

Bantaskin Blether

3rd February
2023



Parents Consultations

The next formal opportunity to meet with your child's teacher is scheduled to take place on the evenings of Tuesday 14th and Thursday 16th March 2023. Details for booking appointments will come out following the February break.

School lunches

All lunches now need to be ordered **a week in advance online for all children** – whether you are entitled to receive a free school meal or you pay for it! You also indicate on the system if your child is bringing a packed lunch with them. The structure will be as follows –

- All lunches will need to be ordered by midnight each Monday evening for the following week.
- If lunches are not ordered by midnight on the Monday then you will need to provide a packed lunch from home each day during the following week.

These orders now go direct to the school kitchen who need a week in advance to place orders for the food.

Ready
Kind
Safe

Parent Council – School Disco

Next Thursday (9th Feb) the Parent Council will be running the next school disco. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help support the event for the children please contact the Parent Council in advance.

P1-3 6:00 - 7:00
P4-7 7:30 - 8:45



Valentines School Disco cont...

Please remember, regarding child safety and the rules dictated by the Parent Council insurance policy, all children are required to have an adult drop them off and pick them up. The registration sheet will come out on Thursday, you bring it to the disco with you and when collecting your child you must also collect the slip at the sign in/out table.



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Care Inspection report

It is with great delight I can let you know that following inspection our ELC Report was published yesterday. Our ELC was visited on Wednesday 14th December by 2 Care Inspectors for our biennial inspection. It was a very busy day for our ELC staff along with the leadership team, sharing the fantastic practise that goes on every day in the ELC and the way in which procedures are managed. Follow this link to the full report (and scroll down to ours).
<https://www.careinspectorate.com/index.php/inspection-reports>

As part of the inspection key aspects are graded to show quality practice and areas to support ongoing improvement. Here are our fabulous grades.

How good is our care, play and learning?	4 - Good
1.1 Nurturing care and support	4 - Good
1.2 Play and learning	5 - Very Good
How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good
2.2 Children experience high quality facilities	5 - Very Good
How good is our leadership?	5 - Very Good
3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well	5 - Very Good
How good is our staff team?	5 - Very Good
4.3 Staff deployment	5 - Very Good

Some key statements from the report...

- *Children were confident and independent. They were engaged and having fun taking part in various activities both indoors and outdoors.
- *Children had access to very good quality facilities indoors and outdoors, including many opportunities to explore the local community.
- *Children's interests and learning from home were valued by the staff and were used to plan for meaningful experiences in the setting.
- *The staff team were committed to professional improved outcomes for children
- *We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children, therefore, we evaluated this key question as very good.

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We were also delighted to note that no weaknesses or any requirements for an 'Action Plan' were highlighted, with our only suggested areas to continue improving being that of focussing on supporting the children in accessing and understanding their rights. Our ELC works hard on this daily (as part of learning and the ELC ethos) and we are currently working on developing this further with a focus on recognising Children's Rights through the UNCRC and RRS Award in daily practise in the ELC and across the wider school as part of our annual 'Improvement Planning' process required by Scottish Government.



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Some silhouette artwork of 'Scottish' images and tartan patterns.



Burns' Supper

Last week Primary 7 organised and ran a fabulous Burns' Supper. The children led the event, with invited guests, sharing in Scottish fayre (haggis, IRN-BRU, shortbread and tablet – all made in school). Scots poetry and language was celebrated and recited as part of it with children from across the school who had learned various Scots Poems reciting their poems too. A great time was had by all. Well done to P7!

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Welcome to our new "Pod" where our 'Inclusion Worker' Miss Moore is based.

The
Pod



Spring Fayre

The Parent Council would like to run a Spring Fayre this May to offer more opportunities for community engagement and fun for the children, as well as supporting ongoing fundraising for school resources. This will be on the **morning of Saturday May 13th**. Anyone who would like to run a stall or an activity for people to take part in please get in touch with the Parent Council to either reserve your place or to volunteer your time.



