

Beancross Primary

Ambition - Motivation - Nurture - Respect



Welcome to our September Newsletter

Welcome to the very first newsletter of the 2025/26 school year! It has been great to see all our learners settle back into school life with such enthusiasm since their return in August. The corridors and classrooms are once again filled with energy and a love for learning. It was also a pleasure to welcome so many of you for our 'Meet the Teacher' events; we hope you found them to be a valuable opportunity to connect with your child's new teacher and class.

This newsletter is designed to give you a snapshot of the life of our school. Inside this edition, we will be sharing updates from each stage, introducing our newly created Parent Council, and providing some suggestions to support your child's learning journey at home. We'll also include a reminder of key dates for the term ahead.

1

A LOOK INSIDE THE CLASSROOMS

A quick update from our classes. Follow along on Bluesky for more updates.

2

MEET YOUR NEW PARENT COUNCIL

We are delighted to introduce our new Parent Council. Find out more about their role and how they will be supporting our school community.

3

PARTNERSHIP IN LEARNING

Explore our new section with tips and ideas for supporting your child's learning and wellbeing at home.



Pupil Leadership Team (PLT)

Meet your Pupil Leadership Team.



Rights Leaders

Meet your Children's Rights Leaders.



Sports Council

Meet your Sports Council.

Partnership in Learning

At Beancross, we know that the partnership between home and school is one of the most powerful tools for helping our learners succeed. Your support at home doesn't need to be complicated or time-consuming; small, consistent habits can make a huge impact on your child's confidence and progress. Here are a few simple ideas to try.

The Power of Reading Together

One of the greatest gifts you can give your child is a love of reading. Just 10-15 minutes of reading together each day can build vocabulary, improve concentration, and open up a world of imagination. This doesn't just have to be their school reading book—it could be a comic, a recipe, a library book, or a magazine. The most important thing is to make it a fun, cosy, and enjoyable time to share. Parents are very welcome to borrow books from our school library too.

Everyday Maths

You don't need worksheets to be a maths champion at home! Maths is all around us. You can support your child by:

- Asking them to help with measuring ingredients when you're baking.
- Talking about the time and working out how long until bedtime or dinner.
- Letting them handle money and work out the change in a shop.
- Looking for shapes and patterns when you're out for a walk.



SumDog

You can support your child's learning in maths and spelling by encouraging them to use the fun, adaptive games on Sumdog at home.

All of our children now have full access to SumDog. This is proving to be quite the hit with children collecting coins to develop their avatars!

If you require another copy of your child's login, please email our reception team.

KEY DATES

Monday, 12th - Sunday, 25th October: Holiday

Thursday, 30th October: Hallowe'en Discos

- P1 and P2 : 4:30pm - 5:30pm
- P3 and P4 : 6:00pm - 7:00pm
- P5 to P7 : 7:30pm - 8:30pm

Friday, 31st October: Hallowe'en Fun Day

(dress up optional, no masks or weapons)

Please refer to the annual overview available on our website.



A Look Inside the classrooms

PRIMARY 1

P1 have been working with our speech and language therapist to engage in the Teaching Children to Listen programme, which focuses on developing their listening skills: sitting still, Listen to all the words, looking at the person who is talking, staying quiet. They have also been introduced to emotions through Zones of Regulation. Children are able to identify how they are feeling and how to ensure they are ready to learn.



PRIMARY 2

Primary 2 have been making excellent progress in phonics, blending, reading, and writing. They've been using the 5 Finger Strategy to support their learning. Check out their photographs on Bluesky.

PRIMARY 3

In Primary 3, we have been learning all about famous inventors and their amazing inventions! We explored how their clever ideas have changed the way we live today, from useful everyday objects to life-changing discoveries. We have enjoyed finding out about their creativity, problem-solving skills and the impact their inventions still have on our world.



