

# Baldernock Banter



Email: [office@baldernock.e-dunbarton.sch.uk](mailto:office@baldernock.e-dunbarton.sch.uk)

Telephone: 0141 955 2341

[www.baldernock.e-dunbarton.sch.uk](http://www.baldernock.e-dunbarton.sch.uk)

August 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome back to the new session. I hope you all had a relaxing break. I would like to extend a warm welcome from us all to the new families who have joined us this year. We want everyone in school to feel safe and happy so as always, please do not hesitate to contact me on any aspect of your child's education or welfare over the coming months.

I have attached a comment slip at the end of this newsletter should you have any comments you wish to make about the service we deliver or indeed to make notes of any further information you require.

*Jill Carr*

Head Teacher

## **VIOLIN**

Mrs Elaine Leitch returns this year to teach violin. Mrs Leitch will be in school on a Friday morning. She has handed out recruitment letters to this year's P5 which should be returned to her on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August.

## **PERCUSSION**

We are delighted that Mr Barclay will again be working with us till the Christmas break. He starts on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August.

## **NEW INTAKE**

Seven Primary Ones have joined us this year and all have already settled into school routines. They have made new friends and are working hard.

A P1 Curricular afternoon for parents will take place on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 9.30.a.m in school.

## **PARENT COUNCIL AND PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION**

Our Parent Council meets roughly 4 times over the session and is open to any parent to join. The Parent Council has a more formal role than the Parent Teacher Association (PTA). Their first meeting will be our Annual General Meeting (AGM) where we will confirm committee members and post holders for this session. This meeting will be held on Thursday 4th September at 6.30.p.m in Waitrose Community Room.

We also have a P.T.A that supports the work of the school by organising fundraising events. Money generated supports various projects over the course of the session. At our AGM last week it was agreed that Catriona Anderson would remain as Chair, Gillian Winter as Treasurer and Geraldine Brown would take over from Emma Hannay as Secretary. Thanks to Emma for the support she gave the PTA in her role as Secretary.

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 7.00pm in the Tickled Trout. Look out for the PTA Newsletter to be issued soon.

Both these groups have an important role within our school so we are always looking for new people to come along and join us.

If anyone is interested in either group, please contact the office.

## **ILLNESS**

If your child takes ill or has an accident in school he/she will be seen by either Mrs Faull, Mrs Maclean, Mrs Meldrum or myself, the school first aiders. Parents will be telephoned if further treatment is required beyond school and if a child has bumped their head.

## **MEDICINES**

Should your child require medicine during school hours, please deliver it to the school office and complete a consent form. Children who have asthma should always have their inhaler with them for use when needed. No medication will be administered unless the relevant forms have been completed and signed by parents/carers. Medicine must be in the original package with the child's name and dosage to be administered clearly visible. Medication coming into school should be brought in by parents/carers and should be picked up at the end of a term /session.

East Dunbartonshire Council have recently updated their medical policy and ours has been updated to reflect this.

## **MOBILE PHONES**

Mobile phones, electrical games and equipment are not covered by school insurance. We would advise that they are left at home. If any pupil requires a mobile phone for use after school, it should be switched off and handed into the office on arrival at school. Pupils are not permitted to send or receive calls or texts during the school day. If they require any help in school, they should approach a member of staff. E.D.C will not accept liability for the loss of a phone in the school or school grounds.

## **ABSENCE**

Please contact the school by telephone before 9.30 a.m. to let us know if your child is going to be absent from school for any reason. We have a duty to follow up un-notified absences by telephoning parents, emergency contacts and, if necessary, the attendance officer, police and/or social services. The school office number is 0141 955 2341. Please send a note with your child when they return to school after an absence. East Dunbartonshire Council's updated Absence Policy is implemented by all schools. Please see other absence information issued on Groupcall.

## **INFORMATION CHANGES**

**Please remember to keep the school informed of any changes to emergency contact details.**

## **TRANSPORT**

A one way system is in place coming off Craigmaddie Road down the hill to the school and then round the loop to come back out at the church. Cars should pull into the wall to drop children off in the morning and to pick up at the end of the day. Cars must **NOT** turn at the road between the two playgrounds. Please stay off the zig zag lines to ensure visibility for all around the entrance to school. Can I respectfully ask for a swift pick up at the end of the day to lessen congestion. Please be patient if there is a build up of cars to ensure the safety of all.

## **ALLERGIES**

If your child suffers from any specific allergies, please ensure that you inform the school office and provide the school with any medication required.

As the incidence of allergies is increasing it is important that children recognise that it is not always appropriate to share food. We would encourage you to support us in this by reminding your children not to share snacks.

## **ALLERGY ALERT**

Please do not include any nuts in packed lunches or snacks. Can I remind you that peanut butter and Nutella should not be used on sandwiches.

Teachers will not be issuing sweets during the course of the term or at the end of term to ensure the safety of all.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

If your child is leaving class during school hours a note should be sent to the class teacher and an adult must collect them from the school office.

## **INTERNET SAFETY**

The internet is vast and exciting but there are still potential risks for our children. Please support us by reminding your child if they are using chat rooms or social network sites:

- not to use their real name
- never give out personal information
- never agree to meet anyone
- never post photographs of themselves

## **HEALTH PROMOTION**

Baldernock Primary School is a Health Promoting School and while we recognise that treats have their place we would like to encourage healthy choices at snack time and in pack lunches. As ever we would welcome your support in this.

