

Be the Best You Can Be!

RESPECT for yourself, others and the environment

RESPONSIBILITY for all of your actions

KINDNESS always

Williamston Primary School Update

November / December 2023

Staffing Update

We welcome two new support staff to our team, Estelle Greenhorn and Valerie Marshall. Both ladies will be supporting across a range of classes as well as in the playground.

School Improvement Update – Education Scotland and Care Inspectorate joint inspection

We would like to thank all the parents and carers who supported our recent inspection either through completing questionnaires, or offering their time to meet with the visitors. This is always a valuable experience to validate the self-evaluation work of any school, whilst identifying any specific areas of strength and next steps. After the visit, the team gather their findings in a report that is then moderated at Education Scotland level before being published. A letter to all families is sent to the school for us to share with you all. This will be sent to you all as soon as we can. As a staff team, we will then spend time exploring the summary of findings to inform our action planning for continuous improvement.

At our most recent in-service day after the October break, staff attended training with West Lothian College on outdoor learning, including the use of our new fire pit area that has been installed in the grounds. This will be a shared area for both school and nursery children to enhance our outdoor learning. We also spent time looking at national changes in the curriculum as well as staff health and wellbeing. Recent collegiate time on Friday afternoons has been spent working with our cluster colleagues on moderation of numeracy, which will continue later in November.

Wider Achievements

We have a new tracking system for wider achievements to reflect both home and school interests. Please do encourage your child to share any achievements out with school – we do love to hear all about the wonderful things our children do beyond school!

Williamston Primary School has recently been awarded the Success Looks Different Award for our work supporting neurodiversity. This is a national award and we have won the primary category. We are very proud of our achievement! Look out for more information on Twitter/X and an article in the Times Educational Supplement!

I recently travelled to Germany to take part in an International Acro Gymnastics competition. I won the silver medal in the Grade 4 category. I had to do my floor routine. I had been practising for a long time, about a year. At first I was nervous but as soon as I hit the floor all my nerves went away and it was just fun!

Sydney (P4)

Well done Sydney! Your Williamston family is very proud of you!

Parent Body News

Our next Parent Council and PTA meeting will be 13th November. All welcome.

Christmas events

Christmas lunch day will be the 6th December. Children are welcome to wear Christmas jumpers should they wish. We will be doing a Christmas jumper swap, much like the Halloween costume and school uniform ones we do, so if you have any jumpers that are outgrown please do hand them in and we can facilitate a reduce, reuse, recycle.

The nativity dates are in the calendar below. This will be a ticketed event with an allocated number per family in the first instance due to numbers. Details to follow. We do appreciate all your help at home with helping your child with any words, songs or practice! There will be tea and coffee available for a small donation should you wish. Please bring a mug if you can as we do try to be eco-friendly as much as we can.

Parties are in the last week of term. AM parties are 9.30-11 and PM parties are 1.30-3pm. Please send your child dressed for the day. There may even be a special visitor for our younger classes!

We have booked the panto again this year. There will be 2 showings in the large hall to accommodate all classes. This was very successful last year and lots of fun!

Please see a list of dates for the coming month and December below.

Diary Dates

Monday 6 November	P3 assembly – parents welcome
Tuesday 7 November	P1G parent evening (first of 3)
Wednesday 8 November	P7 drumming P1G parent evening (second of 3)
Thursday 9 November	P5H college visit P4 handball P1G parent evening (third of 3)
Friday 10 November	Vertical learning groups start (VLG)
Wednesday 15 November	P7 drumming
Monday 20 November	P5 assembly – parents welcome
Tuesday 22 November	Health and Wellbeing event in the large hall 6-7pm for parents/carers of P5-7
Wednesday 23 November	P7 drumming
Thursday 24 November	P4 handball
Friday 24 November	P7 transition event Meeting learning needs information event for parents and carers 11am – information to follow
Thursday 30 November	Rag bag day
Friday 1 December	P7 transition event VLG
Monday 4 December	Assembly with chaplain visit
Wednesday 6 December	Christmas lunch day – all pupils welcome to wear a Christmas jumper should they wish
Friday 8 December	P7 transition event
Monday 11 December	Nativity dress rehearsal
Tuesday 12 December	Nativity for families – pm Christmas music event 4-5pm in the large hall
Wednesday 13 December	Nativity for families am
Friday 15 December	P7 transition event
Monday 18 December	P7 party 1.30pm
Tuesday 19 December	P6 party am P5 party pm
Wednesday 20 December	Panto in school am P4 party pm
Thursday 21 December	P3 party am P2 party pm
Friday 22 December	P1 party am End of term
Monday 8 January	All return to school

Thank you for your continued support.



Jane Livingston and Williamston Staff Team

