Parkhead Primary School

Mid Term Newsletter

February 2026

Welcome Back

Welcome back to all our wonderful pupils and families! We hope you all had a fantastic break and are feeling refreshed. We are quickly making our way through this term already with so many exciting opportunities in the works for our classes!

We also know that Ramadan is coming up for many of our families here at Parkhead Primary School. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to make your child's experience more comfortable in school during Ramadan.

Thank you to those of you who have already responded to our Positive Relationships Quick Question earlier this term. If you haven't already done so here is the link again:
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKUNb9FKKQ6FLiyDnXf6QmrxUM0dWTk43VUhKMFpCNjdXTzVWUEdUOVZaSy4u

Mrs Delargy

Stay Connected

With the winter weather being so unpredictable, we want to make sure we can reach you quickly if we ever need to. To help us keep everyone safe and informed, please double-check that your contact details are up to date.

If you have a new phone number or email address, you can:

Update it instantly via the Parent Portal app.

Pop into the school office to let us know.

Wrap Up Warm

The latest weather reports suggest some wintry weather is on the way! Our FMA will clear/grit one path to the main entrance and nursery in particularly bad weather. Please do be careful underfoot if it is icy.

Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately every day, as all pupils will be heading outdoors at break and lunchtime to make the most of our wonderful playground. Whether you are looking for ways to reduce your carbon footprint, ensure we make the most of our items or whether you are looking for new ways to save money due to the cost of living our Parkhead Threads sustainability station is here to help.

We have a selection of new and gently used clothing in various sizes that you can order via our online form. If we don't have exactly what you need, we can also make a clothing bank referral on your behalf—just speak to the school office for more information.

PARKHEAD THREADS

Parkhead Primary School

Mid Term Newsletter

Important Info

Attendance

We want to give every child the very best start to their day. When students arrive on time, they have the chance to settle in, greet their friends, and prepare for the day's learning without feeling rushed or anxious.

Our school day begins promptly at 8:50 am.

We've noticed an increase in late arrivals recently, and we would like to remind all families that children should be in their classrooms and ready to learn by this time. Arriving even a few minutes late means missing out on vital instructions and can be disruptive to the rest of the class who have already started their work.

If your child is late

If you do arrive after 8:50 am, please enter via the front entrance and report to the school office. It is essential that the office team marks them present for safety reasons and ensures they are included in the lunch count for the day.

Home Time

To ensure a smooth end to the day for everyone, please adhere to our collection times:

Monday to Thursday: 3:15 pm
Friday: 12:30 pm

Appointments

We kindly ask that medical appointments are made outside of school hours where possible. If an early collection is unavoidable, please notify the class teacher or the office first thing that morning.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us protect our pupils' learning time and maintaining a calm, productive environment for everyone.

Communication

We are pleased to share that we now have a brand-new phone system.

This system is designed to make it much easier for you to get through to the right person. One of the best new features is a dedicated absence line, giving you the flexibility to update us on pupil absences quickly and easily without needing to wait to speak to a staff member.

If you need to reach us for other reasons, simply hold for further options to be connected to the team. We hope this upgrade will make communication with the school smoother for everyone!

Our new telephone number is: 01506 283842 however you may notice a number 01506 284999 calling – this is the number for **all** West Lothian council services using the new phone system. If you have a missed call, p**lease don't call this number back – use our own telephone number listed above.**

Parkhead Primary School

Our School Improvements

IMPROVE WELLBEING

ENHANCE CURRICULUM

INCREASE ENGAGEMENT

BOOST ACHIEVEMENTS

RAISE ATTAINMENT

Meta-skills Masterclasses

Our Meta-skills Masterclasses designed to increase pupil leadership and engagement in learning have expanded with the current offer including:

- Drama
- Construction
- Outdoor Games
- Healthy Snack
- Dance
- Responsible Pet Ownership
- Book Club
- Creative Writing
- Gymnastics
- Netball
- Archery
- Creativity
- Darts
- Jewellery making
- Lego Animation
- Making Cartoons
- Building Thinking Classrooms
- Hairdressing
- Chess
- Crochet
- Card making

We are always looking for volunteers to come in to support with or run a masterclass of their own area of expertise with a member of staff in school so please get in touch if this is something you'd like to know more about.

