

# Underbank Primary

## Update 8 – 15 December 2023



As we approach the end of what has been a very busy term, I'd like to thank parents for their ongoing support. Please don't forget that school closes at 2:30pm next Friday for our Christmas break. On behalf of Team Underbank, we wish you all a very happy Christmas.

### Infant Enrolment January 2024

Online enrolment for children due to start school in August 2024 opens on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January. Please see more information on our Enrolment poster, attached to this update. Please share this information with anyone that you know is due to enrol.

### P1- 4 Nativity Performance.

Well done to our Primary 1 – 4 pupils on their recent Nativity performances. Both of which were a huge success. We received some lovely comments from parents/grandparents after both shows.

A huge thank you to Mrs Drennan, Miss MacDonald, Mrs McInnes, Mrs Bond and Miss Robertson for all of their help and hard work in preparing our pupils for their 'Born in a Barn' production.

### Lanark Grammar Christmas Concert

Well done to our percussion group, Noah Bell, Iona Cameron, Amy Deards, Jake Findlay, Lorenzo McAvoy, Freya Ram, Heather Record, who were invited to perform at Lanark Grammar's Christmas Concert on Wednesday evening. All in the audience were impressed by their skills. Thank you to their music tutor, Mr Calder, for supporting the group.

It was also great to see that so many of our ex-Underbank pupils have continued to develop their skills at Lanark Grammar. Well done to all who took part.

### 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 they have suitable footwear and a warm jacket.

P1 – P4 Christmas Party – Monday 18<sup>th</sup>  
P5 – P7 Christmas Party – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>

### New Carpets

Three more of our classes have now been fitted with new carpets this week. It is therefore essential that all children have indoor shoes to keep our new carpets clean and dry. We will be reminding all children to change their shoes upon entering the school.

Please let me know if you would like any support in providing indoor shoes for your child, as we have a small supply in school.

### Christmas Service – 10am in Crossford Church

We would be delighted to welcome parents, family member and friends to our Christmas Celebration in the village church on Wednesday morning.

Thank you to the parents who have agreed to help us with the walk to the church.

### Advent Window Trail

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

Window one can be found at Underbank.

### Car Park

Please be extremely cautious when walking across our car park/ pedestrian areas during adverse weather. The ground underfoot can be very slippery. Also take care when driving into the car park as this can also become icy during cold spells.

### P3 - 7 Panto Visit

We all hugely enjoyed our visit to Lanark Memorial Hall to see 'Sleeping Senga'. Pupils and staff overwhelmingly said they would love to return next year.

"Our favourite character was Dame Dolly. Her costume was really funny and she had a huge wig. She told lots of jokes." **Reuben Thomson P3 and Charlie Gray P4**

"I liked all the costumes and the music. I liked ALL the songs! We had great fun" **Alex Mathieson, P5**

### P1 - 2 Visit to Goulding's Winter Wonderland

Our younger pupils visited Santa at Gouldings Winter Wonderland this afternoon. Each child chose a gift from his workshop and enjoyed some time to play in the Winter Wonderland. Please take some time to have a look at some of the photos which we will share via Twitter (Now X).

### **Room 1 Jolly Post People**

Thank you to our Room 1 Jolly Post People who have been delivering the Christmas cards from our postbox each day.

We would like to discourage pupils from adding chocolate coins etc to their cards as we have children with allergies, and we cannot monitor whether children are eating these in school, before parents can check whether they are suitable for their child.

### **Christmas Jumpers**

We have quite a selection of 'good as new' Christmas jumpers. These can be seen outside the main reception area of the school – Please help yourself if your child would like a new jumper for our next Christmas Jumper Day!

### **P6 & 7 Wiston Lodge Outing 2024**

We have now provisionally booked Wiston Lodge for our P6 and P7 pupils for April of next year. A form has been added to Parentsportal, please pop on and complete the form assigned to your child. A payment item will be assigned shortly on ParentsPay.

If, for any reason, you feel that you cannot meet the cost of this activity, which we anticipate will be no more than £55 per pupil, please get in touch with me.

Parents can pay this as small instalments or as one larger payment.

### **After School Clubs**

Our after school clubs are now finished for this term. When we return in January we will have the following after school clubs.

P5/6 After School Basketball (still spaces available) starts 18<sup>th</sup> January for 3 weeks.

### **Lunchtime Club**

Every year we are given the opportunity to participate in the Clydesdale Dance Festival at Lanark Memorial Hall. Only children who can attend the dance festival will be able to attend this lunchtime club. The dance festival will be on the evening of either Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March. As soon as our date is confirmed, we will let parents know. Look out for more information regarding this club in the new year.

As always, if your child is signed up to join any of our clubs, please make a donation, no matter how small, to our KUA fund, if you feel you can.

### **ParentsPay live items**

The following payment items are now on ParentPay.