PRIMARY 4

We have been learning about The Human Body. Children expressed an interest in conducting science experiments therefore, we have created a model of the Lungs/ Diaphragm to explore how we breathe and are looking forward to creating a model of the Digestive System.

PRIMARY 5

P5 explored the Second Level Social Studies Outcomes to be covered this term. Pupils then voted on the context and both classes selected The Rainforest as their focus. Classes then shared their Prior Knowledge of the topic, discussed what they Wanted to Learn and identified how they wanted to learn it. For example - personal / group research projects, pupil choice in presentation of information, digital learning etc.



PRIMARY 6

We have been working hard on learning how to use a variety of apps on our iPads this term. We have accessed a range of presentation apps and can now select the one we think will let us complete tasks to the best of our abilities. This allows our pupils' voice to be heard as we can explain why we have chosen the apps. We have also spent time developing our research skills and putting the information we find in to our own words. We have become One Note wizards too. This is a digital jotter which records our work and we get feedback on, as with any task we complete in school. We will continue to develop our digital skills over the year.



PRIMARY 7

P7 have had a busy and exciting start to the term! Over the past four weeks, we have enjoyed a rugby block delivered by the Grangemouth Stags. During these sessions, we learned to play Hawick Ball and focused on developing our teamwork, communication, and coordination skills. We also attended our first Grangemouth High School transition event as part of Maths Week Scotland. This gave us the chance to work with children from other schools to solve a variety of maths problems, while building confidence and collaboration. Another highlight has been starting our Buddy Time sessions with P1. We have enjoyed getting to know our buddies and working together on themed activities such as European Day of Languages, Roald Dahl Day, and National Coding Week. In class, we have been exploring the topic of Significant Historical Figures. Each of us chose an individual who inspires us and researched why they were important in history. We then wrote detailed information texts and created presentations using an app of our choice to share our learning.

ART AND DESIGN

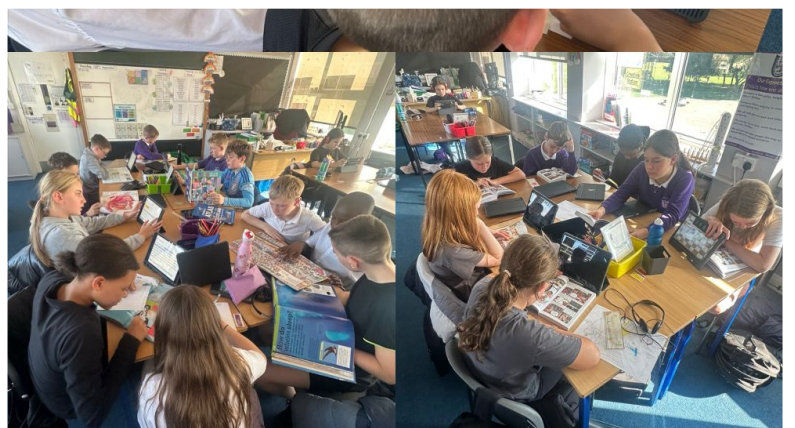
Art and Design has been in full swing this September, and it has been a real joy teaching every class.

Primary 1 have been exploring textures and collage, creating wonderful paintings and mixed-media artwork.

Primary 2-4 have been developing their skills in line drawing and still life, as well as brightening up our walls with some very imaginative emus inspired by colour theory.

Primary 5-7 have been challenging themselves with one-point perspective drawing, portraiture, and exploring symbolism in their work. The enthusiasm and creativity of our pupils has been inspiring.

A special mention goes to **P6B**, who are my Art Stars this month! A reminder to bring in an old t-shirt for painting. Thank you to those who have provided this already. We're really looking forward to seeing all the autumn and Halloween-inspired artwork that October will bring.



Pupil Representatives

SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

Beancross football is entering their 8th season together as a team. Training is after school each Thursday from 15:00 - 15:45 for Primary 5, 6 & 7 pupils. As part of our team we strive to develop our school values and have the opportunity to represent our school at football tournaments throughout the year with our 3rd Beanie Cup taking place Sunday 7th June 2026.

