

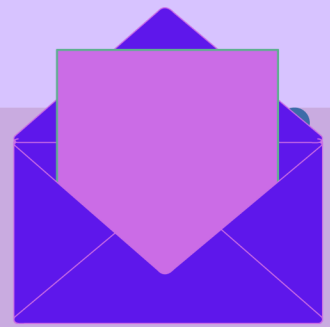


February and March 2026

BEANCROSS

Newsletter

BEANCROSS.FALKIRK.SCH.UK



ALWAYS BUSY!

- Gold Rights Respecting Schools Award
- ASDA Community Partnership
- Easter Fayre
- Learning to Achieve Festival
- Easter Activities
- Sports Success
- World Book Day
- Parents' Night
- BBC Newsround
- GLEE Competition
- Bikeability
- Dyslexia Awareness
- Science at GHS

GOLD FOR BEANCROSS



Rights Respecting Schools Gold Accreditation

We are delighted to announce that our school has successfully retained the Rights Respecting Schools Gold Accreditation! Originally achieved in 2022, this re-accreditation confirms that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) remains at the very heart of our school's ethos.

What is the Gold Award?

The Gold Award is the highest level of recognition granted by UNICEF UK. It is awarded to schools that have fully embedded children's rights into their policies, practice, and daily culture. To maintain this status, we demonstrated that our children are active participants in decision-making and that their dignity and rights are respected in every interaction.

A huge well-done to everyone involved, with a special thank you to Mrs McLachlan for leading our Rights Respecting School Group with such dedication.

EASTER FAYRE

A huge thank-you to our Parent Council and the Grangemouth Children's Day Committee for organising and hosting such a fantastic Easter Fayre. This event was a wonderful success, raising vital funds to support our upcoming Children's Day preparations. The Parent Council raised a massive £500!!!!

It was brilliant to see so many families coming together, and we are incredibly grateful to everyone who attended, volunteered, or donated. Your support ensures that our children can enjoy these special community traditions.

LEARNING TO ACHIEVE

The Learning to Achieve Festival provides an opportunity for educators across Falkirk to share best practices and innovative strategies. We were proud to have our staff lead two key sessions this year, showcasing the high standard of teaching and learning at Beancross.

Play-Based Numeracy

Our Early Level team (Nursery and Primary 1) demonstrated how we develop children's numeracy skills through play. By integrating mathematical concepts into child-led activities, we ensure our youngest learners build a strong, natural foundation in number work and problem-solving.

Supporting Dyslexic Learners

Mrs Cummings, our Additional Support for Learning Teacher, presented the effective, inclusive approaches we use to support our dyslexic children. Her session focused on practical strategies that remove barriers to literacy and ensure every child can reach their full potential.

We are incredibly proud of our team for representing the school and sharing their expertise to help improve outcomes for children across Falkirk.



ASDA PARTNERSHIP

Our Nursery and Treehouse Classroom recently enjoyed a series of visits to ASDA as part of the store's Community Partnership Programme. These trips provided a fantastic opportunity for "real-life" learning, bringing the curriculum to life outside the classroom.

Numeracy in Action

The children put their numeracy skills to the test by navigating the aisles to find items on their shopping lists. The highlight for many was the checkout, where they gained hands-on experience scanning items and paying using real money. This practical application of maths helps our learners understand the value of currency and develops their confidence in social settings.

Outstanding Ambassadors

Our Nursery children also enjoyed lunch in the ASDA Café. We were delighted to receive numerous compliments from members of the public regarding their excellent table manners and exemplary behaviour. They were a credit to the school and their families.

A big thank-you to ASDA for welcoming us and providing such a valuable experience for our children. We look forward to continuing this partnership in the future.

DYSLEXIA AWARENESS

Our Dyslexia Awareness Group has been working hard this term to promote inclusion and challenge myths through several creative initiatives.

Raising Awareness

The group designed posters featuring successful, famous dyslexic individuals to highlight that dyslexia is no barrier to achievement. These are now displayed around the school to celebrate the diverse strengths of our children. Additionally, the group created and shared an interactive quiz with P4-P7 classes to spark discussion and improve understanding of dyslexia across the school community.

Transition and Literacy

Recently, the group visited Grangemouth High School, where they toured the building and explored the library. They particularly enjoyed discovering the wide range of accessible texts and resources available to support different learning needs as they progress in their education.

Well done to the group for their enthusiasm and commitment to ensuring all learners feel supported and understood.

What is Dyslexia?

In Scotland, we describe dyslexia as a learning difference rather than a difficulty. It is simply a different way of processing information, which often means that a child's brain is 'wired' to be very creative and great at problem-solving.

For children with dyslexia, it can take more time and effort to learn how to read, write, or spell. This is because their brains process the sounds in words differently.

Many people with dyslexia are incredibly successful because they think 'outside the box.'