## **LUNCHES**

P1-5 children receive a free lunch. Lunches are ordered via the cashless catering system in the morning or from home. The main menu has already been issued and this will now be followed by the Special Diet menu and the Matrix for both. This will come from Groupcall.

## **P.E**

We will continue with our 3 weekly visits to Mugdock on a Tuesday and P.E on our own grounds on a Thursday. I am unsure as to where we will be going for PE from December to February as we cannot access Torrance this session. I will update you in due course.

Cycling at Baldernock runs from P1-P7 with the aim being that children leave Primary 7 having achieved Bikeability 2. Cycle Scotland can offer support, but if available, it is only P7 pupils that are funded. Staff are trained to allow us not to depend on funding. We develop progressive cycling skills from P1-P7 to ensure that children by P7 can ride safely on the road. Many children can ride a bike but don't have the skills that mean they can for example take their hands off the handle bars to signal or brake properly. When working on Bikeability 1 & 2 I will send home a parental booklet which has tips on what you can do at home to help develop cycle skills and reinforce what we deliver at school. Thank you in advance.

## **OUTDOORS**

We use the outdoor classroom, canopied area and shelter in the garden when taking our learning outdoors as well as the area at the back of the garden with its raised beds, cold frame and shelter. We have acquired Belfast sinks which we are going to use to develop aspect of sustainability within the curriculum.

## **RUNNING**

We will start running week beginning 8th September on a Tuesday and Thursday.

If anyone would like to help with running (there is no need to be able to run as we need helpers along the way) and has a half an hour on either or both of our running days please contact the office leaving your name with Mrs Faull and we will get back to you. Thank you in advance.

## **PROMOTING POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS**

Our Promoting Positive Relationships policy will be sent out to remind everyone about the ethos we wish to foster at Baldernock Primary School.

## **HEADLICE**

Please remember to check your child's head regularly for sign of infection. It is no longer the role of the school nurse so responsibility falls to parents/guardians. Checks should be made weekly/fortnightly. If a child has had lice, they should be treated before returning to school. For further information check

[www.onceaweektakeapeek.com](http://www.onceaweektakeapeek.com)

## **PRE LOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM SERVICE**

As part of our Reduce Reuse Recycle initiative we run a second hand school uniform service. Orders can be placed by calling the school office. Items will be packaged and sent home via your child's schoolbag. All items are free of charge. We also accept good quality school uniform. Unfortunately, we cannot accept shoes, underwear or clothes that are damaged, ripped or heavily stained. All donation are accepted at the school office.

## **RAG BAG COLLECTION**

Please ensure what goes into the bin at the back of the school only includes the items on the collectable list and is bagged.

**What we can collect:** Wearable clothing-All fashions-All ages: Paired shoes: handbags: belts

**We can no longer accept:** Workwear, uniforms, wet or soiled clothes, curtains, towels, duvets or covers, pillows or cases, blankets, cushions, table cloths, linen, carpets, suitcases, bric-a-brac, hangers or electrical.

## **LOCKERBIE**

P6/7 will be attending Lockerbie Manor in May for their residential trip. Some people have already started to save for this. We need to have funds to pay a deposit of £50 on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you to the PTA who are covering the cost of the bus for this event.

## **PRIORITIES**

Our priorities this session continue to build on the work undertaken in recent years.

### **Priority 1**

Raising attainment in Literacy

- Developing listening and talking skills
- Developing skills in reading and comprehension
- Reviewing our languages provision

### **Priority 2**

Interdisciplinary Learning (IDL)

- Updating our Science and Social Studies Programmes
- Developing our understanding of meta skills for pupils at all stages
- Engage with families by delivering workshops in numeracy and maths

### **Priority 3**

Wellbeing

- Engaging with The CIRCLE framework to create an inclusive learning environment ensuring raised attainment , achievement and equity for all
- Reflect on Children's rights and pupil voice in all aspects of school life

## **SECURITY**

Please can I remind you that **ANY** visitor must report to the school office. **NOBODY SHOULD GO DIRECTLY TO A CLASSROOM**

## DIARY DATES

Date	Event	Time
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	P1 Curricular morning	9.30.a.m.
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Parent Council - AGM - Waitrose	6.30.p.m
Week beginning 8 <sup>th</sup> September	Running starts - Tuesday & Thursday	9.00.a.m.
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	£50 -Deposit due for Lockerbie	
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> September - Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Holiday	
Wednesday 1st October	Parent's Night	
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Church Service- Baldernock Church	10.00.a.m.
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	In Service Day	
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> October - Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	October School Holiday	
Monday 20 <sup>st</sup> October	School Re-opens	9.00.a.m.

Class Structure 2025.26	
<b>P1/2</b>	Miss Davidson
<b>P3/4/5</b>	Mrs MacDonald - Monday/Tuesday Mrs Garden - Wednesday (Thursday/Friday-covering vacancy)
<b>P6/7</b>	Mrs Ker - Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday/Friday Mrs Meldrum - Monday

### Parent/Guardian Comment Slip - Baldernock Banter - August 2025

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Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_