

Underbank Primary

Update 4 – 4 October 2024



School closes for the October break, next Friday, 11th October at 3pm. I wish you all a relaxing break with family and friends. I am hoping to return to school in the new term.

Wear Red Day

Show Racism the Red Card are celebrating their 10th Anniversary of Wear Red Day on Friday the 18th of October 2024. As we will be on holiday on that day, we plan to mark this day on the last day of the term - 11th Oct.

Pupils can wear red or simply wear their playing clothes on this day. No donation will be collected on this day.

Football Festival Report

On Thursday 19th of September, we headed off to John Cumming Stadium for the first football festival of the session.

"When we first arrived at John Cumming stadium, we did some warm-up exercises. Noah, our Goalie, was leading the exercises for the boys and the girls. We then joined up with Law Primary for their exercises. We then played our games against the other primary schools who were competing. We won some, drew some and lost one or two. We all tried very hard and enjoyed the day. We can't wait for the next festival. **Reported by Eva Martin, P7 and Alexander Marshall, P7.**

School Photograph Day

Thank you to all families for sending their children into school looking so smart on 25th September. We were very fortunate to have such a lovely day.

All proofs were issued today and Ms Harrison has requested a deadline of next Friday, 11th October for orders/payment. Please send all orders into school, in the envelope provided.

All payment instructions are detailed on the order form attached to the proofs.

Please do not send any loose cash into school. All payments should be made directly to the photographer.

After School Girls Football Club

Thank you to Macey MacVarish and Alan Robb, from Active Schools, for offering two girls' football sessions to our P5-7 pupils. Yesterday was the final session of this short block.

"Last week was our first week of after school football skills. We played a couple of matches, which was a great warm up. We then played a 'numbers' game. This is where Macey shouts out a number and if you are that number, you have to run, get the ball and try and score a goal. It was lots of fun. **Reported by Morgan McKechnie, P6 and Poppy Hobson, P6.**

P4/5 Multisports Club

Huge thank you to Derek Howitt, our Active Schools coordinator, Jessica Inglis, Katie Semple, Keith Scott and Robbie Irving, (LGS Sports Ambassadors) who assisted with our P4/5 Multisports Club.

"We played lots of games, using different balls. We played handball, we also played a game where the boys and girls were lined up at either side of the hall and we had to run down the middle and try to dodge the balls that they were throwing. We played chicken duck or hero. We also played a game with a basketball, where we had to throw balls at the basketball and try to get it into the other team's side of the pitch. We had great fun."

Reported by Eilidh Cameron, P4 Charlie Gray, P5 Cora Ram, P4 and Lily Ferguson, P4

Our after school clubs are now finished for this term. We will hopefully be able to offer further clubs after the October break – watch this space!

This term we have raised £168.00 in our KUA Transport Fund. This help will pay for one or two of the buses required when teams are competing at the numerous sporting events at John Cumming Stadium throughout the school year.

Don't forget to add your donations to our KUA fund, if you can.

PFA Dance-a-thon Afternoon

Thank you to our PFA volunteers for organising this fun activity for our pupils. All money raised through sponsorship, will be used to help to fund school transport. A payment item has been added to ParentPay to allow you to add any sponsorship money.

"The PFA Dance-A-Thon was great fun. We did lots of different dances, including the Macarena. My favourite part was the conga dance around the school!"

Sorcha Murphy, Room 4

The Dance-A-Thon was AMAZING! My favourite song was 'Cotton Eyed Joe'.

Wallace Marshall, Room 3

"It was really good fun. My favourite part was when I was picked to go up and dance on the stage. I then got to lead the conga dance through the school" **Poppy Hobson, Room 5**

"It was great, and the best part was all the dancing. I loved the conga going around the school. **Mirren Clark, Room 2**

"It was really good fun. The best part was when we did the conga all through the school."

Caelan McCulloch, Room 1.

Harvest Showcase of Learning

The pupils of Room 2 have been learning about Harvest as part of their RME work with Miss Dickson this term. Room 2 pupils have invited all classes along to a Showcase of Learning next Tuesday afternoon. They would also like to invite a parent or family member along to this short Showcase on Tuesday 8th Oct at 1.15pm. If you haven't already done so, please reply to the email sent out on Tuesday 1st October.