Our first school tournament will take place on **Thursday, 9th October:** The Steve Burns Memorial Trophy football tournament, organised by Stenhousemuir FC, at Ochilview Park.

We wish the football team lots of luck for their first competitive event

PUPIL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Our Pupil Leadership Team (PLT) is made up of P7 pupils who apply and are interviewed for leadership roles and responsibilities within our school. This year, each of our four houses – Wallace, Bell, Somerville, and Fleming – has a House Captain, Vice-Captain, and Prefect.

The PLT play an important role in school life: they promote our school values of Ambition, Motivation, Nurture, and Respect, act as positive role models for younger pupils, and organise and lead house events.

They also share the views and ideas of their peers with staff, helping to ensure every pupil has a voice in our school community.

SPORTS AND SPORTS COUNCIL

We are off again, to a phenomenal start with sport at Beancross We're starting our fifth year of school sport with a bang!

Our commitment to high-quality, diverse sports has been officially recognised: we've been awarded the Gold School Sports Award until 2027! We are dedicated to upholding this gold standard all year.

We've already kicked off a brilliant range of clubs, available on Class for Kids;

<https://beancross-primary.classforkids.io>

We've been busy behind the scenes appointing our Sports Captains and will announce them soon! After that, we'll elect our 2025/2026 Sports Council.

Our new Sports Captains and Council will be vital to our sporting life, helping us to plan, organise, and run events throughout the year. They will also play a key role in deciding which clubs are brought into the school and will receive Young Sports Leader Training from ActiveSchools, allowing them to run their own exciting lunchtime playground clubs.

RIGHTS LEADERS – RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

We're off to a great start with our new Rights Leaders, a small group of children promoting and upholding every child's rights through assemblies, projects, and presentations.

The Leaders are now working on an Outright Campaign to support our local community and help us achieve Gold Reaccreditation.

Our first campaign is a Harvest Collection for the local food bank. In line with Article 24 (the right to healthy food), we aim to ensure all children in our community have access to food by collecting non-perishable food items.

Please see the email for the donation letter. Donations are welcome at the front office or in your child's bag.

Thank you for supporting our community!



Parent Council

Meet Your Parent Council

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to the new Parent Council. As a parent of a child at the school, you are automatically part of the Parent Forum, which is the collective term for all parents. The Parent Council is a group of parents elected to represent the views of the entire Parent Forum.

We are currently looking for a new group of Parent Council representatives for each Primary stage. We'd like to ensure every parent's voice is heard, and we believe having a representative for each year group will help achieve this.

The Parent Council plays an important role in the life of our school by working with the school to decide on key priorities and improving communication with all parents. It can also organise events and fundraise for the benefit of our children.

To help guide our work, we are creating a Parent Council Constitution. We will share this with you as soon as it is ready.

If you are interested in getting involved or would like to become an elected representative, please email us at BeancrossParentCouncil@outlook.com.

We look forward to hearing from you and working together this year.

Mara, Craig, Erin and Tom

OFFICE BEARERS

Mara - Chairperson

My name is Mara McPhee, mum to Cailean P6 and Conall P4. I'm looking forward to growing our parent council and hope we can encourage more parents to join. The more support we have, the more we can organise for the children.

Craig - Vice Chair

I wanted to join the parent council because I believe strongly in the value of parental involvement in education. I wanted to play an active role in supporting the school and helping to shape a positive learning environment.

Erin - Secretary

I'm Erin McAuley, mum to my beautiful daughter Kathryn (P1). I love to read, relax and spend time with my family. I'm looking forward to supporting the Parent Council and working with you to organise events and other activities for the children..

Tom - Treasurer

I'm Tom McAuley, dad to my wonderful daughter, Kathryn (P1). I enjoy all things sci-fi (especially Star Trek!). I'm looking forward to working with you all to grow our Parent Council.

