

# Underbank Primary Update 14 – 22 March 2024



We are now approaching the end of what has been another extremely busy term. This will be the final update for this term. Please remember that school closes next Thursday at 2:30pm for our Spring break. I hope that all of our families have a lovely, relaxing break. We will see everyone back at 9am on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April

## Parents' Consultations

Thank you for attending our parent consultations last night. 96.5% of families have now spoken with their child's teacher. This is a wonderful reflection of your desire to work in partnership with us to ensure your child's wellbeing and that they are achieving their potential.

Thank you to all families who completed our survey. We will feedback on our findings when we have had the opportunity to collate all feedback.

## Room 3 visit to Clyde Valley Family Park

On Wednesday of this week, Room 3 were lucky enough to go to Clyde Valley Family Park as part of their Clyde in the Classroom topic work. A huge thank you to Mr Grant Bell and Ms Jenny Bell for offering this opportunity to our pupils, free of charge.

"When we arrived at the park, we went on the go-karts which was lots of fun. We then went into the Hay Barn and in there, there was an obstacle course. We had to try and jump to the highest point.

We all loved seeing and feeding the animals. We got to feed lamas, pigs, chickens, and ducks. One of the lamas tried to kiss one of the girls, it was so funny. We also saw some goats. And we saw a baby wallaby with the mum. The joey was so cute.

To finish off our trip, we all went on the jelly bellies (big bouncy cushions) for lots of bouncing fun!

**Reported by Hattie Wardrope, P3 and Nicky Menshov, P4**

## P5-7 Magpie Manor Production

What amazing performances of Mystery at Magpie Manor by our P5, P6 and P7 pupils! As always, the children were a credit to the school. A huge thank you to Mrs McLeod, Mrs Lamont, Mrs Higgins, Miss Prentice (Student) and Miss Robertson for all their help in making this such a success. Below you can read some of the feedback received:

"I was lucky enough to attend both performances. Each child shone on stage and the work that went into the production was clear to see. The children were so confident and talented, and I am so proud of them. A lifelong memory for them. So many skills and lessons learned. The way they supported each other on stage and the teamwork on display was so lovely to see. Well done Underbank and thank you so much for bringing the very best out in my otherwise shy child."

"Hard work certainly paid off - the production was a huge success in terms of engagement and collaboration. It was vivid, smooth and colourful! Musical theatre of a high standard! Very well done to all talented actors/ dancers/ singers and everyone behind the scenes."

"I attended the show and I thought it was absolutely fantastic, I loved the story line, the kids acting dancing and singing was absolutely fantastic, the costumes were just brilliant, and it was amazing that every child had a part in some way! I was drawn in by it all, I even said to someone the other day it was the best school show I've been to! Everyone did such a fantastic job, and I was so thrilled to be able to attend, I enjoyed it so much! Big pat on the back to all the children and teachers involved. A job very well done."

## Room 1 Class Showcase

Room 1 invited their parents and some other family members along to their showcase on Wednesday morning. Our children were very enthusiastic about their learning and were very keen to share their science experiment with the audience! Below is some of the positive feedback that they received:

"We had great fun today with our son. It really was interesting seeing the science experiment and going through their work with them. The weather topic looked like great fun."

"Well done Room 1! I loved hearing all about what you have all been learning in class. 10/10"

"A fabulous morning full of fun activities. Thank you for sharing your learning Room 1 – just wonderful!"

### **P7 LGS Enterprise Challenge**

Yesterday all of the P7 children went to Lanark Grammar to take part in an Enterprise Challenge. We were all split up into groups on arrival. My group (Heather D) had the task of making protective packaging for an egg, out of very few materials. The egg was to be dropped from a balcony! We used a bit of card to protect the egg, we wrapped the egg in newspaper, then we put the egg in the box we had made with the cardboard, wrapped the whole thing in newspaper again and then made a parachute out of a bin bag. We then dropped the egg from the balcony. The others from my team were at the bottom to collect it. We weren't allowed to open it up until we had answered the five trivia questions correctly. Thankfully, we got all of our questions right and our egg survived the drop!

My Team (Tom F) also did the 'Eggperiment' and then we took part in relay races inside the big hall. We had to run up to our helpers who were sitting on a bench with cards with maths questions on them. Green card questions were easy and worth one point. Red card questions were more difficult and worth two points. I went for a red card for all of our questions. We had to get the card and run back to our table, and our team had to work out the answers. My team got all of our questions right. ***Reported by Tom Fraser and Heather Davidson, P7***

I'm delighted to report that Tom Fraser was in the winning team on Thursday. Well done Tom!

### **Indoor Shoes**

All children will bring their indoor shoes home next week so that parents can check these for wear, tear and sizing. We would appreciate if all children could return to school on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April with suitable indoor shoes for the term ahead.

### **Easter Service – Crossford Parish Church**

Thank you to all parents who replied to our email requesting help with walking the pupils to Church next Wednesday. We now have enough parent helpers.

### **P6 & P7 Wiston Lodge Outing 2024**

The third and final payment of £15 for Wiston Lodge is due on or before **28<sup>th</sup> March 2024**.

