I would appreciate your support in this matter, thank you.

Best wishes,

Ingrid Gardiner.

Ingrid Gardiner
Head Teacher

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Dates for Your Diary

December 2024

- ❖ Sunday 1st – Christmas Tree Light Switch on at 6.15pm
- ❖ Thursday 5th – Christmas Fayre, 4.30pm - 6.30pm
- ❖ Friday 6th – P6/7 Afterschool Football
- ❖ Wednesday 11th – Christmas Lunch (wear something festive- optional)
- ❖ Thursday 12th – Nativity (afternoon) at 1.30pm
- ❖ Friday 13th – Nativity (morning) at 9.45am
- ❖ Friday 13th – P6/7 Afterschool Football (last session)
- ❖ Monday 16th – Room 4 Christmas Party at 1pm
- ❖ Tuesday 17th – Room 3 Christmas Party at 1pm
- ❖ Wednesday 18th – Room 2 Christmas Party at 1pm
- ❖ Thursday 19th – Visit to Dalserf Church at 10.00am. All welcome!
- ❖ Thursday 19th – Room 1 Christmas Party at 1pm
- ❖ Friday 20th – Dress Down Day (wear something festive – optional, no charge)
- ❖ Friday 20th – Close at 2.30pm for Christmas Holidays

January 2025

- ❖ Monday 6th – School re-opens at 9.00am. (Breakfast Club at 8.15am)

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