

Underbank Primary

Update 11 - 24th January



It has been a very busy start to 2025 in Underbank and this week we welcomed lots of visitors along to our annual Scottish Celebration.

Each class shared their learning about an aspect of Scotland and we were hugely entertained by our finalists from each stage. Well done to all of our pupils for their presentation skills.

The Coffee and Chat group from the village have invited us to take some pupils along to the village hall next Thursday morning so that members of the community can enjoy hearing some of our poems. I know they will be impressed.

Stormy Weather

It was good to see everyone return to school safely on Monday after the red weather alert on Friday 24th Jan. Our families and staff were juggling work commitments, power cuts, WiFi issues, storm damage etc. Teachers did provide some home learning tasks for those who were able to engage but these were of course optional, given the circumstances.

Illnesses

Please be aware that we have had a number of pupils feeling or being sick. Also, we have a few pupils with chickenpox.

P1 Enrolment

To date, we have enrolled 8 new P1 pupils who live within our catchment and have received a further 3 placing requests. We look forward to welcoming our new pupils to some transition events in the final term of this session.

Pupil Voice Committees

All pupils participate in committee work. All committees met last week to discuss and/or action some of their plans. Ask your child which committee they are part of to find out more. Today committee members from each of our committees shared what had happened at their meeting during assembly.

Violin Group

Miss Robertson switched her violin lesson to today this week. After her lesson, our violinists

came along to assembly to showcase their skills. We were all really impressed. We aim to have a music showcase in the final term of the session for all of our music groups to share their skills with pupils and parents.

Book Fair – 20th March

Yesterday, I was offered the opportunity of hosting at a book fair at Underbank once again. All books at the book fair will have a special offer price of £2.50.

All classes will have the opportunity to visit the fair prior to the 20th and books will be available to buy during parent consultations. **Only cash will be accepted.**

We will not have our stationery stall available.

Fun Fitness After School Club – P6 & 7

This club commenced on Monday 27th January and will continue on 3rd Feb and 10th Feb. Thank you to Derek Howitt, our Active Schools Coordinator, for organising this activity for us. Derek has also offered to organise a P6 & 7 boys football skills club on 14th and 21st March, to prepare pupils for a Football Festival at Lanark Grammar on 28th March, 3.30pm – 5pm. Please look out for opportunities like this that your child might enjoy participating in. A notification for consent will be sent out via Parentsportal in the coming weeks.

If your child is joining any of our lunchtime or after school clubs, please consider adding a donation to our Keep Underbank Active Fund (KUA) via ParentPay. All donations made are used to help fund transport to various events.

Cross Country Training

Thank you to Vicky Harrison and Fiona Currie for leading our Cross Country Club. This commences on Tuesday 4th February and will help to prepare pupils from P6 & P7 for the Clydesdale Cross Country event on 19th March. Let's hope that the weather is kind to them for their training sessions and at the event.

Parents as Partners Folders

These were sent home on Thursday 23rd January. Thank you for taking the time to chat to your child about their work and for adding encouraging comments. We believe that by working in partnership we can encourage our pupils to reach their potential.

Parent Council and Parents and Friends Association (PFA)

Both groups met in school last night. Should you wish to become involved in either group then please contact the school office for more information. Dates for their next meetings are in our diary dates.

Pupil Water Bottles

Please encourage your child to bring a bottle of water to school each day. Bottles can be refilled in classrooms when needed.

Playtime Snack

We would encourage all families to provide their child with a small, healthy playtime snack for morning break. A piece of fruit would be ideal but for any other type of snack, please remember that we are a nut free school. Any snack items containing nuts will be held in the office and returned to the pupil at 1500hrs.

Lost Jacket

One of our girls returned home with the wrong jacket last week. Her own jacket has her name on it and is an age 11, black Trespass jacket. This may have been taken home accidentally by another child. Please check at home for us and contact the school office if you are able to help us to reunite her with her new, winter jacket.

P6/7 Dalquise Residential

Thank you to everyone who has paid their instalment due today. We would like to remind you that the next instalment is due on 22nd February.

South Lanarkshire Instrumental Music Service

The South Lanarkshire Instrumental Music Service have a busy term ahead with a selection of events that you may wish to attend. To arrange tickets, please contact individual venues. Please see details below:-

- **Battle of the Bands** – Thursday, 20 February – Hamilton Town House – 7pm
- **South Lanarkshire Schools' Big Band Concert featuring the South Lanarkshire Schools' Choir** – Thursday, 6 March – Rutherglen Town Hall – 7pm
- **South Lanarkshire Orchestral Society Spring Concert** – Monday, 24 March - Hamilton Town House – 7.30pm
- **South Lanarkshire Council Young Musician of the Year** – Wednesday, 2 April – Low Parks Museum – 1pm

Medication

Throughout the academic year, medication held in school and all relevant paperwork is reviewed. We have recently sent out paperwork that needs to be updated or notification of expired or upcoming expiry dates on medication, to some parents. We would appreciate if this paperwork or medication please be returned to the office as soon as possible. We are unable to administer medicine with outdated paperwork. This includes

paperwork for pupil who carry their own medication.

