



Parkhead Primary School Newsletter

September 2026



Head Teacher's Welcome

It's hard to believe we are already 6 weeks into our new term but I am delighted to see how well all of our pupils have settled to their new classes, routines and learning experiences. The positive start that our children have made has been a real pleasure to see.

One of the highlights of my day is welcoming children who proudly come to share their learning with me. It has been fantastic to see so many pupils visiting the Senior Leadership Team with examples of their wonderful work.

Their achievements demonstrate the hard work, creativity and commitment seen throughout the school, and it is clear that our children are living out our **INSPIRE** values every day through their actions, attitudes and approach to learning.

We regularly get lovely feedback from visitors who commend us for our wonderfully polite and helpful pupils. We know you'd love to hear this too as your support and engagement with our school goes a long way to ensuring our pupils continually demonstrate our school values. Thank you to all of our parents/carers for their ongoing support.

Mrs Delargy, Head Teacher



Meet the Teacher Events

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended our recent Meet the Teacher events and P1 curriculum overview event. These sessions strengthen the partnership between home and school and share important information about the year ahead. If you were unable to attend, copies of the presentation slides are available on our class pages on our [school website](#).





1 Bikes & Scooters

Thanks to our partnership with the West Latihan Active and Sustainable Travel Group, we were awarded a brand-new container to support Active and Sustainable Travel at Parkhead and promote Outdoor Learning. Pupils are encouraged to bring bikes and scooters to school, but we ask that pupils all bring a bike lock so belongings can be kept safe. Bikes without locks should be stored in the new green container in the morning, where they can be locked until the end of the school day.



2 Line Managers

All members of the Senior Leadership Team are more willing to support all pupils and families. However, we also have allocated year groups we support. Please direct queries to these members of the management team in the first instance. This will help us to get back to you as soon as possible and means you have a consistent contact.

Nursey & P1b Mrs Ailsa Griffiths
P1a, P1c and P2-P3 Mrs Louise Delargy
P4-7 Miss Rebekah Moses



3 Quick Question

We regularly gather views from our pupils, staff, partners and parents. We value parent/carers views and gather these in different ways. One of the ways is through our Quick Questions. This is a very quick survey (just a few quick questions), we promise there won't be pages of questions to answer and all responses are valued!

The Quick Question for this month:

[CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE](#)





Safeguarding

In many schools in West Lothian, parents are not permitted to enter the school playground in the mornings. We don't want this to be the case in our school, so we'd like to ask for your help with our safeguarding procedures.

1 Morning Drop-Off Arrangements

In the morning before school starts, we would be grateful if parents/carers in the P1/2 playground could position themselves either against the wall of the school building or on either of the short sides of the playground (leaving the play space clear). The areas marked in yellow.

This means we can clearly see the children playing, monitor their interactions in the open play space, and maintain a clear view of the entrance and exit path. Once it is time to line up, parents and carers can make their way to the door their child lines up at to support them in the right place. However, parents and carers are not required to wait in the playground at this time, you can head off as soon as there is supervision (staff in hi vis vests/jackets) in the playground from 8:30am.

If you are dropping off a child in P3/2-P7 and remaining in the playground, please base yourselves at the middle fence area. This gives us a clearer view of the open play space and the entrance and exit. The areas marked in blue.



2 End of the School Day

As we continue to maximise two hours of High Quality PE and Outdoor Learning opportunities, we ask that parents/carers do not enter the playground before 3pm for health and safety reasons. From 3pm, parents/carers are welcome to stand near the door their child exits from for collection. Thank you very much for your support with this.



3 Reporting a Concern

We want to support all of our children and families and ensure everyone has a positive experience. However, we know that, from time to time, situations can arise that need to be resolved, and we want to help and support wherever possible.

If you have a concern about your child or another child, please contact the school and direct your query to the appropriate member of our team, who will get back to you and help to manage and support the situation appropriately.



Community, Helping Hands & Lost Property

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Parent Helpers

We are always looking for Parent Helpers to support school events and offer wider experiences to our learners. Last session, a parent who works in a local pet shop volunteered for our 'Responsible Pet Owner' Masterclass. If you have an interest or skill you can share with a group of enthusiastic learners, please contact the school and we'd love to have you along.

We are also looking for a couple of parent helpers who could give an hour or so every fortnight to work through lost property to pupils. This will be a pupil leadership opportunity, helping children return belongings to their rightful owners and, where needed, launder, fold, package, organise, stock-take and advertise items for our Parkhead Threads Sustainability Station and spare clothes station.

We also would be delighted to welcome any parent helpers to help out with general activities.

All volunteers require a school PVC, organised and paid for by West Lothian Council.



If you are interested, please email the school office:

wlparkhead-ps@westlothian.org.uk



Lost Property

We have a huge number of jumpers, cardigans and coats in lost property at the main office, including items that look practically brand new.

