

Underbank Primary

Update 9 – 12th January 2024



Happy New Year to all parents, pupils, staff and the wider Underbank Community. I hope you have all enjoyed a well-deserved Christmas break.

P1 Enrolment Week

P1 enrolment for children starting school in August is now live on South Lanarkshire Council's website. Children should, ideally, be registered before the end of next week.

If your child attains the age of 5 years between 1st March 2024 and the end of February 2025 they should be registered for school.

Please follow this link:

https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/20018/6/primary_school_information/392/enrolling_your_child_for_school

To use the online enrolment system, you will be required to scan and attach two proofs of residence (in the name of the person enrolling) and the child's **full** birth certificate.

If you know of anyone who should be enrolling their child for education, please give them a gentle reminder.

Homework Survey

We plan to undertake a homework survey next week to gather parental views. Please look out for this and complete. Thank you in advance.

Transport Consultation

I emailed this out to Parents on Monday of this week. If you haven't already completed the survey, please take the time to do so.

You may think that this doesn't impact on your family, but it may in the future as your child moves to Lanark Grammar.

The Council are conducting a statutory consultation on the proposal to alter the qualifying distance for free secondary school mainstream transport to those living over 3 miles from their catchment secondary school. (current entitlement is more than 2 miles).

The proposal will be open to statutory public consultation from Monday 15 January to Friday 1 March 2024. Public meetings will take place during the week of the 29 January 2024.

Details on this proposal will be contained in a Consultation Proposal Document, including how to feedback any comments and how to book a place at a public meeting.

The proposal document will be available via the following link from 15 January 2024.

<https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/downloads/download/302/>

LGS Transport Arrangements

P7 children transferring to Lanark Grammar in August will require to apply for school transport. This can be done via the South Lanarkshire website.

Parents making a placing request to Lanark Grammar may also apply for privilege transport. This can be done via the same process except click on the privilege transport link.

Toys, Cards & Football

We are asking that toys, football cards etc are left at home. Staff have been spending lots of time sorting out disagreements about these and looking for lost toys.

We are also trialling having no football in our MUGA as we are finding that there has been an increased number of incidents and accidents in our MUGA. Currently we have set up an obstacle course for pupils to access on their MUGA day.

Class Scottish Themes

Each class will be undertaking a Scottish theme for the next few weeks. Children are also learning their chosen Scottish poem. Please encourage your child to do this at home too. Below are the topics that each class are focusing on:

Rm 1 – Scottish Music and Instruments
Rm 2 – Craignethan Castle & its Stories
Rm 3 – Main Scottish Rivers, with a focus on The Clyde
Rm 4 – Inventors & Entrepreneurs
Rm 5 – The Forth Bridges

We plan to have our Scottish morning on Wednesday 31st January and will invite pupils to wear something tartan on that day e.g. tartan item of clothing or even a tartan ribbon in their hair. Ticket information will follow shortly.

School lunch accounts

A small number of school meal accounts are in debt again.

It is important that school meals accounts be kept in credit. Please log onto your ParentPay account and clear any debtor balances.

Only P6 and P7 children now pay for school meals.

Class WhatsApp Groups

We know that some class/stage groups have created WhatsApp Groups for parental communication. Please be mindful that by joining these groups, you are sharing your personal information (telephone number) across the group.

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.

P6 & P7 Wiston Lodge Outing 2024

The first payment of £17.50 for Wiston Lodge is due on Friday 26th January. If you prefer, you can pay the full amount of £47.50 in one easy payment.

If, for any reason, you feel that you cannot meet the cost of this activity, please get in touch with me.

Lunchtime/After School Clubs

The following clubs will be starting up this term.

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

P6/7 Lunchtime Dance starts 26th January - only children who can attend the Clydesdale Dance Festival on the evening of Wednesday 27th March can attend this lunchtime club. Thank you to all parents who have requested a place at this club for their child. All places requested have been granted and children have been informed.

ParentsPay live items

The following payment items are now on ParentPay.

- KUA (Keep Underbank Active)
- P6 & P7 Wiston Lodge

Parentsportal live items

The following permission forms are now live on Parentsportal:

- 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.

Rural Academy Lanark

I emailed out information regarding these two courses that the Rural Academy are running in January. Please check your emails from Tuesday of this week as it contains all relevant details.

- The Education Support Assistant course:
- The NPA in Admin Services and Numeracy course:

Community Events/Activities

New Year Reuse Fair – 14th Jan (10am – 5pm)

Ready to start your new year with a sustainable step forward? Head along to the **New Lanark** New Year Reuse Fair, a special event dedicated to promoting eco-friendly living and sustainable practices.

Big Garden Birdwatch – 26th – 28th Jan

Big Garden Birdwatch is fun, free and for everyone and you don't need a garden to take part! Counting birds from your balcony, or your local park will play a vital role in helping the RSPB understand how UK birds are doing. Sign up for a FREE guide and look out for birds together on 26-28 January.

Sign up today to get a free guide which helps you make sure your Birdwatch counts. As a thank you, the RSPB will also give you a code for 20% off and free postage and packing when you buy from the RSPB shop.

Scottish Folk Stories – National Museum of Rural Life – 12th – 14th Feb

Join a great friend of Underbank, Allison Galbraith, for traditional Scottish folk tales all about the people and mystical creatures of Scotland. Learn how the master baker of Scotland flummoxed a fairy and enjoy familiar rhymes and songs with a riot of joining-in opportunities.

Sessions - 11:00–11:30, 12:30–13:00 and 14:00–14:30 (sign up on the day)

If you go along, please say hello to Alison from everyone at Underbank.

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.

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.

Lost Property

We endeavour to ensure that pupils return home from school with all their belongings and can easily do this if items have a child's name on them. If we can't identify who an item belongs to, then we put it into our lost property box in our foyer. Please feel free to pop in and check this box, if your child does misplace any items.

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

If you have any item(s) that your child has outgrown, please contact Mrs Stewart directly to arrange collection. This also includes Forest School clothing i.e. waterproofs etc.

Hallowe'en Costume Bank

Mrs Suzanne Marshall (P6 Parent) manages this for us. If you have any costumes that you wish to donate to the bank, please hand these into our office for next Hallowe'en.

School Enquiries

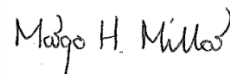
We would encourage parents and visitors to send any enquiries via email to the school office, where it will be dealt with timeously. Please email:

gw14underbankoffice@glow.sch.uk

Please be aware that our school office 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)

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
26 Jan – Lunchtime Dance Club Wk 1
31 Jan – Scottish Celebration (tbc)
1 Feb – P5 Swimming Wk8
1 Feb – P5/6 After school Basketball Final week
2 Feb – Fun5z Netball Tournament (Selected pupils)
2 Feb – Lunchtime Dance Club Wk2
6 Feb – P1 & P7 Dental Inspections
7 Feb – PFA Meeting at 6:30pm
8 Feb – P5 Swimming Wk9
8 Feb – Football Tournament (selected pupils)
9 Feb – Lunchtime Dance Club Wk 3
12 Feb – Holiday
13 Feb – Holiday
14 Feb – In-service day (no pupils in school)
15 Feb – P5 Swimming Wk10
16 Feb – Lunchtime Dance Club Wk 4
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 (more info to follow)
22 Mar – Fun5z Netball (Selected pupils)
27 Mar – Clydesdale Dance Festival
28 Mar – School Closes at 2:30pm
15 April – School re-opens 9am