

Underbank Primary

Update 8 - 6th December



As we approach the end of what has been a very busy term, I'd like to thank parents for their ongoing support and share some lovely news. I'm sure you will join with us in congratulating Mr and Mrs Donnelly, and their daughter Roe, as they will be welcoming a new baby in March 2025.

Outdoor Christmas Tree

Thank you to Silverbirch Garden Centre for gifting us the beautiful tree at our main entrance once again this year. We are very fortunate to have such generous neighbours.

Christmas Celebration in Crossford Church

We would be delighted to welcome parents, family member and friends to our Christmas Celebration in the village church on Wednesday 18th at 10am.

We are looking for a small number of parents to help escort our pupils on their walk to church that morning. Please respond to this email if you are able to help. Classes will set off at approximately 9.30am and so we would ask that you report to the school office and we will assign you to a class for the walk.

Village Advent Window Trail

Please consider heading out for a walk with family around the Advent windows in the village this festive season.

Window two can be found at Underbank. We have attached a map of the trail to this update. Thank you to Sue Neal, from the village, for organising this once again.

SLC Quality Link Officer Visit

On Wednesday morning, we welcomed Mrs Rhona James to Underbank. She is our Quality Link Officer this session. She was delighted to hear about the activities and improvements at Underbank. She visited some classes to hear about the learning activities that they were undertaking and shared lots of positive feedback with us. We hope that she will visit again soon.

Room 4 Showcase of Learning

Thank you to everyone who came along to this showcase today. Room 4 ably shared their learning on the Scottish Wars of Independence with their parents and family members. Well done to Mrs Higgins and the pupils of Room 4.

Nativity Performances - The Bossy Christmas Fairy

Thank you to all who attended our fabulous P1-4 Nativity performances. Both performances were very busy and the audiences thoroughly enjoyed the tale of the Bossy Fairy who initially chose the prettiest decorations for the tree before realising that the Nativity scene and older decorations were precious treasures.

Our pupils and staff worked hard to prepare for the shows and were delighted with the positive feedback shared by audience members. The skills and confidence displayed by our younger pupils was exceptional. Well done everyone!

"It was really fun and I think the Bossy Fairy learned her lesson." – Mirren Clark (P3)

"I liked hugging Baby Jesus." - Caia McCabe (P1)

"It was exciting being Joesph and I enjoyed singing the songs. Everyone said their lines very well." – Harvey Stephens (P3)

P3 – 7 Panto Visit & P1-2 Gouldings Visit

All pupils should wear their school uniform on Panto day. Pupils will take their water bottle and one playtime snack with them to the Panto. P1 & 2 pupils should wear their uniform for their visit to see Santa. They will eat their snack before they depart.

Christmas Parties

As previously advised, the Christmas parties for this year are as undernoted. Children should arrive in school on the day of their party, in their party clothes. Please do remember that they will be outdoors at break and lunch time, so please ensure that children have suitable footwear and a warm jacket.

P1-4 Party - 16th Dec & P5 - 7 Party - 17th Dec

Last Day of Term

Please don't forget that school closes at **2.30pm** on Friday 20th December for our Christmas break. All of our school transport providers will collect pupils at this earlier time.

P6/7 Dalquise Residential

Thank you to everyone who has paid the November instalment. The next instalment is due on 31st January.

Flu Immunisation Day

This took place on Monday 25th Nov. If your child missed their immunisation, then a catch up date has been scheduled by the team. This will take place on Wednesday 15th January.

Wear your Christmas Jumper Days

11th, 19th and 20th December

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. All jumpers are available in the foyer. Please pop in for a look.

Scottish Celebration

In late January, we annually hold a Scottish poetry competition and Scottish celebration of learning which involves all classes. On this day we encourage our pupils to wear something tartan. This can be tartan items of clothing or a scarf, ribbon etc. We like to give parents plenty of notice about this.

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
- P3-7 Outing to pantomime
- Annual Data check – 4 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
- KUA
- P6 & P7 Outdoor Centre – Next payment due by 31st January
- P3-7 Pantomime visit

PFA News

PFA Christmas Fair - Saturday 30th Nov

A huge thanks to Mrs Sanderson and our PFA members for organising the 2024 Christmas Fair. This was a very busy morning and there was a lovely, friendly atmosphere throughout the morning. Santa's Grotto, created by Mrs Dow, was an enormous success and lots of our pupils were mesmerized when Santa popped in

to meet them! Santa was ably supported by two gorgeous elves (Ex-pupils Ella and Freya). Thank you to everyone who supported this event by sending in home baking, tombola, raffle prizes and helping or attending on the day. Special thanks to the Forrest family from Rosebank Garden Centre who kindly gifted mince pies and shortbread for everyone to enjoy with their cuppa and Mrs Lennox whose face painting skills were in high demand. We were delighted to welcome three stallholders this year:

- Down to Earth by Jenny Parry (Fred's mum)
- LM Art by Lana Mathieson (Alex and Sophie's mum)
- Corra Sea Glass and Crafts by Carol Davies

A grand total of £1531.26 for PFA funds was raised, which will help to support us with transport, resources and activities for our pupils.

Community News

7th Dec - Lanark Christmas Pop-Up Market

Reminders

Rag Bag Clothing Bank

Our clothing bank was emptied on 27th November, and we have received £37.20 to add to our school fund. Thank you to everyone who added to this collection.

The clothing bank will be emptied again at the end of February 2025.

Enrolling a P1 for August 2025

Children who are age 5 between 1 March 2025 and the end of February 2026 are required to register their child for starting school in August 2025 by completing an online registration form which will be available from **Monday 6 January 2025**. Please share this information with anyone that you know is due to enrol.

The registration form is available on the SLC website [Enrolling your child for school - South Lanarkshire Council](#)

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 2pm every day. This is

particularly important if your child is on school transport.

Can we ask that you include your child's full name on all communication to avoid any delay in fulfilling the requests.

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. See the spreadsheet attached to this email.

Please email Mrs Stewart direct at

upsuniformbank@gmail.com

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

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.

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.

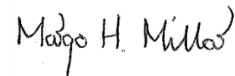
Lost Uniform

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 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

16 Dec – P1-4 Christmas Party (Wear party clothes to school)

17 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 at 9am

6 Jan – Aug P1 Enrolment commences online

9 Jan – P5 Swimming resumes

Continued...

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

20 Jan – P1 & P7 Dental Inspections

30 Jan – PFA meeting @ 1830hrs

30 Jan – Parent Council meeting @ 1830hrs

31 Jan – Dalguise Installment due

12 Feb – P7 Team to Rotary Quiz (More information to follow for selected team)

19 Feb – Inservice Day (No pupils)

20 Mar – Parent Consultations

4 April – School closes for Spring Break