

Underbank Primary

Update 6 – 8 November 2024



What a busy start we have had to this term. Please don't forget that Monday is an inservice day and so no pupils should attend.

All classes are working on their latest class topic:

- Room 1 – An Enterprise Topic
- Room 2 – Rainforest, Oceans and Savannahs
- Room 3 – Victorians
- Room 4 – Scottish Wars of Independence
- Room 5 – Japan

New Pupils

A warm welcome to the Mohammad family. Farhan (P5) and Rehan Mohammad (P3) have joined room 4 and room 3 respectively. They have received a warm welcome from pupils and staff.

I'd also like to extend a warm welcome to Mr MacGregor who will be working along-side Mrs Bond in room 3 for the next few weeks.

Themed Lunch for Bonfire Day

Our pupils enjoyed their bonfire themed lunch. Thank you to our kitchen staff.

"It was tasty and it tasted like a sausage dog!" Elara Gallimore (P2)
"The Firecracker Pizza was not that hot and it was very good." Teddy Morris (P5)
"The sausage was yummy." Sky Findlay (P7)

PFA Dance-a-thon

The grand total for our PFA dance-a-thon event is £1527.20. Huge thanks to all who contributed to this total. Some of the money has already been allocated to our Christmas transport needs.

Poppy Scotland Appeal

Thank you to our Pupil Council members who have been distributing poppies, for a suggested donation of 20p, over the last two weeks.

Village Remembrance Event – 11th Nov

This will take place in the grounds of the church and beside the War Memorial. We would usually take some pupils along to this event but as the 11th falls on our inservice day this won't be possible.

We would like to encourage families to attend if they can. Tea and coffee will be available in the church afterwards.

Edina Trust – National Science Experiment

Room 5 have been granted a place to participate in this project. This project is a long running climate change investigation, involving around primary schools across the UK. They ask our young scientists to record the rainfall and temperature each school day from planting day (late October) until the end of the project (end of March). The weather results need to be inputted online on the National Museum Wales website. Pupils watch their daffodils and crocuses grow and record when they flower, and the height of the plants when the flowers open. The data gathered is used to investigating the effect of the climate on the growth of the spring bulbs across the UK. In May, every school is provided with the results of the national experiment. Thank you to Mrs Jenny Parry (parent) who helped us on planting day.

Ragbag

Our clothing bank will be emptied again on 27th November and so please continue to add to this.

P6/7 Dalguise Residential

Thank you to everyone who has paid the October instalment. Please make this payment asap if you haven't.

The next instalment is due on 29th November.

I would encourage you and your child have a look at the Dalguise website to see the accommodation and types of activities that they provide:
<https://schoolsandgroups.pgl.co.uk/centres/dalguise/>

JRSO Walking Bus – Coming Soon!

Ellie, Iona and Lucy, our JRSOs for this session, would like to have a trial walking bus morning soon. This is likely to take place on a Friday.

The walking bus pupils would assemble in front of the village hall and be escorted to school by the parent helpers who have offered to help. All pupils will wear a high vis vest which they will be given at the village hall.

Walking bus pupils must be pre-registered so that we can ensure that we have enough adults present to supervise. The girls are now looking for an indication of who would like to join their walking bus.

Please respond to this email if you would like your child/children to join our walking bus.

Crochet Club with Mrs Hamilton

Huge thanks to Mrs Hamilton (Finlay and Ellie's gran) for agreeing to continue sharing her crochet skills with some of our P7 pupils. The children are enjoying learning this new skill.

P5,6,7 Girls' Football Club

This after school event took place at Lanark Grammar yesterday. 8 of our pupils signed up to attend and had lots of fun playing football with other girls from across the Lanark area. Congratulations to Lucy Lennox who was awarded the Player of the Season medal.

P1,2,3 & 4 Nativity Performances

Our P1 – 4 pupils have started their rehearsals for their Nativity, The Bossy Christmas Fairy. We will issue ticket and performance information soon.

Book Amnesty

If you have found any books at home belonging to the school, please hand them in to the office. We would welcome their return.

Christmas Lunch

A flier for our school Christmas lunch was issued earlier this week. If you haven't already returned the tear off slip with your child's choice of meal, please do so by **Friday November 15th**. This allows our Catering Manager to place her Christmas food order in plenty of time.

Christmas Jumper Bank

Towards the end of term, we will have a few days when pupils can wear their Christmas jumper to school. At Underbank, we have a Christmas Jumper Bank. If you have any jumpers that your child has outgrown, please consider handing these into school or directly to Mrs Stewart. Mrs Stewart will provide a list of all jumpers available next month and parents can then select any jumpers suitable for their own child(ren).

Please contact Mrs Stewart via the Uniform bank email address - at upsuniformbank@gmail.com

Wear your Christmas Jumper Days

11th, 19th and 20th December

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.

- P6/7 Residential Outing
- P1-2 Outing to see Santa
- P3-7 Outing to pantomime
- Annual Data check – 3 forms outstanding.

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 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.

ParentPay

The following payment items are live on ParentPay:

- School Meals (P6 and P7 only)
- School Milk
- P5 Swimming
- KUA
- P6 & P7 Outdoor Centre – Next payment due by 31st January
- P1-2 Santa visit
- P3-7 Pantomime visit

PFA News

The group met last night at Underbank to plan the Christmas Fair. Please consider coming along to their next meeting on 30th Jan 2025, if you would like to help raise funds or help at PFA events..

PFA Photograph with Paddington Competition

Congratulations to Louis (P6) and Lily Ferguson (P4) who won this PFA competition. We hope that you and your family enjoy a trip to see Paddington In Peru soon.

Louis and Lilys Adventures with teddy bears to keep Paddington bear company 🐻 All dressed up for a play date



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.

Community News

Remembrance Day – 11.11.24 – Villagers gather at approximately 10.45am. Families welcome.

Reminders

Parking at Neighbour's Drive

Please do not park at the entrance to our neighbour's drive. This is private property. We have a good relationship with our neighbours and don't want to jeopardise this.

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.

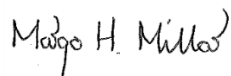
Parents can also access advice and support from SLC Money Matters on 03000290041.

Lost Uniform

Our lost property box was available during parent consultations but is filling up again. 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)

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

12 Nov – NSPCC Workshop for P5, 6 & P7

12 Nov – LGS P7 PE Transition After School event

13 Nov – World Kindness Day. All participating in a 'live' assembly with 52 Lives

19 Nov – LGS P7 PE Transition After School event

21 Nov – P5 Swimming block commences
Departing at approx. 9.45am - weekly

22 Nov – JRSO Be bright Be Seen Day

25 Nov – Flu Immunisation Day (all pupils)

27 Nov – Clothing Bank being emptied

30 November - (Saturday) Christmas Fayre

2 Dec – Deadline for Santa and Panto payments

6 Dec - Room 4 showcase of learning - 1.45pm

11 Dec – Christmas Lunch Day in canteen

12 Dec – P1 & 2 Outing to Gouldings to see Santa at Winter Wonderland

12 Dec – Room 5 Japan Showcase - 9.30am

13 Dec – P3-7 Panto visit to Lanark Memorial Hall

17th Dec – P5-7 Christmas Party (Wear party clothes to school)

18 Dec – Christmas Celebration in Crossford Church at 10am

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

6 Jan – School Re-opens

9 Jan – P5 Swimming resumes

15 Jan – Catch up day for anyone who missed their flu immunisation

31 Jan – Dalguise Payment due

We will confirm our P1-4 Nativity dates and times in due course.