

Blackwood Primary and Early Learning & Childcare

June Newsletter – Friday 7th June



We are fast approaching the end of this school session and preparations for next session are underway. As previously communicated, I will be leaving Blackwood Primary School and ELC at the end of term and I wish to take this further opportunity to thank you for your well wishes and kind words when this news was shared. I have the fondest memories from my 16 years here and the school and community will always have a special place in my heart. *Mrs Bennie*

Session 2024-25

We are planning for 9 mainstream classes next session. The proposed classes below are subject to change as pupils may move in and out of the area during the summer holidays. Pupils going into P2-P7 are going to have a move on up day on Thursday 20th June where they will meet their new teacher, spend time in their new classrooms and follow their new lunch routines. You will receive a letter that day informing you of your child's new class and teacher(s).

Primary 1 – 20 pupils
Primary 2 – 23 pupils
Primary 3 – 20 pupils
Primary 4/3 – 19 pupils
Primary 4 – 26 pupils
Primary 5 – 31 pupils
Primary 6 – 22 pupils
Primary 7/6 – 19 pupils
Primary 7 – 30 pupils

Staffing

We will be saying goodbye to Miss Wills at the end of term as she begins her PGDE in Primary Teaching in August. We wish her all the best with her future career and will miss her in school. Mrs Bryson in the ELC will be starting a new post in August, we will all miss her cheery smile and wish her well. Miss Niddrie has completed her NQT year with us and has been a fantastic addition to the school this year. We wish her the best of luck in her next school wherever she may end up working next session.

Science Centre Trip

Pupils from Primary 2 - Primary 4 visited the Science Centre on Wednesday 1st May. An excellent day was had with all adults accompanying the trip commenting on the fantastic behaviour demonstrated by our pupils. Our school expectations to be ready, be safe and be respectful were evident and we are very proud of all of our young people for displaying these throughout their trip. There was no cost to families for this trip and the experience has certainly enhanced their STEM learning this term.

Health Week

We had a successful and informative health week in school, with visitors speaking to pupils about dental hygiene, road safety, water safety, mindfulness, Internet Safety, CPR and first aid. Our Sports day launched the week with pupils earning house points during potted sports activities and then individual races which included flat race, egg and spoon and sack race. Pupils in P1, P5, P6 and P7 also enjoyed the Science Centre On tour exhibition where they took part in a variety of experiments to learn about the effects of exercise on their bodies. Thank you to the Parent Council for funding the cost of this experience.



Nil by Mouth

Primary 7 have been reading Divided City this term and enjoyed a visit from the charity Nil by Mouth to discuss prejudice and the issues surrounding sectarianism within society. Lots of discussion around personal attitudes, views and experiences to ensure our young people are informed and inclusive.

Celebrating Success

Primary 1 Assembly

On Friday 10th May, friends and family were entertained by Primary 1 and their showcase of learning through their performance of "Billy Bee". The creativity and enthusiasm from our young learners was amazing and we are very proud of you all for sharing the important message of kindness. Well done!



Catering

Roxanne Brown (cook in charge) and her team were very creative during health week and entered a local competition to be creative with fruit displays which they won. All pupils in the school and ELC will be rewarded with a fruit and veg tasting session from our fruit suppliers George Carruthers on Thursday 13th June. Well done!



Football/Netball

The Summer Cup had to be postponed due to a weather warning and it has now been rescheduled for Monday 17th June. Our footballers participated in the Dr Gardiner Cup in Douglas where they made it through to the semi-finals. They were frustrated to lose a goal during extra added time but played very well in all their games. A girls' football team took part in a festival in Hamilton on Thursday 6th June where they played 5 games, winning 3 out of the 5. They met Partick Thistle and Scotland under 23 superstar Emma Lawton who kindly got a picture with the girls. They thoroughly enjoyed the event and displayed our school values of Respect and Determination.



Track and Field

Pupils from Primary 6 and 7 took part in the Clydesdale Track and Field competition in Carlisle. Each athlete showed determination and inspiration in their event. Well done to Oscar (P7) who was awarded bronze in the Javelin, Declan (P7) finished in gold position in the 600m and the P6 girls relay team were awarded bronze medals. Good luck to the athletes who have qualified for the South Lanarkshire Finals on Thursday 13th June.



Gala Day 2024

Good luck and best wishes to the Gala court this year. We hope you have a fabulous day.



Attendance:

We are monitoring attendance closely in line with South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) guidance. Blackwood Primary as a whole school currently have 92.37% attendance. SLC have set a target across the authority of 94.5% so we are currently sitting below that aim. Please continue to ensure your child attends school each day unless they are unwell and notify the school office with the reason for their absence.

Medicine

Please ensure that any medicine that is kept in school is collected before the end of term or it will be disposed of.

Residential

After consultation with our current P5 and P6 families, a residential has now been booked to Dalguise for February 2025. This will be the only opportunity for next year's P6 and P7 cohort to attend a residential as we then propose to move to a 2 year rolling programme to support cost of the school day.

Summer Ace programme – Blackwood Community hall

Week 1 -	Monday 1st July to Friday 5th th July	10.00-12.00pm
Week 2 -	Monday 8 th July to Friday 12 th July	10.00-12.00pm
Week 3 -	Tuesday 16th July to Friday 19th July	10.00-12.00pm
Week 4 -	Monday 22 nd July to Friday 26 th July	10.00-12.00pm

The theme this year is the Olympics. There will be arts and crafts and dance as well as the multi sport activities. Included in ACE membership or £3.80 per session

Open to 5-12 year olds – Please book via community on **01555 896638**

What is on?

Tuesday 11 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• P7 Transition day to Lesmahagow High School• P1 Transition morning at Blackwood Primary School• P5 music event with Instrumental Music Service at Hamilton Town House•
Wednesday 12 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• P7 Transition day to Lesmahagow High School• P1 Transition morning at Blackwood Primary School
Thursday 13 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SLC Track and Field finals
Friday 14 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Primary 7 Leavers celebration – 1:00pm
Monday 17 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rescheduled Summer Cup – Football & Netball
Tuesday 18 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supported Classes Leavers celebration 1:30pm
Wednesday 19 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ELC Graduation – 1:30pm• P7 Leaver's trip• P4, P5 & musicians music showcase all welcome – 9:30am
Thursday 20 th June	ELC Leaver's party – 3:45pm – 5pm
Wednesday 26 th June	Last day of term – School & ELC close 1pm

Parent Council

You can support the Parent Council when you shop online using easyfundraising.

As we move to shopping more readily on the internet this is a great way to support the school and ELC without having to do Our cause is listed as –



anything.

Blackwood Primary Parent Council - Lanark.

Click on the link below to register your account :

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/register-your-good-cause/?invite=49bjqz&referral-campaign=s2c>

Contact details for the Parent Council are blackwoodparentcouncil@gmail.com

**You are invited to attend the next meeting on
Wednesday 28th August in school at 7pm for the AGM**

Here to Help!

As a school we are committed to helping our families and it is always worthwhile asking!
Please be assured any requests will be treated in confidence.

Looking for help

SLC have also launched the Community Wellbeing Helpline on **0303 123 1009**.

Children 1st Parentline –call free 08000 28 22 33



EDUCATION SERVICES

Executive Director: Carole McKenzie

Blackwood Primary School – Acting Head Teacher: Mrs Alyson Bennie