

Baldernock Banter



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August 2026

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 and children 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 will hand out recruitment letters this week, to this year's P5 who may wish to be considered for tuition.

PERCUSSION

We are delighted that Mr Barclay will again be working with us till the Christmas break. He starts on Friday 28th August. Class order has still to be confirmed.

NEW INTAKE

Six Primary Ones have joined us this year and are settling into school routines.

A P1 Curricular afternoon for parents will take place on Tuesday 1st September at 2.00.p.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 17th 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. Our AGM is Tuesday 1st 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 joining either group, please contact the office.

The PTA are delighted to announce £827.51 was raised at the Picnic and Campsie Show at the end of last session. They would like to thank all who attended, supported and provided home baking for both the events.

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.

MOBILE DEVICES

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 or smart watch in the school or school grounds. Smart watches with recording facilities should not be worn to school.

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 been issued. Other menus can be accessed from EDC's website.

P.E

We will be returning to Torrance on a Tuesday for P.E but will visit Mugdock occasionally over the session. We will use our school grounds on a Thursday.

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.

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 aspects of sustainability within the curriculum.

RUNNING

We will start running week beginning 7th September on a Tuesday and Thursday. We are going to trial different routes this session for a bit more challenge.

PROMOTING POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

Our Promoting Positive Relationships policy is going to be updated and we will consult with you on this in due course.

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

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.

SCHOOL TRANSPORT

If you are using school transport and there are changes to normal drop off and pick up arrangements can you ensure the school is aware of what's happening and not just the taxi drivers. This saves time and confusion especially at the end of the day.

MOBILE PHONES

Please do not use mobile phones to record school events. I do not have permission for all the children to be photographed/recorded. This is EDC Policy. By taking photos you could potentially be compromising a child's safety. There will be an opportunity at the end of the events to photograph you own children.

THANK YOU

Can I say thank you for the goodies that came into the staffroom at the end of term. They were much appreciated.

LABELLING

If possible could you label or initial your children's clothing as it makes it so much easier to return it to its rightful owner when found around school.

PRIORITIES

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

Priority 1

Wellbeing and Inclusion

- Reviewing Positive Relationships policy
- Going for Rights Respecting Schools Gold Accreditation
- Developing procedures to track and monitor pupil wellbeing

Priority 2

Pedagogy & Methodology

- Audit current writing and spelling programmes and review pedagogy
- Embed meta skills from P1-P7
- Engage with EDC's Climate Action Plan to support the development of Learning for Sustainability

REPORTING

We track and record progress through our Progress and Achievement Profiles. These include information for parents, assessment week evidence and reports which come home for you to see and comment on.

Once a level has been achieved the completed profile will be sent home for you to keep.

We have a Parents' Night next month with your child, and one in March for yourselves.

SECURITY

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

Class Structure 2026.27	
P1/2	Miss Davidson
P3/4/5	Mrs McRoberts - Monday/Tuesday Mrs Garden - Wednesday/Thursday/Friday
P6/7	Miss Cameron - Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday Miss Stadele - Thursday/Friday
Non Class Contact - Mrs MacDonald - Wednesday	
Raising Attainment across the school - Mrs Meldrum	

DIARY DATES

Date	Event	Time
Tuesday 1st September	P1 Curricular afternoon	2.00.p.m
Tuesday 1 st September	Meet the Teacher	P2 & P6/7 - 4.30 -5.00pm P3/4/5 - 5.05 - 5.35pm
Tuesday 1 st September	PTA - AGM - Tickled Trout	7.00.pm
Week beginning 7 th September	Running starts	
Tuesday 8 th September	Douglas Academy Open Evening for P7 pupils and parents	
Wednesday 23 rd September	Parents Night	
Friday 25 th September - Monday 28 th September	Holiday Weekend	
Friday 2 nd October	Flu Immunisation	
Thursday 8 th October	Harvest Church Service - Baldernock Church	10.00.am
Friday 9 th October	In Service Day - School closed for pupils	
Monday 12 th October - Friday 16 th October	October School Holiday	
Monday 19 th October	School Re-opens	

Parent/Guardian Comment Slip - Baldernock Banter - August 2026

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ **Date** _____