



Whitecross Primary School and Nursery



Included – Kind – Safe – Respected

Headteacher: Mrs Donna Kilpatrick

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Newsletter: January & February 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome Back!

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a restful and joyful festive break. It has been wonderful to see our children return with such enthusiasm and energy, ready to dive into the new term. January and February are always busy months as we settle back into our routines and begin new projects across the curriculum. We have a lot to look forward to this term, and as always, we appreciate your continued support in making our school community so successful.

Nursery Staffing Update

We would like to share an update regarding our Nursery team. Val is currently still unwell, and her absence will continue to be covered by Lauren to ensure consistency for our youngest learners. We are also delighted to have welcomed back Joanna this week; it is great to have her back as part of the team.

Pupil Leadership Groups

Our pupil-led groups are back in action! We are proud to have a wide range of groups this year, including:

- Community Champions
- Digital Leaders
- Sports Leaders
- Library Leaders
- Rights Respecting School Ambassadors
- Green Ambassadors



These groups will meet regularly throughout the term. Being part of these groups provides a fantastic opportunity for our children to develop their leadership skills and learn how to work effectively as a team. Most importantly, it empowers them to take ownership and develop key aspects of both our school environment and the wider community.

Reading Schools

Last week, we held a special Reading Schools focus during our pupil leadership time. Each of our groups explored different aspects of reading specifically related to their focus—for example, our Digital Leaders looked at e-books while our Green Ambassadors explored nature-themed texts. Our Community Champions thought about opportunities for our wider community to read and are going to ask The Junction if they can set up a library that people could access. We are currently working hard towards our Silver Reading Schools Award and hope to achieve this recognition soon! Please look out for lots of fun activities we have planned for World Book Day on Thursday 5th March 2026.

Digital Communication Update: Seesaw



Following our recent trial of the Seesaw platform, we have made the decision not to progress with its use across the school. During the trial, it became clear that several of our current iPads do not support the

technical requirements of the platform. We want to ensure that any digital tool we use is accessible and reliable for all pupils and staff, so we will continue to explore other options that better suit our hardware.

Christmas Fayre Success



A massive thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Fayre! Thanks to your incredible generosity, we raised a fantastic **£1290.95**.

We are delighted to share that these funds will be used directly to purchase new iPads. This investment is vital for supporting technology-led learning and will help ensure our pupils have access to up-to-date devices that can handle the latest educational software.

Home Learning & Reading

Following our recent consultations and the feedback received during Parents' Evening, we have updated our Home Learning policy.

We will not be sending home formal learning homework, as a school we believe it is important to focus on spending quality family time together exploring outside, reading together, cooking and support your child to develop their own interests. We will continue to review our home learning policy and do value your feedback.

Reading: Every child will now bring a reading book home to enjoy with you. Children can also borrow books from the school library each week to enjoy at home. Children with Connected Falkirk iPads can also use BorrowBox to access a range of ebooks on their iPad.

Curriculum Updates: If you wish to further support your child's learning at home, please check the regular updates shared on Bluesky. These posts provide a window into the classroom and highlight the key concepts your child is currently exploring.

Family Fun Activities: Looking for ways to learn together at home? Why not try a "Winter Scavenger Hunt" in the local park, or work together to cook a meal using a recipe that involves measuring and weighing ingredients?

Dates for your Diary:

Wednesday 11th February – P7 Graeme High School Transition Day

Friday 13th February – Holiday

Monday 16th February – Holiday

Tuesday 17th February – Staff Development Day – School & Nursery Closed for Pupils

Thursday 19th February – P7 Dalguise Meeting at 9am

Wednesday 25th February – Library Open to Pupils & Parents 3-4pm

Friday 27th February – Dress Down Day £1

Tuesday 10th March – P5-7 Cross Country Club Event at Callendar Park

Wednesday 11th March – Glee Club Performance at Albert Halls, Stirling

Wednesday 18th – Friday 20th March – P7 Pupils at Dalguise

Wednesday 25th March – Library Open to Pupils & Parents 3-4pm

Friday 27th March – Dress Down Day £1

Friday 3rd April – Friday 17th April – Easter Holiday

Dress Down Days



On the last Friday of the month we will be encouraging pupils to dress down for £1! The money raised will be going towards new resources for our outdoor learning in both the nursery and the school. Pupils

do not have to participate, this is optional, and pupils can choose to come to school in their uniform. Please remember no football colours! The next dates will be-

Friday 27th February

Friday 27th March



As we move into 2026, I want to express my sincere gratitude for the partnership between our school and your homes. Your contribution is what makes our school such a special place. Please note that all future learning updates will be shared on Bluesky, and our newsletters will now be issued termly rather than monthly to ensure you receive a comprehensive overview of school life.

Best regards,
Donna

Mrs Donna Kilpatrick
HeadTeacher