Room 5 Active Learning - Japan

Mrs McLeod and the boys and girls in Room 5 are seeking some help with their Japanese topic which is due to start after the October break. They are looking for parents or family members who may have skills or knowledge around Japanese culture and language.

They are also looking for help with making sushi or any other Japanese cuisines. If you can help and are available to give up an hour or so of your time, we would love to hear from you. We expect the active learning block to run for approximately 5 weeks. Exact dates and times will be provided.

P6/7 Dalquise Residential

The deposit for Dalquise 2025 has now been sent away. The next instalment is due on or before 31st October.

JRSO Initiative - Walking Bus - Please help!

Ellie, Iona and Lucy, our JRSOs for this session, would like to try to re-establish our walking bus from the village hall to encourage more families to walk to school. In a recent travel survey that they undertook, only 4 children had walked to school, 6 had cycled, while 70% of pupils had been driven.

The girls are looking for some parents or grandparents who could be available on a Friday morning to lead their walking bus from the village hall. If you could be available, please notify the office.

The girls would like to encourage our pupils to be more active, while also staying safe.

Parent Consultations

Appointments for our Parents' Consultations on 10th October went live on Monday of last week and very quickly filled up. The booking system has now been closed to allow us to collate all appointments.

Any parent who did not pre-book an appointment, will have an appointment allocated.

Our Apple Harvest

Our apple harvest has now been delivered to our friends at the Orchard Group. They will return with our apple juice soon and then we will be able to sample this.

School Meal Debt on ParentPay

Just a gentle reminder to try to keep your child's school meals account in credit. P6 and P7 pupils still have to pay for their school lunches. If the debt creeps above £10 our school office will email out a reminder. Please arrange to clear any debt off, if you receive an email. Thank you.

P6 & P7 Bikeability

Bikeability has now finished for our P6 and P7 Pupils and we are delighted to share that pupils participated enthusiastically and are demonstrating increased skills. We hope they will continue to use these skills, perhaps even to cycle to school.

"We were learning controlled and uncontrolled left and right hand turns, we also learned how to do a u-turn. It was a lot of fun and interesting."

Alexander Marshall, P7.

"We did some slow races, this taught us how to control the bike and how to balance on our bike."

Poppy Hobson, P6

A huge thank you to Mrs McLeod, Mrs Smith (Parent Helper) and Mr Craig (Grandparent

Volunteer) for all of their hard work in delivering Bikeability

Parentsportal

The following forms are now live on Parentsportal. If you haven't done so already, please pop onto Parentsportal and complete any form(s) assigned to your child. The ICT/Photographic consent form is particularly important, as your child cannot access the internet or have his/her photographs taken for class displays etc, until we have your consent to do so.

- P6/7 Residential Outing
- P5 Swimming
- ICT/Photographic Consent
- Annual Data check – 12 outstanding. All 12 parents have now been contacted to

ParentPay

The following payment items are live on ParentsPay

- School Meals (P6 and P7 only)
- School Milk
- P5 Swimming
- KUA
- P6 & P7 Outdoor Centre
- PFA Dance-A-Thon

PFA News

PFA Chair Letter

Mrs Rebecca Sanderson, our PFA chair has asked that we include the attached letter with this update. The group will hold their next meeting on 7th Nov at 6.30pm at Underbank and they would love to welcome some new parents to the group.

Hallowe'en Tickets

Our PFA will be in touch soon with information on how to purchase a ticket for the P1-4 and the P5-7 Hallowe'en Discos.

ASDA Fundraising – Cashpot for Schools

We would encourage you to sign up to support this fundraiser and shop. Please spread the word and encourage friends and family members to help us too.

If you can, opt in through the Asda Rewards app, choose Underbank Primary School and shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com, between 2nd September and 30th November 2024. Thank you to those who have already signed up to this.

Halloween Costumes

As we are an Eco School, we are trying to encourage recycling as much as possible. We

currently have lots of Halloween costumes that we would encourage you to re-use for your child this Halloween. Attached to this update is a list of all available costumes and their sizes. Should you wish to request any, please make your request via:

suzannejmarshall6@gmail.com

Arrangements for delivery can then be made or simply request that the costume is packaged and given to your child during the school day.

If you have any costumes that your child no longer requires, please consider handing these into us too. We are particularly looking for costumes for our older pupils from 7-8years upwards.

All remaining costumes will be on display at our Parent Consultations on 10th October. You will be able to browse and take away any suitable costumes on that evening.