### **Lunchtime/After School Clubs on at present or starting shortly**

- P6/7 Lunchtime Dance (with Miss Robertson)
- P7 Crochet Club with Mrs Hamilton
- P5/6/7 After School Football – Boys (final week next Wednesday)

- P2 Intergenerational Circle Dance After School Club for child and a family member (over 18).
- Pupil Led P2 Theatre Skills Club

Please don't forget to make a small contribution to our KUA fund on ParentsPay, as all money donated goes towards buses for the various sporting events throughout the school year, including the transport needed for our sports day in June.

### **ParentsPay Live Items**

The following payment items are now on ParentPay.

- KUA (Keep Underbank Active)
- P6 & P7 Wiston Lodge (**Final payment due on 28<sup>th</sup> March**)
- P1 Almond Valley Outing
- School Chaplain Collection

### **Parentsportal Live Items**

The following items are now live on Parentsportal.

- Room 1 Almond Valley visit
- P2 Intergenerational Circle Dance After School Club
- P6/7 Netball Festival – April
- P7 NEC / Young Scot Card
- P6/7 Football Festival - May

### **Cross Country Event**

Last week a group of P6 and P7 pupils went to Lanark Racecourse for the Clydesdale Cross Country Event. Congratulations to Aela Simpson (P7) and Robbie Marshall (P6) who have qualified for the South Lanarkshire finals which will take place next Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> March. We wish Aela and Robbie the best of luck!

### **Netball Festival**

Our two netball teams were playing at John Cumming Stadium this morning. I'm certain that they will have shown good sportsmanship whilst representing Underbank.

### **Clydesdale Dance Festival**

Good luck to our Dance Troupe who are performing at this event on Wednesday of next week. A huge thank you to Miss Robertson (staff) and Leah from Cherry Dance for all their hard work in preparing our children for this event.

### **Primary School Meal Price Increase for P6 & P7**

Please note on return from the Easter holidays (Monday 15th April) the school meal price for Primary 6 & 7 pupils will increase to £2.17.

### **Clydesdale Young Sports Personality**

Congratulations to Aela Simpson who was a finalist for the Clydesdale Young Sports Personality Award. Although Aela wasn't announced as the overall winner, we are all very proud of all of her gymnastics achievements. She shared her certificate with us at assembly today.

### **Race Equality Week Success**

Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, our three representatives, Lucia, Taylor and Fergus, weren't able to attend this event. The organisers will let us know if they manage to reschedule the event.

### **School Chaplain Retiring**

As previously advised, our School Chaplain, Mr Steven Reid will be retiring from Crossford Parish Church after his Easter Service. If you wish to contribute to this, please do so before **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**, when this payment item will be archived.

### **P7 NEC & Young Scot Card**

Thank you to all parents who have now completed this on Parentsportal. Today is the deadline for completion and there are still one or two outstanding applications to be completed. Mrs Totten has notified the relevant parents. Please try to complete this asap, so that the information can be uploaded by South Lanarkshire Council.

### **Re-Scheduled SAMH Parent Workshop**

Unfortunately, due to a lack of numbers, we have had to cancel this workshop. Thank you to those parents who indicated that they would be willing to attend. If we get this opportunity again, we will let you know.

### **PFA Spring Fling**

What an amazing turn out at our PFA's Spring Fling this afternoon, even the miserable weather didn't put people off! The judges had such a difficult decision with the 'Decorate an egg' competition, we had some amazing entries.

Our PFA will let us know how much this event raised. A huge thank you for all the donations of home baking, prizes for the tombola and prizes the raffle. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

### **Money is not the Only Problem – Support for your finances and wellbeing.**

We have some really useful leaflets/cards available, which provide a wealth of information on various topics to do with finance. A copy can be obtained from our foyer. There are online versions which can be accessed using the link below. The online version is more detailed than the leaflets held in school.

[www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/MNTOP](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/MNTOP)

### **Community Events/Activities**

#### **Unveiling of Plaque to Commemorate Local Covenanters – 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 11am**

This service will start outside the church with the unveiling of the plaque. The plaque will be sited on the inside of the church boundary wall. Those attending will then move inside. The service inside the church will also celebrate Mr Reid's commitment to the community over the last 26 years, since starting his service in October 1997. Those attending are invited to stay for a light lunch after the event.

#### **Swimming Opportunity**

Lanark Lifestyles are hosting a swim teachers' course, and we are looking for children & adults to assist the new teachers with the practical element.

This is open to everyone & you can book into as many dates as you wish. Spaces are likely to fill quickly, contact us on 01555 666800 to book today! Each lesson will last 50 minutes.

### **Reminders**

#### **Chewing Gum in School**

It has been brought to my attention that some of our children have been chewing gum within the school.

We do not allow chewing gum in school, at any time, and would appreciate if you could ensure that your child does not bring this into the school.

#### **You Tube Kids**

Over the last few weeks, I have spoken with some parents about the materials that their children are accessing at home via You Tube.