- KUA (Keep Underbank Active)

### **Parentsportal live items**

The following permission forms are now live on Parentsportal:

- Room 3 Clyde in the Classroom visit to Glasgow Science Centre
- P6 & P7 Wiston Lodge 2 day visit
- P5 & P6 Afterschool Basketball Club

Please pop onto Parentsportal to ensure we have your consent for your child to participate.

### **Village Christmas Card Competition**

Mr Haig and Mr Brooks from the village Coffee and Chat Group came along to our assembly this morning to announce the winning village Christmas card design for 2023.

Congratulations to **Lorenzo McAvoy P6**, whose stable scene was the overall winner. You will be able to see Lorenzo's design, together with all the other winning designs in the coming days, as every family will receive a Christmas card in their letterbox or by pupil post.

### **Village Defibrillator Maintenance**

I understand that the village defibrillator requires some maintenance and there is a substantial charge for this to be undertaken. Our Charity and Enterprise Committee want to support a charity that helps those who are unwell and so they have agreed that we gift £60 from the P1-4 Nativity Lucky Programme donations to the maintenance of the village defibrillator. The village defibrillator is sited at the village shop and can, and has been used to apply an electric charge or current to the heart to restore a normal heartbeat when someone is in cardiac arrest.

If any members of our school community would like to make a donation towards the defibrillator fund, they can do this by sending in a donation in a sealed envelope clearly marked for the **Defibrillator Fund**. Cheques should be made payable to the **Christian Outreach Group**. You can also contact Mr Keith Haig (07854383303) from the Christian Outreach Group who is also managing any donations.

The Coffee and Chat group have agreed to arrange for someone to come to talk to our pupils about the importance of having a defibrillator nearby.

## Reminders

### 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.

With regards to after school clubs, if your child has signed up for an afterschool club, then we anticipate that they are staying for the club. We sometimes have children saying that they then cannot attend. Unless a parent notifies us that their child is not attending the afterschool club, then pupils who have signed up will be sent to join in.

### School Meal Debt on ParentPay

Just a gentle reminder to P6 and P7 parents. Please keep your child's school meals account in credit. We have a small number of outstanding balances. Please pop onto ParentPay and clear any outstanding debtor balances. If you wish to discuss this then please contact us.

### Dogs on School Grounds

Just a little reminder that dogs are not permitted in any area of our school grounds, this includes the carpark area. Thank you for your co-operation on this matter.

### Covid Reminder

Although there is no longer a requirement to do a Lateral Flow Test, there is still the need to be vigilant and continue with good hygiene.

Children who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can come back to school and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to attend.

### 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 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](mailto:upsuniformbank@gmail.com)

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

### 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.

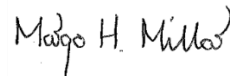
Please email:

[gw14underbankoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto: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)

18 Dec – P1/2/3/4 Christmas Party (Pupils to wear their party clothes on this day)  
19 Dec – P5/6/7 Christmas Party (Pupils to wear their party clothes on this day)  
20 Dec – Christmas Service at 10am in Crossford Church  
21 Dec – Santa's Spotlight Talent Show (pupils only)

22 Dec – Christmas Jumper/Movie Day.  
22 Dec – School closes at 2:30pm for the  
Christmas Holiday break  
8 Jan – School Re-opens  
11 Jan – **P5 Swimming Wk5**  
17 Jan – **R3 Clyde in Classroom visit to  
Glasgow Science Centre**  
18 Jan – **P5 Swimming Wk6**  
18 Jan – **P5/6 After School Basketball Wk1**  
24 Jan – **Flu Immunisation catch up (only  
pupils who missed being immunised)**  
25 Jan – **P5 Swimming Wk7**  
25 Jan – **After School Basketball Wk2**  
1 Feb – **P5 Swimming Wk8**  
1 Feb – **P5/6 Afterschool Basketball Final  
week**  
2 Feb – **Fun5z Netball Tournament (Selected  
pupils**  
6 Feb – **P1 & P7 Dental Inspections**  
7 Feb – **PFA Meeting at 6:30pm**  
8 Feb – **P5 Swimming Wk9**  
8 Feb – **Football Tournament (selected  
pupils)**  
12 Feb – **Holiday**  
13 Feb – **Holiday**  
14 Feb – **In-service day (no pupils in school)**  
15 Feb – **P5 Swimming Wk10**  
22 Feb – **P5 Swimming Wk 11**  
29 Feb – **P5 Swimming Final week**  
29 Feb – **PC Meeting at 6:30pm**  
7 Mar – **Football Tournament (selected  
pupils)**  
13 Mar – **Cross Country at Lanark  
Racecourse (selected pupils)**  
21 Mar – **P7 Enterprise Challenge at LGS**  
22 Mar – **Fun5z Netball (Selected pupils)**  
28 Mar – **School Closes at 2:30pm**  
15 April – **School re-opens 9am**