ENHANCE CURRICULUM

INCREASE ENGAGEMENT

BOOST ACHIEVEMENTS

RAISE ATTAINMENT

Health & Wellbeing

We are making good progress in this area with newly developed Health and Wellbeing Lessons linked to our values and we are just about to begin to use a new resource across the school – Tree of Knowledge. Our Mini Inclusion Ambassadors have also been involved in developing our new sensory room. The children all gave ideas about what helps them to feel calm and 'ready to learn' and their ideas are beginning to come to life! If you are in our building, see our Sensory Room Development Board in school for more information. Some of our pupils have started to trial the use of the room and the feedback so far has been very positive. Watch this space!

IMPROVE WELLBEING

Outdoor Learning & Forest Schools Development

Kids Gone Wild and Forest Schools outdoor learning sessions are building up and going well with blocks already completed for both P7 year groups and will have been completed with both P6 year groups by the end of session. Kids Gone Wild has also been running some nurture groups to support children with building confidence, self belief and enhancing collaboration skills. Mr Wood's woodland sessions will begin with P4 pupils after the February break. Mr wood has developed a partnership with the Community Garden and we are delighted to be able to work with the community garden and WCHS pupils to support our forest schools offer.

ENHANCE CURRICULUM

Parkhead Primary School Mid Term Newsletter Updates

Staffing Update

We've got a few staffing changes or updates to share with you:

Mrs Hogarth has been seconded to become a Support for Learning teacher at another school and will be heading off until January 2027. We wish Mrs Hogarth all the best in her new role. Miss Rae will continue to teach P3a until the summer and has been liaising with Mrs Hogarth to ensure continuity and progression for the children.

Mrs Campbell will also continue to teach in P6a in Mr Jeffrey's absence.

Miss Hart has spent some time in hospital and has been undergoing various surgeries. She has had another surgery over the February holiday and will be absent for the next couple of weeks. She is hoping to be fit enough to return just in time for camp! We are currently seeking supply to cover the class in her absence and will be in touch when we have an update.

I'm sure you'll join me in wishing Mr Jeffrey, Mrs Hogarth and Miss Hart best wishes and we hope to see them all soon.

We recently completed recruitment for new Pupil Support Workers for both the ELC and school. Mrs Henderson Kelly will be joining the ELC team and Mrs Short & Miss Reid will be joining the school team once all of their recruitment checks have been finalised.

Staffing Update Continued

Mrs Wood has joined us as a part time PSW in the infant area.

Mrs Griffiths, our Principal Teacher, has returned from maternity leave and is taking on a new temporary remit looking at personalised support for pupils with additional support needs. Mrs Warden is expected to remain with us line managing the ELC and Primary 1.

We will keep you updated with any changes to the staffing plans we currently have in place and thank you for your continued support during these staffing challenges.

Fantastic Friday

We are passionate as a school to celebrate success in all of its forms. We recognise that not all pupil successes happen in the classroom or even in the school. Our Fantastic Friday video gives a glimpse of what our pupils get up throughout the week and we love to celebrate all the wins, no matter how small. You can see our lastest Fantastic Friday videos here:

Fantastic Friday - Parkhead Primary

BOOST ACHIEVEMENTS

Parkhead Primary School

School Diary Dates

for January 2026

Further diary dates can be found on our website

Monday 9th February	School Closed (February Break)
Tuesday 17th February	All pupils resume
Thursday 19th February	P6a & P6b Movie Afternoon Reward
	Active Schools Football After School Club @ Parkhead 3:15-4:15pm
	Glee Club 3:15-4:30pm @ Parkhead
Friday 20th February	Jr NBA 2-4pm @ WCHS
Tuesday 24th February	P1a Visit to The Library 2:15-2:45pm
	Basketball After School Club 3:15-4:15pm @ Parkhead
Wednesday 25th February	Netball After School Club @ Parkhead 3:15-4:15pm
Thursday 26th February	Active Schools Football After School Club @ Parkhead 3:15-4:15pm
	Glee Club 3:15-4:30pm @ Parkhead
Friday 27th February	Dress Down Day for P1-7 Classes (Donate an Easter Egg for the Easter Fayre)
	P3b Class Assembly - Parents/Carers Welcome from 9:15am
March 2026	
Tuesday 3rd March	Basketball After School Club 3:15-4:15pm @ Parkhead
	Parent Action Group Meeting
Wednesday 4th March	P7 School Camp Departure Date
	Netball After School Club @ Parkhead 3:15-4:15pm
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
	Active Schools Football After School Club @ Parkhead 3:15-4:15pm
	Glee Club 3:15-4:30pm @ Parkhead
Friday 6th March	P6b Class Assembly - Parents/Carers Welcome from 9:15am
	P7 School Camp Return Date