At our school, we focus on the strengths that come with being dyslexic, ensuring every child has the right tools to show what they can do.

BBC

newsround

BBC AT BEANCROSS

We were thrilled to welcome the BBC Newsround team to our school on Tuesday 31st March for an exciting day of filming.

Our P5, P6, and P7 children took centre stage, sharing their perspectives on a range of important subjects, from Scottish Politics and AI to sending heartfelt 100th birthday wishes to Sir David Attenborough.

The event was a huge success, with our learners demonstrating incredible confidence on camera. They spoke eloquently and thoughtfully, representing our school community with pride.

We look forward to seeing our stars on screen very soon!



GLEE 2026

NOTHING
IS
IMPOSSIBLE

Our children lit up the stage at the Albert Halls in Stirling on 11th March with a truly sensational performance at the Glee competition.

The many hours of dedicated rehearsal were evident as the group delivered an outstanding show that captivated the entire audience.

We are incredibly proud of how much their confidence and stage presence have flourished over the past year. It was a joy to watch their hard work culminate in such a vibrant and professional display of talent!

Well done to all our performers for representing the school so brilliantly.

BIKEABILITY CROSS COUNTRY

Our P6 children have officially kicked off their Bikeability Level 1 training, making fantastic use of our school's dedicated fleet of bikes. Led by Miss Risk and Mr Blair, these sessions are held safely within the school playground to help the learners master essential control skills and cycling safety.

The group has been full of enthusiasm, showing great progress as they build the foundation needed for their Level 2 training next term. It is wonderful to see them gaining such confidence on two wheels!



Our P5–P7 cross-country team displayed incredible stamina and spirit at the tournament held on Tuesday 10th March, at Callendar Park in Falkirk.

Accompanied by Miss Mitchell and supported by two sports leaders from Grangemouth High School, our runners tackled the course with determination and grit.

Every pupil worked exceptionally hard and upheld the school's high standards of sportsmanship throughout the event. We are so proud of their efforts and look forward to seeing them back in action at their next tournament next term!

FOOTBALL



On Tuesday 31st March, our school football team headed to Little Kerse to compete in the Falkirk-wide Active Schools tournament.

Coached by Mr. Blair, the team was noted for being incredibly respectful and demonstrating fantastic sportsmanship throughout every match.



It was particularly good to see several pupils pulling on the school jersey to represent us for the very first time!

We are now looking forward to a busy Term 4, which is always packed with footballing opportunities and further tournaments; please keep an eye out for more details, which will be sent to parents shortly.



WORLD BOOK DAY

Our children had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day!

They were invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book characters, and we were delighted to see such creativity, colour, and excitement across the school.

It was wonderful to share our love of reading together and celebrate the stories that inspire us.



A FOND FAREWELL!

This month, we bid a very happy retirement to Mrs Whelan, our wonderful school cook, who has hung up her apron after 26 years of incredible service at Beancross. For over a quarter of a century, Mrs Whelan has been at the heart of our school, fueling our children with thousands of breakfasts and lunches with a smile.

To mark the occasion, the children gathered for a special celebration filled with music, singing, and three very loud cheers! We were delighted to present her with a gift from the entire school community as a token of our appreciation for her kindness and hard work.



Mrs Whelan later enjoyed a well-deserved celebration with her colleagues, finally enjoying a lovely meal where someone else did the cooking! We wish her all the very best as she begins this exciting new chapter.

We know she is a huge rugby fan, so we will be sure to look out for her in the stands, on tv, cheering on Scotland!

HAPPY Retirement!



TRANSITION TO GRANGEMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

Our P7 learners recently enjoyed an exciting Science lesson at Grangemouth High School. This was part of a number of planned transition sessions for P7.

During the lesson, children tested athletes' 'urine' samples to check for the presence of steroids. They carefully analysed the results and discovered that 'Athlete C' had been taking an unusual substance to help them run faster.

During the visit, pupils also had the opportunity to see how a Bunsen burner works, learning about laboratory safety and observing how heat can be used safely in experiments. Pupils were excited to use new equipment.

The visit gave P7 learners the chance to meet some of their new teachers and experience learning in a new environment. Everyone showed, curiosity and enthusiasm throughout the session.

P7 learners are already looking forward to taking part in more exciting transition events next term as they continue to prepare for the next stage of their learning journey.



We are Grangemouth: Together, We Shape the Future

Our school is proud to be part of the Grangemouth Cluster, working alongside our neighbouring early learning classes, primary schools and Grangemouth High School to ensure every child in our town has the best possible journey through education.

To achieve this, we have launched a shared vision. This vision is built on three core pillars that guide everything we do:

Ambition Drives Us: We believe there is no limit to what our children can achieve. Whether their path leads to a trade, university, or employment, we support them to reach their full potential.

Respect Guides Us: We are committed to an inclusive environment where every voice is heard and everyone is treated with fairness and kindness.

