



Forth Primary School and ELC

January 2025 Newsletter



'Our vision at Forth Primary School and Nursery is that every member of our Forth Family contributes towards a safe and nurturing learning environment in which everyone is encouraged to be the best version of themselves.'

HONESTY AMBITION RESILIENCE KINDNESS

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! On behalf of everyone at Forth Primary and Nursery we hope 2025 is a happy and healthy year for you and your families. I am delighted to return to work after a period of absence last term. I wish to extend my thanks to Mrs Griffiths for taking on the role of Acting Head Teacher ensuring continuity of care and leadership and to all staff for their support and hard work.

Term 3 is always a busy one as we work towards Spring Break. Please take a moment to read what will be happening in the weeks ahead. We have an open-door policy at Forth Primary and Nursery and we welcome any feedback or questions you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact the school in this case.

Best wishes,
Elizabeth Steele
Head Teacher

Staffing Update

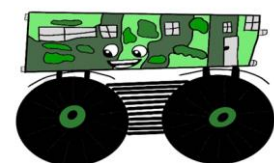
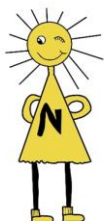
We are delighted to welcome Mrs Vicky Whyte back to Forth Primary after the February break. Mrs Whyte will, as previously intimated, resume responsibility for Primary 2 for the remainder of this session. Special thanks to Miss Small and Mrs Bell who have been working with Primary 2 this session and will continue to do so until Mrs Whyte returns.



Primary 1 Enrolment



From Monday 6th January online registration will be open for children due to start Primary 1 in August 2025. To complete the registration, you will require a full birth certificate, the abbreviated certificate will not be accepted, as well as two proofs of address, utility bills, tenancy agreements etc dated within the last 3 months. Should you need any help with this please do not hesitate to contact Debbie in the school office.





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Young Leaders of Learning

Mrs Griffiths attended Law Primary before the holidays with 4 of our pupils from the School Improvement Team to participate in Pupil Training developed by Education Scotland. Katie, Lucy, Emma and Isla will now work with pupils from Carluke Primary, our partner school to improve and learn from one another. We look forward to sharing more about this exciting opportunity when the theme for exploration has been agreed between both schools.



Forth Primary and Nursery Gala Committee



Our next Parent Council Meeting will take place on Tuesday 28th January at 7pm in the school - all welcome to attend. We are in desperate need of some volunteers willing to spend a few hours in the lead up to the gala day to help with painting, costumes etc. All help will be gratefully received! We will reveal our theme for 2025 after the meeting....exciting times!

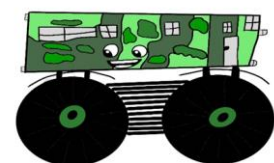
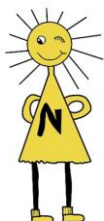
Ford Castle Parent/Carer Information Evening

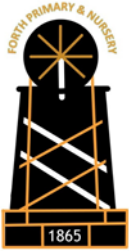
Our Primary 7 are heading to Ford Castle on March 17 for 4 nights for their residential experience. There will be an information evening held on Tuesday 28 January at 6pm in the school for parents and carers of Primary 7 pupils. This meeting will help answer any questions about what to expect from the experience, the kit to pack and the dos and don'ts! The meeting will last no longer than 1 hour – please come along if you can.



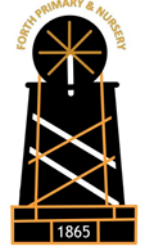
Scottish Celebration Assembly

We will be hosting a Scottish Celebration on Friday 31 January at 1:30pm in the school hall. We look forward to sharing our songs, poems and artwork with you on this day. This is our dress down day so children should, if possible, wear something blue/white or Scottish! Parents and carers are welcome to attend.





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P7-S1 Transition Coffee Afternoon

On Thursday 13 February at 2pm there will be a Coffee Afternoon for parents and carers of Primary 7 pupils. This will be attended by staff from Carluke High School who will introduce themselves, talk a little about their roles and the transition from Primary to Secondary for our P7 pupils. This is an informal event where parents are encouraged to ask questions and iron out any queries they may have. This is usually well attended and well received.



Primary 5 Assembly – Change of Date



Due to unforeseen circumstances, there is a change of date for Primary 5 Assembly. This will now take place on Friday 2nd May at 9:30am in the school hall. All parents welcome.

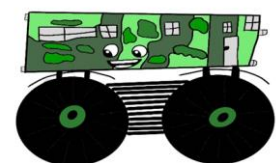
Dress Down Days

We will continue to host a dress down day, normally the last Friday of the month. Friday 31st January will be the first dress down day of the year – if you are able we gratefully accept donations of up to £1 to support our Gala Entry and Parent Council School Funds.