Please consider introducing your children to **You Tube Kids**. This is said to be a safer online experience for children. This has automated filters built in by their engineering team, human review and feedback from parents, to help protect children. It has been created to give children a more contained environment that makes it simpler and more fun for them to explore on their own.

### **No Football Colours Policy**

Please note that South Lanarkshire Council have a 'No football colours' policy for all of their schools. It is therefore not acceptable for pupils to wear football colours to PE or any other school activities.

### **Drinking Water in School**

We would like to encourage all pupils to bring a bottle of water to school each day. Bottles can be refilled in classes. Please ensure that pupils have only water in their bottle.

### **After School Arrangements**

Please contact the school office before 2:30pm if your child has not to go on the school bus. We have five buses, a Playbarn minibus and a taxi to co-ordinate at 3pm and when children don't arrive to register for their bus at 2:55pm, it holds up all other buses.

Please also bear in mind when asking other parents to collect your child, that we would really appreciate if we could be notified of these arrangements. This is particularly important for our younger children.

### **Lost Property**

We endeavour to ensure that pupils return home from school with all their belongings and can easily do this if items have a child's name on them. If we can't identify who an item belongs to, then we put it into our lost property box in our foyer. Please feel free to pop in and check this box, if your child does misplace any items.

### **Uniform and Belongings**

Children should wear their school uniform and should wear jackets and footwear that are suitable for playing and learning outdoors. Children will change into indoor shoes on entering the building each day. If going outdoors for PE, then our children will wear the outdoor shoes they are wearing to school on their PE days.

***Please ensure that all items of clothing, footwear, packed lunches, snack tubs etc. are all clearly labelled with your child's name.***

### **School Uniform Bank**

Don't forget to email our Used Uniform Co-ordinator, Mrs Stewart, should you require any items of school uniform throughout the school year. All items are in a good condition, and we encourage all families to use our bank in keeping with our Eco status.

upsuniformbank@gmail.com

If you have any item(s) that your child has outgrown, please contact Mrs Stewart directly to arrange collection.

An updated spreadsheet is attached to this update.

### **School Enquiries**

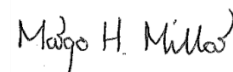
We would encourage parents and visitors to send any enquiries via email to the school office, where it will be dealt with timeously. Please email: gw14underbankoffice@glow.sch.uk

Please be aware that our school office is not always manned due to staff assisting with supervision duties and helping with the buses at the end of the school day. If you need to contact the school with regards to a change of arrangement for your child at 3pm, please email the school office before 2:30pm every day. This is particularly important if your child is on school transport.

***Finally, we are all interested in the health and wellbeing of our pupils, so if you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me so that we can work***

***in partnership to ensure your child achieves their full potential.***

Yours sincerely,



**Margo H. Millar  
(Head Teacher)**

**Important dates for your diary – new dates are in bold** (Please note that diary dates may be subject to change)

- 23 Mar - Unveiling of Plaque & Service to Commemorate Local Covenanters (11am)
- 27 Mar – SLC Cross Country Final
- 27 Mar – Spring Celebration in Crossford Church at 10am (Presentation to Mr Reid)
- 27 Mar – Leah from Cherry Dance doing a final run through with our Dance Team
- 27 Mar – P5/6/7 Boys After School Football Wk 5 (final week)
- 27 Mar – Clydesdale Dance Festival 7:30 – 8:30pm
- 28 Mar – School Closes at 2:30pm
- 15 April – School re-opens 9am
- 23 & 24 April – P6 & 7 to Wiston Lodge**
- 25 April – Room 1 outing to Almond Valley**
- 26 April – Netball Festival (Selected pupils)**
- 30 April – P2 Circle Dance with an adult (Week 1)**
- 1 May – Parent Council Meeting (6.30pm)**

**1 May – PFA Meeting (6:30pm)**  
**3 May – Dogs Trust visiting school**  
**6 May – May Day Holiday (Pupils and staff)**  
**7 May – P2 Circle Dance with an adult (Final week)**  
**10 May – P4 After School Club at LGS – 3.45pm**  
**14 May – P7 LGS After School Multi Sports Club**  
**16 May – LGS Parents’ Information Evening**  
**17 May – Clydesdale Track and Field Event (Selected pupils)**  
**17 May – P4 After School Tennis at LGS**  
**21 May - P7 LGS After School Multi Sports Club**  
**24 May - P4 After School Tennis at LGS (Final week)**  
**28 May - P7 LGS After School Multi Sports Club (Final week)**  
**30 May – Girls’ Football Festival at Lanark Race Course – After School**  
**31 May – Proposed date of P7 Fun Playtime**  
**4 June – SLC Pupil Award Ceremony**  
**4 June – Go Fresh Gang Sports Day lunch served in our cafeteria**  
**5 June – Sports Day at John Cumming Stadium**  
**6 June – Lanimer Holiday**  
**7 June – Lanimer Holiday**  
**11 June – P7 Transition Visit Day at LGS**  
**12 June – P7 Transition Visit Day at LGS**  
**21 June – Proposed Summer Celebration in Crossford Church (May be subject to change)**  
**26 June – School closes at 1pm**