Our Community Unites Us: We are one team connected to our town. We succeed when families, schools, and the wider Grangemouth community work together as partners in our children's learning.

By working as a cluster, we ensure a smooth and supportive transition for all our learners as they grow and progress through their school years.

Our Vision, Values and Charters were shared with parents via email.

SAFETY REMINDERS



Staff Car Park

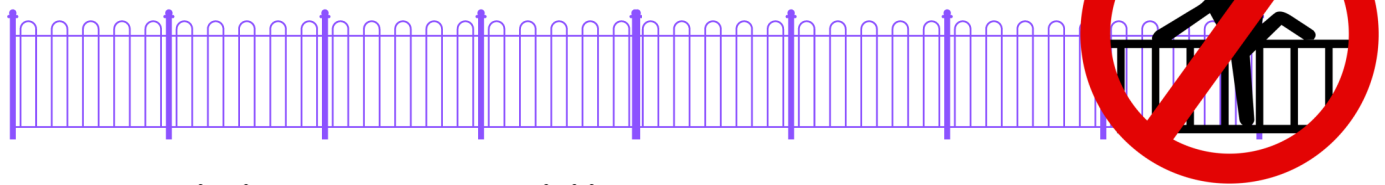
The safety of our children is our absolute priority. Following a recent review, the school car park has been highlighted as a significant safeguarding concern.

We would like to remind all families of the following rules to ensure everyone stays safe:

- **Staff and Badge Holders Only:** The car park is strictly reserved for staff and those who hold an official Beancross parking badge.
- **A Hazardous Environment:** Our car park is exceptionally busy and often occupied by large delivery trucks and vans. It is a confined space that is difficult to manoeuvre and is not a safe area for dropping off or collecting children.
- **No Pedestrian Access:** At no time should children be walking through or standing in the car park.
- **Alternative Parking:** We kindly ask that parents and carers park in Kenilworth Street and use the nursery path to reach the main reception.

We appreciate your cooperation in keeping the car park clear and, most importantly, keeping our children out of harm's way.

Thank you for your support.



Our School Security is a Shared Responsibility

Role Models

It has been noted that some parents are climbing over school fences to access the grounds / carpark and nursery. This is a significant safety and safeguarding issue. Our children look to the adults in our community as role models; when they see this behaviour, they may believe it is acceptable to copy it.

This could place children at extreme risk. If a child believes climbing fences is "okay," they may attempt to scale barriers in much more dangerous areas, such as electrical substations, railway lines, areas of water. Please be mindful of the example being set.

It is not okay to climb over our fences.

Closed Gates and Security

When our school gates are closed during school hours, adults must not enter the school grounds. Our classes regularly access the outdoor spaces for learning and play. To keep our children safe, staff must be able to confidently identify every adult.

It is very difficult for staff to distinguish between a parent and an unauthorised visitor when someone enters through a closed gate or over a fence. For this reason, access should only be made through the main entrance, via the path at Kennilworth Street, when our playground gates are closed.

We ask for your full cooperation in this matter.



Dear Parents,

As we reach the conclusion of an incredibly busy and successful February and March, we would like to take a moment to reflect on the many achievements of our children. From successfully retaining our Rights Respecting Schools Gold Accreditation to our childrens' confident recording for BBC Newsround, it has been a term filled with ambition and pride.

Our children have represented Beancross brilliantly across the community, whether performing on stage at the Glee competition, or demonstrating outstanding sportsmanship in football and cross-country. These experiences highlight the diverse talents within our school and the commitment of our staff to providing high-quality learning opportunities.

We would like to extend a big thank you to our entire staff team for their hard work and dedication this term. Whether leading specialist sessions or supporting our learners in the classroom every day, playgrounds, dining hall or at reception, the commitment of every staff member ensures our school remains a hub of excellence.

We also want to say a huge thank you to our families. Your continued partnership, support at events like our Easter Fayre, the Easter Walk, at Parents' Night, are what make our school community strong. We value the role you play in your children's learning journey.

We wish all our families a wonderful and restful Easter break. We hope you enjoy the time together, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for the final term of the session.

School Closes: Thursday 2nd April at 3:00 pm.

Holiday: Friday 3rd April – Sunday 19th April.

School Re-opens: Monday 20th April.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring Beancross remains a safe, ambitious, and respectful community for all.

Best wishes,

Headteacher

Depute Headteacher

EASTER FUN

This week, children across our school have enjoyed taking part in a range of Easter activities, including our Whole School Easter Walk, our Easter House Quiz, Primary 4's Easter Enterprise, and the Treehouse's Easter Coffee Afternoon.

A big thank-you to all staff and pupils who helped organise these fantastic events—what a great way to celebrate Easter together! Thank you to all the parents who joined our Easter Walk!

We can't wait to hold another family walk soon!