Mobile Phone Policy

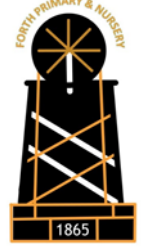
Christmas has brought the arrival of new mobile technology devices. Please find attached a reminder of our policy on Mobile Phones and Mobile Technology. Thank you for your support with this matter.





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Mobile Phone and Mobile Technology Policy



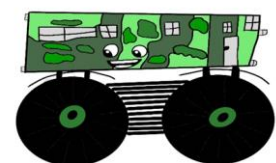
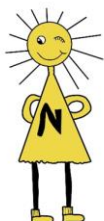
At Forth Primary School we believe that the development of mobile technologies and ICT has great benefits to pupil learning. We widely encourage and promote the use of desktop computers, chrome books and iPads across all stages in the school to support pupil learning.

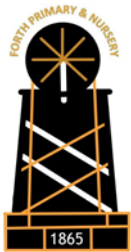
However, there are implications when pupils bring their own devices to school; from protecting expensive devices and equipment from loss or damage to them being used within the school day.

This policy has been devised to safeguard the privacy and security of all staff and pupils in Forth Primary School regarding the use of mobile phones* in school grounds.

- **Where at all possible no mobile phones* should be brought into school. That way there is no risk of loss or damage to personal equipment.**
- If a pupil must bring in a mobile phone* for use before or after school, the device must be placed in the school bag, before entering the school grounds and remain there, switched off until they are out of school grounds at the end of the school day. This will remain the case during after school clubs, school outings and residential visits.
- Phones* should not be used for any reason on school grounds. Should contact between home and school need to be made this should be done through the school office.
- If a pupil is found to be in possession of a mobile phone* during the school day it will be removed and taken to the school office where it will remain until a parent/carer can collect it.
- The school cannot accept any responsibility to any damage or loss to a mobile phone*. These are brought into the school building at the owners' risk.

*this includes but is not limited to smart watches, iPod and iPad devices.





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Correspondence

Finally, should you have any concerns or need to contact the school out with school hours please use the office email address to communicate rather than contacting individual teaching staff. Any information received by the school office will be shared with the necessary staff and dealt with as appropriate. The office email address is office@forth-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk – many thanks for your cooperation.

Dates for your Diary

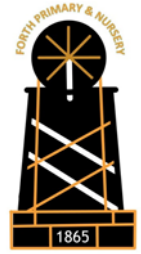
Date	Event
31.1.25	Scottish Celebration – 1:30pm – Parents welcome
31.1.25	Dress Down Day – something blue/white or Scottish
13.2.25	Parent Council Valentine Disco – Details TBC
17.2.25	HOLIDAY
18.2.25	HOLIDAY
19.2.25	Inservice Day 4 – School Closed for Pupils
28.2.25	Primary 6 Assembly 9.30am
28.2.25	Dress Down Day
6.3.25	Parents’ Evening Details TBC
17.3.25	Primary 7 Pupils to Forth Castle Residential
28.3.25	Primary 1 Assembly
28.3.25	Dress Down Day
4.4.25	School Closes 2.30pm
22.4.25	School Reopens
25.4.25	Dress Down Day
1.5.25	Inservice Day 5 – School Closed for Pupils
2.5.25	Primary 5 Assembly 9:30am
5.5.25	HOLIDAY
9.5.25	Primary 2 Assembly
23.5.25	HOLIDAY
26.5.25	HOLIDAY
28.5.25	Sports Day – Details TBC
30.5.25	Dress Down Day
20.6.25	P7 Leavers’ Assembly
23.6.25	P7 Leavers’ Disco
25.6.25	School Closes 1pm Dress Down Day





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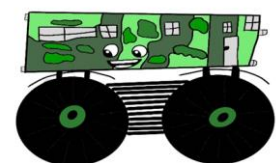
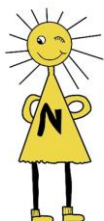
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Nursery News

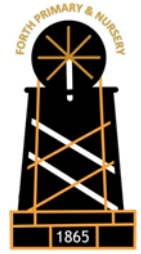
Bank Hall

The red, blue, pink, orange and yellow group attended the Bank Hall to sing a selection of festive songs for the residents. The children demonstrated their magnificent singing and Makaton skills they have been learning. Afterwards the children got to enjoy a snack and have a talk with some of the residents. Thank you for having us.





