

Beancross Primary



Merry Christmas!

Dear Parents,

T'is the season to be jolly! We're gearing up for a magical and memorable Christmas at Beancross. Festive crafts, Christmas Dinner, Christmas Parties, a Nativity, a Talent Show and a Christmas Disco - it is sure to be another exciting month!

We've detailed some key information about our Christmas Lunch and Christmas Parties in this newsletter. We're also focusing this edition on our Early Level, with some lovely updates on the children's journey at Beancross.

May we take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very Happy Christmas from the team here at Beancross.

Thank you for your support.

Kind Regards,

Andrew Watson
Headteacher

Stephanie Macfarlane
Depute Headteacher



Pupil Leadership Team

Learning Walk

Initial Feedback



As part of their ongoing work to support and improve our school, the Pupil Leadership Team recently conducted a learning walk around the school. Their observations and feedback have provided us with a valuable insight into what's going well and areas where we can continue to improve.

The children were particularly impressed by the wall displays in classrooms and corridors, noting the wide range of pupil work on show, including fantastic examples of literacy and numeracy. They also highlighted the positive behaviour posters and Emotion Works displays, which are making a real impact. They suggested that some displays could be updated or enhanced with more support visuals to better support learning, and they also noted that tidying up some areas would make a big difference.

The team explored our digital resources and shared their appreciation for how well most devices and charging stations are being looked after. They did suggest that some charging stations could be more organised and that a few devices might benefit from clearer labelling or repairs.

Outdoor spaces were another area of focus. The children were pleased with the tidy and well-used playgrounds, including the trim trails and football pitches. They also noticed opportunities for improvement, such as using the bike shed and organising loose play toys so that they could be used.

Within the classrooms, the calm corners were praised as good spaces for children to relax and refocus. The class libraries are well-used, and the children suggested they could be better organised in some classes. Space was also noted as something which could be improved.

Lastly, they looked at the music room and library. While they were happy to see instruments in good condition and plenty of books, they highlighted that tidying and organising these spaces further would make them even more inviting and effective for learning.

We're looking forward to implementing these improvement ideas and will share progress with you.

HOUSE TALENT SHOW

Our first House event will be our Christmas Talent Show on Friday 20th December. This is planned by the Pupil Leadership Team and hosted during the school day. This event is just for the children but we'll share pictures and videos via X.

Auditions are taking place WB 9th December and letters will come home from the Captains.

Important Dates

Christmas Party Arrangements

Our class Christmas parties are usually a huge hit and our teachers have spent a lot of time pulling together the children's favourite party dances and games.

Our party dates are included in the Annual Overview and a reminder is noted below.

Friday 13th December - Nursery Open Event
Monday 16th December - Primary 6 and 5
Tuesday 17th December - Primary 4 and 3
Wednesday 18th December - Primary 2 and 1
Thursday 19th December - Primary 7

On party days, the children are welcome to come to school dressed in their party gear. Alternatively, they are welcome to change in school after lunch or if preferred, children can go home for lunch and return afterwards.

Home Lunches

We anticipate that some children will have a home lunch on their party day. If your child will be a home lunch, please can you send a note to their class teacher to advise of this. All children going home for lunch can be collected from the main reception at 12noon (note earlier time) and return via the main reception between 1pm and 1.15pm.

We hope that everyone enjoys their Christmas Party!

Primary 1 Nativity

Our Primary 1 children will take to the stage for the first time in their performance of A Miracle in Town. This is a beautifully simple children's nativity with all the Christmas charm you'd expect.

We're excited to see the children's performance and send a big thank you to everyone who has worked hard to bring this performance to you.



Christmas Dinner

Our Christmas Dinner will take place on Tuesday 10th December. The Christmas Dinner was offered free of charge to all children.

Ordering for Christmas dinner has now closed. If you haven't ordered a Christmas dinner for your child, please can you provide a packed lunch or arrange a home lunch on this day.

Last Day of Term

Our school closes at 1.30pm on Friday 20th December. On this day, the children will be hosting a talent show for their peers. We're really looking forward to this.

Our lunch options will be sent home soon.

Children who use the school bus will be collected from school at 1pm on this day.



Classroom Highlights – Early Level

Primary 1 Mr Blair - P1B have continued our learning journey during term 2. We have continued to learn two new sounds each week and we are all working hard to develop the blending process using the five finger strategy.

With the count down to Christmas we have been practising our P1 nativity and we are all excited and can't wait to put on a show for you all to enjoy. Responsive planning this term has allowed us to explore; dinosaurs, space and the weather. We continue to develop our friendships while having fun learning each day.

Primary 1 Miss McGuckin - We have had a very busy term in P1G, we have been learning two new sounds a week and we are beginning to blend our sounds together to make words. We are able to identify what words start with our sounds. During reading we have enjoyed sequencing stories, we discussed what happened in the beginning, middle and end of the story, we enjoyed working together to order the story!

In Primary One we follow a responsive planning approach where the teachers observe the children's play and learning to identify the interests within the class. The children are then encouraged to deepen their understanding and skills so that they become 'experts' who lead their own learning.

We have been learning about people who help us! Lots of us have enjoyed role playing as doctors, we were taking each other's blood pressure, listening to heartbeats and taking X-rays. We have been exploring how to look after babies and how their needs compare to ours.

We are looking forward to performing our nativity to all of our friends and family, we have been practicing our songs and rehearsing our lines. We can't wait for you all to see it!

Primary 1 Miss Sinclair - P1R have enjoyed learning about volcanos, Guy Fawkes, and Vets this term. We have also been learning several new sounds and common words per week in literacy, which helps us identify sounds, blend, and read more confidently. Recently, during numeracy, we have been doing super work, counting forward/backwards and adding and subtracting within 20. Circle time continues to be a great way to build confidence in speaking and listening, reflect on our learning and sharing our thoughts and feelings. We are beginning to get into the festive mood with Christmas activities and practising our Nativity.

We love regularly sharing our learning journeys with parents on the class Twitter page: @MissSinclairBPS.



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We are looking for some parent lunchtime helpers from January. This will be to support the children in the dining hall alongside the Leadership Team.

School Fayre

Keep up to date with all of the events organised by the Parent Council by joining their Facebook Group.

Pantomime Helpers

beancrossprimaryschool@education.falkirk.sch.uk

Lockerbie

WE HAD THE MOST AMAZING TIME AT LOCKERBIE MANOR WITH PRIMARY 6! THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO MADE THIS TRIP SUCH A SUCCESS!



We thoroughly enjoyed many activities over our 3 days. We participated in canoeing, climbing, abseiling, den building, raft building, a camp fire and a disco! It was a fun filled, packed time away! Many of our children tried these activities for the first time and set themselves personal challenges. Well done!

Christmas Appeal

We would like to say a very special thank you to everyone who has helped us with our Christmas appeal this year.

Thank you to Altrad Babcock, INEOS, Rotary Club Santa Sleigh and the Beancross families who have supported our Christmas appeal. Your generous donation will make a real difference to our families.