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Council Community Engagement

Falkirk Council are inviting all residents of the authority to provide feedback during a period of consultation regarding decisions that need to be made for the council budget being set for the next financial year. Significant shortfalls in funding will occur that require cutbacks across services. Opinions of those who live and work in Falkirk are sought at this time. Links have also been sent regarding consultations around school bus transport and school swimming pools. Thank you.

Budget feedback

<https://say.falkirk.gov.uk/tcc/budget-2023-24/>

Strategic Property Review

Article -
https://www.falkirk.gov.uk/news/article.aspx?aid=7326&r=7790&fbclid=IwAR0kmNB4enRPdow0LxZ033er6Lee5YZ0XGdI9Z4ZucFf9zD-epDtgs_CYA0

Survey -

<https://say.falkirk.gov.uk/tcc/budget-2023-24/>

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Library changes

Libraries review

<https://say.falkirk.gov.uk/tcc/libraries-community-engagement-survey/>

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IPayimpact

A reminder that all families need to have access to this system – both for trips and ordering school lunches (whether you pay for it, are entitled to receive them free or are provided with free meals as part of the Governments free meals for primary pupils scheme). **Please contact the school if you require any help in accessing and working the system.** We now have almost 85% of our families accessing the system – we need everyone to be using it please.

A riddle (from P4)

What has trees but only
on paper, rivers but no
water, buildings but no
cement or bricks,
parklands but no live
grass?

The answer is "a map"

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Potential Industrial Action

Further Industrial action is planned for all Schools in Scotland on Tuesday 28th February and Wednesday 1st March. This is likely to mean that the school and nursery class will be closed to all children. Communication will come from Falkirk Council closer to the time to confirm this – if the strike action is to go ahead.

Dates for your diary!

- *Dress to Express Day Thurs 9th Feb (non-uniform / dress down day)
- *February holiday for children Friday 10th Feb – Tuesday 14th [Wednesday 15th February – school opens at 9:00]
- *Easter holidays – School closes Friday 31st March and re-opens on Monday 17th April (normal times)
- Class Assembly dates**
 - P4/5 Friday 3rd March @ 9:30
 - P6C Tuesday 14th March @ 9:30(families and friends from these classes are welcome to join us for these sharing assemblies)

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Well done to P6C who have all been awarded Level 2 Young STEM leaders for their work in aerospace science and engineering! Our innovators and leaders of the future.

YOUNG STEM
leader



Parking outside school.

Please remember that outside the school there are double yellow lines preventing parking to keep this area safe for all people accessing the school building – especially all of your children. Where possible can we encourage everyone to use different 'Active Travel' methods to come to school that don't involve vehicles or if a vehicle is needed then park in the carpark or a bit further away from the school campus and walk that little bit extra. This is about the safety of your children and ensuring that crossing the road around the school is visible and safe to do so!



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GLEE Choir

Our School Glee choir are busy rehearsing over the next few weeks for a competition that will take place in the Albert Hall in Stirling in the middle of March. We wish them all the best as they prepare and have fun singing together as a choir. A special thank you to Mrs Mitchell for leading and organising this (and Miss Clayton and Mrs McArthur for supporting it).

[If anyone has any old 'Bantaskin Beats' t-shirts around that you would like to donate back to the school before we purchase more then please hand them in to the office.]



Children's Mental Health Week

Next week is national Children's Mental Health Week. In school we will spend some time thinking about different ways to support our own mental health, strategies to help when we feel low and making meaningful connections. On Thursday it is "Dress to Express Yourself" day so the children are invited to come to school as a dress down / non-uniform day as part of it.



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Sorry for such a long 'snapshot' this week – lots to share. We hope you all have a restful, fun and relaxing weekend.



VALENTINE'S DISCO

THUR 9TH FEBRUARY
P1-3 6PM TILL 7PM
P4-7 7:30PM TILL 8:45PM

£2 ENTRY
INCL SNACK

FACE PAINTING
VALENTINE TATTOOS
TUCK SHOP
HOT DOGS
VEGAN DOGS
GUESS THE SWEETS 50P A SHOT