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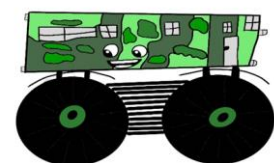
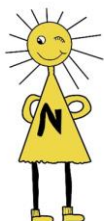
Church

The gold, silver, green and purple group attended the church and took part in Christmas stories and songs. The children thoroughly liked the story of the donkey and were keen to dance and sing. Afterwards the children got to enjoy a hot drink. Thank you for having us.



Party

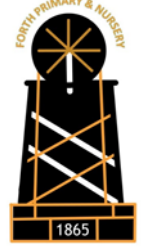
The children had lots of festive fun at our Nursery Christmas Party. Everyone took part in dancing, dancing games, fun festival funfair games of dress the snowman, present throwing, Christmas tree hoops, reindeers hoops, pin the nose on Rudolph, snowball cups, and feed the snowman. There was also an Elfie selfie station were all the children were able to have fun festive photos. All the children had lots of fun and were excited to see Santa and receive a lovely gift.





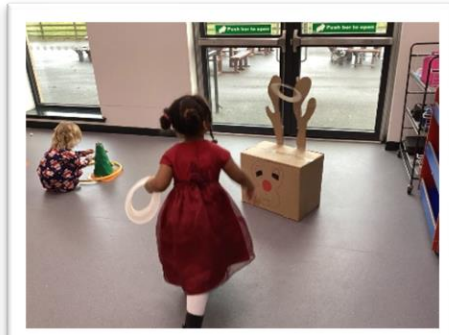
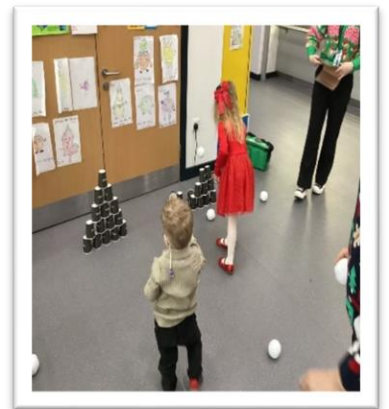
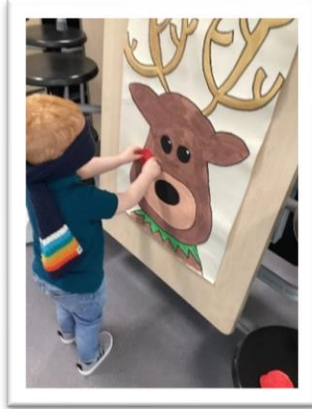
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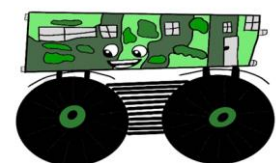
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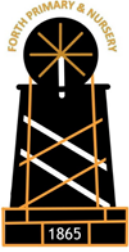
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Shows

Well done to all the children for participating in our nursery sing along. The children worked so hard to learn all the songs and Makaton to share with you. The children were all confident individuals performing so well for all our families. We hope you all enjoyed our shows!





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School Enrolment

Reminder that school enrolment is now open and live. There is a link shared on the children's learning journals to access the application process. If you have any issue do not hesitate to call and speak to Sharon.

New Term Groups

As we move into our new term, we will continue to run our 'across the curriculum' learning groups and these will be shared with you when it is your child's turn. There will be opportunities to take part in Forest School (Pre-school children), Attachment, doing a range of activities such as yoga, baking, meditation. Book Bug where families will be invited along to join in. Numeracy fun using a range of numeracy resources and games. Peeps sessions will begin again, and a letter will be issued to invite you along to the sessions you have expressed an interest in. Finally, peddlers where the children will be looking at bike skills on our balance bikes. A busy term indeed!

Parent Council

Thank you to the Parent Council for providing our yummy mince pies and shortbread for our families and chocolate lollies for our children.

Child Smile

Child smile will be attending nursery on the 23.01.25 to apply varnish to the children's teeth please can all letters be returned for your child to receive this thank you.

Staffing Update

Unfortunately, we have had to say goodbye to Skye. Skye finished on the 20th December. Skye joined us as maternity cover and has secured a permanent job within another nursery, we wish Skye the best of luck in her new role. As of the 6th of January Lianne, who normally works a Monday and Tuesday, for now has taken on a full-time position and will oversee the pink group. Lianne will be introducing herself to all the pink groups family. Any concerns please speak to Lianne or Sharon.

Lynsey has also joined us as a support worker just before Christmas and will be support within the playroom. Sharon Harkin continues to support as Acting Team Leader at present.