Community News

Lets for the Village Hall

A community group have now taken over the management of the village hall. To check availability, should you wish to book the hall, please contact Jonathon Gibson via the email: crossfordhall@gmail.com

Village Coffee and Chat

This is due to take place on Thursday 6th Feb from 1030-1200hrs.

Reminders

Forest School – Room 3 & 4

Room 3 and 4 Forest School sessions commence on Monday 3rd Feb. Please ensure you have completed your child's paperwork and ensure they have all they need with them on Monday for participating in the session.

Mrs Stewart, our uniform bank organiser, does have some waterproofs etc available. Please contact her via her uniform bank email address if you would like to access items.

School Enquiries

In order that all communication is dealt with as swiftly as possible, can we kindly ask that you include your child's full name. **This is especially important when the name on the email address does not correspond to the child's surname.**

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.

Car Park

Please be extremely cautious as you enter our car park on wintery morning. The road and car park can be very icy.

Lost Property

Our lost property box is filling up!

This can be found just inside our main doors. Please pop in to have a look for any items your child has lost.

Please don't forget to put your child's name on all items of clothing, packed lunches, snack boxes etc. This allows us to return lost items easily.

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. We would encourage you to have your child in the playground a few minutes before 9am. Timekeeping is a skill we promote in preparing our pupils for learning, life and work.

Outstanding School Meal Payments

Please check your School Meal balance on ParentPay and clear any outstanding payments when you can.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with Mrs Millar should you wish some support or advice.

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.

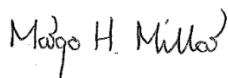
Please email Mrs Stewart direct at

upsuniformbank@gmail.com

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

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)

31 Jan – Dalguise Instalment due

3 Feb – Forest School – Room 3 and 4

3 Feb – P6-7 Fun Fitness After School Club

4 Feb – P6 & 7 Cross Country Club begins (lunchtime)

7 Feb - Health & Wellbeing Workshop for P5-7

10 Feb – Forest School – Room 3 and 4

10 Feb - P6-7 Fun Fitness After School Club (Final session)

11 Feb - P6 & 7 Cross Country Club

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

14 Feb – Fun5z Netball Festival

17 & 18 Feb – Holidays

19 Feb – Inservice Day (No pupils)

21 Feb – P7 visit from Lanark Grammar staff member

21 Feb - Cherry Dance Lunch Club P5-7

24 Feb - Forest School – Room 3 and 4

25 Feb - P6 & 7 Cross Country Club

21 Feb - Cherry Dance Lunch Club P5-7

27 Feb – P6-7 Girls Football Festival (Lanark Grammar 1530-1700hrs)

28 Feb – Dalguise payment due (P6/7)

3 Mar – Forest School – Room 3 and 4 (Final session)

4 Mar - P6 & 7 Cross Country Club

6 Mar – World Book Day

6 Mar – Football Festival

7 Mar – Cherry Dance Lunch Club P5-7

11 Mar - P6 & 7 Cross Country Club (Final session)

14 Mar – P7 to LGS for Enterprise Challenge

14 Mar - Cherry Dance Lunch Club P5-7

14 Mar – After School Football – P6/7

19 Mar – Clydesdale Cross Country Event (Selected pupils)

20 Mar – Parent Consultations and Book Fair

21 Mar - Cherry Dance Lunch Club P5-7

20 Mar – School Book Fair (All books £2.50 – cash only)

21 Mar – After School Football – P6/7 (Final session)

25 Mar - Cherry Dance Lunch Club P5-7 (Final Session)

28 Mar – Fun5z Netball Festival

28 Mar – After School Football Festival at Lanark Grammar – P6/7

31 March – Dalguise final payment due (P6/7)

2 April – Wear Blue for Autism Awareness Day

3 April – Provisional Spring Celebration in Crossford Church at 10am

4 April – School closes for Spring Break

22 April – P7 visit from Lanark Grammar staff member

24 April – PFA Meeting

28 – 30 April – P6-7 pupils to Dalguise

1 May – Inservice

8 May - Parent Council Meeting

Dates of P5-7 Easter Show to be confirmed.