We'd like to invite parents/carers between now and 2nd October (next Friday) to come into school before or after school hours and collect belongings. After that, items will be reused, or recycled. Photos of just some of the items so please pop in if you think your child might be missing any items.

We are looking to start up a 'new to you' stall where families can take what they need and leave an optional donation if they wish to do so. We would welcome donations of any high quality uniform items.



INCLUSION

NURTURE

SELF BELIEF

PERSEVERANCE

INDIVIDUALITY

RESPECT

EMPATHY

Family Newsletter

DREAM • BELIEVE • ACHIEVE TOGETHER

Dates, Events & Staying Safe

DATES & EVENTS



Dress Down Day

Friday 25 September

There is no requirement for any contribution for this week's dress down day. To celebrate and promote our Nursery- P3 ceilidh, if you do happen to have anything tartan or Scottish (including Scottish football/rugby tops) feel free to wear these but otherwise any dress down wear is welcome with the exception of football strips (other than Scotland tops).



Ceilidh Kids – Secure your tickets now! (availability is limited)

Friday 25 September, from 2pm

Calling all Nursery to P3 families. The PPA is organising a family ceilidh with Ceilidh Kids, fresh from the Edinburgh fringe. Tickets are £2.50 each. Every child participant must be accompanied by at least one paying adult. Please go on to ipay to book your tickets before Friday 25th September!



Parking

Following recent incidents where cars have been damaged as well as near misses involving children being reported, we ask that parents please avoid coming down Harburn Lane and entering the turning circle and staff car park wherever possible. We know the access and parking situation for Parkhead Primary School is far from ideal. To keep everyone safe, we ask that parents/carers please find an alternative route and allow your child to park and stride.



Mobile Phones & Devices

Our refreshed policy on bringing devices to school will be shared shortly. Children are not required to have smartphones or any other device. We have devices in school for pupils to use. The West Lothian Bring Your Own Device programme allows children to bring a tablet or other device to support learning in class and at home. Pupils and parents must sign a responsible user agreement.

All devices, including smart watches, will be stored in a class locker. P5–7 pupils may use devices only under direct teacher instruction for specific learning tools. Breaching the rules may result in losing the right to bring or use a device in school. If your child has access to a smartphone, we would strongly advise the use of strict parental controls as well as monitoring what they access and who they message. Information below about ways to keep your child safe if they have a digital device.

HELPFUL RESOURCES



[Keeping Children Safe Online | NSPCC](#)

[Band Runner](#)

for 8-10 year olds

(Information for parents/carers)



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Parental Involvement & Celebrating Success



Curriculum Review

Scotland's curriculum is under review and is currently undergoing a Curriculum Improvement Cycle. This is at an early stage, but staff are engaging in professional dialogue about what this means for us and how we can influence curriculum change. Families can find out more about the plans to review the curriculum and what this could look like moving forward by reading Connect's overview: ['Want to find out about Scotland's Curriculum Improvement Cycle? Read Connect's overview.'](#)



Parkhead Parent Association (PPA)

The PPA meets monthly, usually on the first Tuesday of every month. Tuesday 6 October is the PPA AGM. At this meeting, Mrs Delargy will provide an overview of the work of the school, school improvement priorities and plans over the next few months. All parents are warmly invited to get involved and hear about the work of the school and the PPA.



Wider Achievement Spotlight

We love celebrating our learners' achievements in and out of school. Every week in assembly, children can showcase their talents through a performance, presentation, video, or question-and-answer session. If your child has had a special achievement, please let us know and encourage them to share it at our next assembly.



Great
ideas!

Let's work
together!

Our school,
our voice!

How families can get involved



**attend
the PPA
AGM**



**share a
child's
achievement**



**read the
curriculum
overview**



**Volunteer time to
support pupils,
school events or
masterclasses**



Together
we can
make a
difference!



Family Noticeboard



Key Dates & Reminders



Please Remember

How to Get Involved

- Friday 25 September —
Dress Down Day



Please bring a bike lock with bikes and scooters. (or store in green container)



Please do not enter the playground before 3pm at the end of the day.



Please try to stand in the requested playground areas during drop-off.



Avoid the turning circle and staff car park.



Contact us at school if you have any queries regarding your child or any other matter

- Friday 25 September,
from 2pm

Ceilidh Kids for Nursery to P3 families; tickets £2.50 each; one paying adult must accompany each child participant

- 25 September —

deadline to collect lost property before the new-to-you stall

- Tuesday 6 October —

Parkhead Parent Association
AGM 7pm

Parent helpers are welcome for events, masterclasses, and fortnightly lost property support.

We would love to welcome parent helpers to support children with their learning or other general support.

Please come along to our AGM and any other PPA meetings to share your ideas

Answer our Quick Questions – the feedback from these help us to know what to keep, adapt, add and abandon. Your views are valued!



[Click here for diary dates](#)