

Underbank Primary

Update 2 – 29th August 2025



Our children have settled well and all classes are currently working on a class novel. Please ask your child which novel they are reading.

P1 Parent Workshop

Thank you to the P1 parents who attended our P1 Parent Workshop earlier this week. Parents had the opportunity to meet with Mrs McInnes and I to hear about class routines and the see some of the curricular resources being used. Mrs Bond also shared how to access Google Classroom and how this will be used.

P1 Transition Activities Evaluation

All of our P1 parents have been asked to contribute to our nursery to P1 transition evaluation. We would encourage parents to complete the evaluation issued and return this to us. Thank you.

P2 – P7 Meet the Teacher Event - Reminder

We will be holding a 'Meet the Teacher' afternoon on Wednesday 3rd September. Parents can pop into the gym hall at 3pm to hear about an Interactive Mental Maths programme that their children will be using to promote quick recall of number facts. This programme may be given as homework at times and so we wish to keep parents well informed about how impactful it can be if used well.

Our Meet the Teacher sessions will then follow on at 3.20pm and 3.50pm.

Parents can come and meet their child's teacher and find out about class routines, expectations and the homework in their child's class. There will be a 15-20 minute talk given by each teacher at the above times.

Your child's teacher will deliver the same talk during each slot to allow parents who have more than one child at school to hear the talk for each of their children. Parents with one child can come for any of the two sessions. We look forward to seeing many of you on this afternoon.

We would prefer that children did not attend with parents but realise that this may not be possible for everyone. If you do intend bringing your child along, then we would ask that they remain with

you at all times. The playground will not be open during 'Meet the Teacher'.

If your child uses school transport, please let us know if you do not wish them to travel home on school transport on 3rd September for Meet the Teacher.

Junior Road Safety Officers 2025-2026

The JRSO's for session 2025-2026 will be:

Caelan Simpson (P7)

Mason Brown (P7)

Congratulations boys!

This year all P7's who wished to be JRSOs did a short presentation to myself and Mrs McLeod. Their ideas and presentation skills were outstanding and so this was an extremely difficult decision. Well done and thank you to all who presented.

Hedge cutting

Thank you to those who tried to clear the pathway of debris following the recent hedge cutting. We are hoping that future punctures will be kept to a minimum now.

Parentsportal - Annual Forms - Reminder

Many thanks to all of the parents who have completed the Annual Consent forms on Parentsportal. We are aware that there have been a few glitches with access. If you have still to complete the consents, please do so as soon as possible. If you are experiencing any issues, then contact the office for assistance.

P5 Swimming

Our P5 pupils have started their block of swimming lessons and are thoroughly enjoying it. If you hold a PVG with the school and are available to help on a Thursday morning to accompany them to Lanark Lifestyles, please contact the office.

Please consider making a contribution to KUA Fund on ParentPay if your child is benefitting from these lessons. We would be very appreciative of any contributions towards the cost of these lessons and transport.

Keeping Families Informed: Share Key Updates on Scottish Education Reform

You may be aware Scotland's education system is being reformed, this includes the creation of a new qualifications body, Qualifications Scotland, and a new education inspectorate, with further changes to national education public bodies occurring throughout the upcoming school year. Improvements to the curriculum and approach to qualifications, and assessment are also planned in the coming years. This work will enhance outcomes for children and young people educated in Scotland with the aim of

ensuring excellence and equity by raising standards and giving every child and young person the same opportunity to succeed. Further information can be found on the [Scottish Government's website](#).

Flu Immunisation – Thursday 2nd October

Please ensure that you have completed and returned your form to the school office. If you have lost or damaged your form, please call the Immunisation Team on 0300 3033229 to give your verbal decision. Should you phone this number, we kindly ask you to inform the school office to avoid emails/phone calls regarding the form.

Bikeability - Level 1 and Level 2

The bike checks for the P6 and P7 pupils participating in Bikeability Level 1 & 2 have been completed and the lessons will start next week. Please ensure that your child has appropriate clothing and their bike for the 4 lessons. A reminder that the dates are (all Thursdays); 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd of Sept.

PFA/PC Meeting – Thursday 4th September

A gentle reminder that the PFA and Parent Council will be holding their meetings on Thursday 4th September at 1830hrs, in the school. All parents are encouraged to come along.

Upcoming Trip – Sky Up Academy Studio

Our P6 and P7 pupils will be visiting Sky Up Academy Studios in Livingston on Wednesday 10th September for an exciting educational experience. They will get to work with technology such as green screens, broadcast quality cameras and bespoke touch edit tables.

Please lookout for your notification to complete permissions on Parentsportal and when to logon to ParentPay to make your payment.