Community News

Pickleball at Lanark Tennis Club

Please find attached flier with information on this fun tennis session, due to take place at Lanark Tennis Club on Sunday 13th October.

Prime Video LTA Youth GIRLS Tennis courses

These courses are designed for girls who are new to tennis. The sessions aim to make tennis fun and relaxed so girls can develop their skills in a supportive environment. See attached flier and for more information, please visit the Lanark Tennis Club website through this link:

<https://www.lanarktennisclub.co.uk/coaching>

Reminders

Attendance and Time Keeping

Parents/carers, children and the school all have a part to play in encouraging and stressing the importance of attendance at school. We would ask for your support in ensuring that your child attends school and arrives promptly. There is a clear link between attendance and the impact on a child's attainment. Timekeeping is a skill we promote in preparing our pupils for learning, life and work.

The school holiday dates and in-service dates are available from Parentsportal and also on South Lanarkshire's website at: www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

We have an attendance line on our telephone system. Therefore, if your child is unable to

attend school for whatever reason, please leave a message on this attendance line detailing:

- Name
- Stage/Class
- Reason for absence

Absences can also be recorded on Parentsportal.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club opens at 8:15am and closes at 8:45am. Last orders for breakfast is at 8:40am. Please do not drop your child off before 8:15am as the gate is not open. Furthermore, there is no adult presence in the playground until 8:45am.

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 isn't 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.

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.

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

School Uniform Bank

Don't forget to make good use of our 'Good as New' Uniform Bank, which is overseen by Mrs Donna Stewart, parent of a former pupil.

Please email Mrs Stewart direct at

upsuniformbank@gmail.com

if you wish any items or if you have any items for the uniform bank.

Birthday Cakes/Birthday Treats

We discourage birthday cakes and birthday treats being handed into the school. We have several children with food allergies/intolerances and would appreciate your help in ensuring our school remains a safe place for all our children.

Underbank is a Nut Free School!

As we have children in school who have an allergy to nuts, we request that no snacks,

confectionery, etc which contain or may contain nuts, are sent into the school.

Car Parking

As many of you know, our school car park is congested at the end of the school day, we would like to encourage parents to 'park and stride' to avoid this congestion. Parents are encouraged to either park in the village or directly in front of our old school and then use Mr Hamilton, our school crossing patrol person, to cross the main road. Please do not park on the school side of the main road as this can cause difficulties for other road users.

Bus Bays/Drop off zone

The designated bus bays must be kept clear for our school minibuses and taxis at the end of the school day. The same applies to the drop off zone, please do not park here, this is purely for dropping off children before 9am. Our school minibuses and after school care buses sometimes spill into this area.

Cost of the School Day

We want all of our pupils to have the best experiences and opportunities at Underbank Primary. Some of our activities do incur a cost, but we endeavour to work with the PFA to keep costs down. Should any family find any cost unmanageable, at any time, then please speak to me. All parent or pupil requests will always be dealt with sensitively and confidentially. Through our support and caring ethos, we hope that all children are able to fully participate in school life.

Parents can also access advice and support from SLC Money Matters on 03000290041.

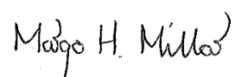
Lost Uniform

Our lost property box is filling up fast with items that have no names on them. Please pop into the foyer to check the box if your child has lost any items of uniform.

Please remember to clearly label your child's uniform so that lost items can be returned quickly. Thank you.

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)

8 Oct – Rm2 Showcase at 1:15pm

10 Oct – World Mental Health Day

10 Oct – Football Festival (Selected pupils)

10 Oct - Parent Consultations

11 Oct – Wear Red Day for Show Racism the Red Card.

14 Oct – 18 Oct – October Holiday Break

21 Oct – School re-opens

24 Oct - Halloween Disco

7 Nov - P.F.A. Meeting 6:30 - 8pm

11 Nov – In-Service Day (No pupils in School)

12 Nov – LGS P7 PE Transition After School event.

19 Nov – LGS P7 PE Transition After School event.

21 Nov – P5 Swimming block commences
(more info will follow)

25 Nov – Flu Vaccination (all pupils)

27 Nov – Clothing Bank being emptied

30 November - (Saturday) Christmas Fayre

20 Dec – School closes at 2:30pm for the Christmas Holiday break

6 Jan – School Re-opens

Dates of Nativity and Christmas Service will all be advised in due course.