



Whitecross Primary School



Aspiring - Honest - Kind

Interim Headteacher: Mrs Donna Kilpatrick

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Newsletter: January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a very good New Year! It was been great to welcome our children and families back after our break. Our pupils have come back to school really keen to try their best and with lots of exciting stories to share with us all.

Nursery

Our nursery children have shown an interest in completing jigsaw puzzles. Lots of great problem solving and working together cooperatively. Our Nursery staff have ensured a variety of more challenging puzzles are available and helped our children to have a bigger space to have fun with their friends.



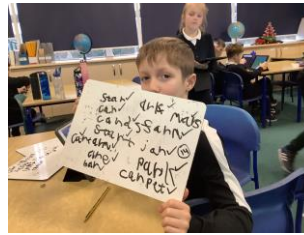
We want to be as welcoming and supportive to all our children and families and the staff in our Nursery will be known as their first names. We understand that many families may feel uncomfortable about this and can still choose to speak to staff more formally if they wish.

P3/2/1

P3/2/1 have been so busy developing their reading skills.



P5/4



P5/4 have been working hard and becoming more confident developing their reading skills. They have been creating words using their sound of the week.

P7/6

Primary 7/6 have been working very hard on their literacy skills.



Emma Thomson @MrsThomsonWPS · Jan 9
P7/6 demonstrated their knowledge of the class novel 'Dead Man's Cove' by creating an online quiz for their classmates. #whitecrossdigital @WhitecrossPS @KilpatrickDonna





School Uniform

We are very proud of how smart our pupils are wearing their school uniform. Please continue to encourage us to keep up our high standards by ensuring your child wears their uniform. On PE days pupils should bring their kit (shorts/joggers/leggings/t-shirt and trainers to change into). Where possible PE will still take place outside so ensure your child has a warm jacket with them. If you require any support to purchase uniform please get in touch we know things can be tricky for families and we are here to help.



Scots week

As part of our learning we will be listening to some Scottish poems and songs. Each class will chose a poem to learn and we will have our Scots poetry competition in school. We look forward to hearing all our pupils reciting their poems.



After School Clubs

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We are delighted to be able to offer some after school clubs for our pupils. Our Freestyle Dance Club is on a Monday and our Glee Club is on a Tuesday. We hope to be able to offer a Tennis club soon. We have also been in touch with Falkirk Wheelers to organise some taster sessions.

Our Cross Country lunch time club will be starting back and pupils are welcome to participate in this with Miss Angus.

Winter Plan

If there is snowfall we will aim to clear the priority path first which is in via the main gate next to the main entrance. Other secondary paths will then be cleared afterwards. All pupils and nursery pupils and parents should come in to school and nursery via the main entrance door. As soon as we are able to we will then get the nursery entrance cleared.



During severe weather if we are required to have a school closure or delayed start we will inform you as soon as possible by Groupcall text and email, school and social media/ twitter (X). We would also inform Central FM and the Falkirk Council website would be updated. Hopefully that will not be necessary! Please ensure children wear appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather



Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 25th January - P3/2/1 Parent/Carer open afternoon (Visit 2.15 -3pm) More details to follow.

Scots Learning Week – starts Monday 29th January

Local Holiday school closed – Friday 9th February and Monday 12th February

Staff Development Day School closed to pupils – Tuesday 13th February

P7 Dalguise Residential Trip – Wednesday 21st February to Friday 23rd February

Easter Holidays – Friday 29th March to 14th April – pupils start back to school Monday 15th April.



Staffing Updates

Mrs Neeley has finished working with us, she was only temporary and was an additional teacher who was in post to support learning of some of our pupils. We thank Mrs Neeley for all her hard work and wish her all the very best in the future. In our Nursery, Miss Emma Wilson and Mrs Val Lee are absent. Mrs Jennifer Kay and Mrs Mhairi McAlpine will be working full time in our nursery to cover these absences. Ann our catering assistant has taken on the temporary post of breakfast club supervisor.



Attendance

Please keep us updated if your child is unwell and not able to come to school. We know there have been some unpleasant bugs going about. Remember if your child is sick to keep them at home for 48 hours. We have been working very hard to ensure that all pupils are in school and want to continue to celebrate our success with this – well done to our classes who have managed 95% or above! Last term we had two pupils with 100% attendance who will receive an attendance treat day out reward with Mrs Heggie.

Winning House

Our winning house last term was Kelpies. Our House Captains have organised a movie treat afternoon for the children in this house. Well done for getting the post points and displaying our school values.



Raffle Ticket Termly Winners

Our three top scorers (one from each class) who have earned raffle tickets by displaying our school values of being aspiring, honest and kind have chosen to go to Wonder World and Pizza Hut for their treat with Mrs Leckie! So very proud of you all.



Dalguise P7 Cluster Residential Trip

Our P7 pupils will be heading to Dalguise on Wednesday 21st February. Updated information will be sent out to Parents/Carers this week. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch.

A huge thank you to all our pupils for their amazing hard work and positive attitude towards learning. I'd also like to thank our Parent Council for all their amazing events that have taken place so far, looking forward to some exciting new ones – EASTER family Bingo! More information to follow. And finally to all our Parents/Carers thanks for your continued support. We really appreciate our partnerships where we aspire to do the very best for our pupils. Remember if you would like to chat with either myself or Rachael our Principal Teacher then please get in touch.

Mrs Donna Kilpatrick
Interim HeadTeacher