Parent Helpers

Parent Helpers are an invaluable asset to the school and can assist in many ways. Every year we lose some of our parent helpers as children move onto secondary school. If you would like to help in our school, please get in touch with us, we would love you to come onboard. If you have a particular talent, that you could share with our pupils, we would love to hear from you.

A PVG (Disclosure) certificate is required, but we are able to help with this.

Please contact the school office if you would like to become one of our invaluable parent helpers.

Early Bird Plus Programme

The Early Bird Plus programme aims to empower parents to understand more about autism and discuss useful strategies on how to support autistic children.

Please find attached a flyer for the next 8-week Early Bird Plus programme for parents of autistic children aged 5 to 10. It will be running face-to-face in Lanark from 2nd October, 9.30 - 12.00.

Evening Football Opportunity P1-3 & P4-7 at Lanark Grammar - Reminder

Our active schools coordinator has shared this opportunity with us. If you have a child who may be interested then it is essential to book but this first block (19th Aug - 7th Oct) is **FREE**.

Book at Lanark Lifestyles – Tel 01555 666800
P1-3 - Tuesdays, 6-7pm
P4-7 - Tuesdays, 7-8pm

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.

Lost Property

Our Lost Property box is full of unclaimed items that have been found around the school. In addition, we have x2 brand new, age 9-10yrs sweatshirts at the office that are unnamed.

Please feel free to come in to the foyer to check the Lost Property box.

Money is not the only problem – Education

Limiting the Cost of the School Day (CoSD) is at the heart of every school. Schools are determined poverty will not become a barrier to success in school.

[Check out this link for the various sections of the Money is Not the Only Problem resources focusing on education](#)

Every school has a Cost of the School Day lead person. Should you wish to reach out for support or advice around CoSD, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

School Uniform Bank

As the majority of parents are aware, we have a 'Good as New' Uniform Bank, which is overseen by Mrs Donna Stewart, parent of a former pupil.

Mrs Stewart prepares a spreadsheet of all items available, and this is updated at regular intervals and will be attached, regularly to our updates. If you see any items you would like please email Mrs Stewart direct at upsuniformbank@gmail.com

If your child needs any particular item(s), Mrs Stewart is also happy to receive requests.

Mrs Stewart will agree with parents on how items will be distributed. This can be direct via Mrs Stewart or via the school.

Please make use of this facility, we are an eco school and encourage all types of recycling! All items available are in excellent or 'as new' condition and are completely free of charge. This will all be done in the strictest confidence.

If you have any item(s) that your child has outgrown, please contact Mrs Stewart directly to arrange collection or drop them off at the school office.

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.

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.

In all communications, please state your child's name as many parents email addresses are alpha-numeric, maiden names etc. This helps the office respond to emails quicker.

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.

Community News

Opportunity Locally

Fiona Anderson, our school chaplain, has shared the following opportunities with us and expressed that they would be delighted to welcome anyone who is keen to try either group.

1st Dalserf Girls' Brigade

The company will start back on Monday 1st September and new members are very welcome to join the group at Rorison Hall in Ashgill.

P1-3 (6.30pm - 7.30pm)

P4-7 (7pm - 8.30pm)

1st Larkhall Boys' Brigade

Re-commences on Thursday 4th September at Rorison Hall, Ashgill.

Anchor Boys - P1-3 (6.30 - 7.30pm)

Junior Section - P4-6 (6.30pm - 8pm)

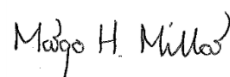
Company Section - P7 - S6 (7.30pm - 9pm)

Wellbeing Festival at Langloch Farm on Wednesday 24th September from 10am-2pm

Come along to this partnership event with information stands and workshops relating to the Five Ways to Wellbeing – Connect; Keep Learning; Take Notice; Be Active and Give.

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)

3 Sept – Meet the Teacher

4 Sept – Bikeability, Level 1&2 (Week 1 of 4)

4 Sept – Joint PFA and PC Meeting at 6:30pm followed by individual meetings (in school)

10 Sept – P6&7 Trip, Sky Up Academy Studios, Livingston

11 Sept – Bikeability, Level 1&2 (Week 2 of 4)

16 Sept – JRSO day (selected pupils)

18 Sept – Bikeability, Level 1&2 (Week 3 of 4)

23 Sept – School Photographs

25 Sept – Bikeability, Level 1&2 (Week 4 of 4)

26 Sept – Holiday

29 Sept – Holiday

2 Oct – Proposed Pupil Flu Immunisation Day

3 Oct – SSPCA School visit

8 Oct – Parent Consultations (more info to follow)

10 Oct – Fairtrade Brew It Fair – Sips and Smiles

11 Oct – 19 Oct – October holiday break

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

14 Nov – Netball Festival (Selected pupils)

12 Dec – P3 – 7 Panto visit

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

5 Jan – School Re-opens