

Mar/Apr 2026

Interim Headteacher: Mrs. J McLaughlin



Welcome to the Mar/Apr Newsletter.

Spring is in the air – the sun has been out, and the jackets have been off! Please can we ask that all children's jackets and coats are labelled to help us get them back to their owner?

Term 3 is a longer term in the school year, but it has been so busy, full of different activities and focus weeks in school that it feels to have passed quickly. We are moving to Term 4 soon and we have confirmed the dates at the end of the newsletter until the end of May. We are hoping to have our June dates finalized prior to the Easter holidays.

Find us at:

<https://www.ladeside.falkirk.sch.uk>

Mrs. J McLaughlin

Email us:

ladesideprimaryschool@
education.falkirk.sch.uk

Phone us:

01234 500 100

School playing field

The field is significantly drier than it has been in previous weeks. We have asked that children bring a change of shoes to enjoy playing on the grass and we will use this area as much as we possibly can. It's still a little muddy but it's great to be back on that space. Following the Easter holidays, we will go back to all children playing on the field regardless of footwear.

Celebrating Scotland

Children learned Scots poetry in January, we celebrated all things Scottish, enjoying singing, dancing and congratulated this year's poetry winners. The range of poetry was impressive, and we listened to some very talented Ladeside speakers.

DYW

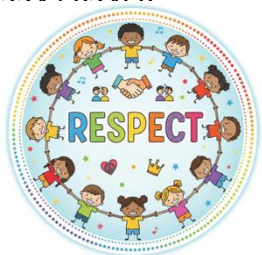
In January 2026 the school focused on careers and pathways into the world of work. All classes benefitted from hearing about various jobs and roles. We were encouraged by the children's enthusiasm and the many conversations about the children's emerging skills and talents and where their interests lie. Thank you to all adults who came to support and to our community partnerships who enhanced the learning.

Health Fortnight

A very successful Health focus was part of our February learning. Taster sessions from a wide range of partners encouraged all children to try something new. A focus on mental, physical and emotional health allowed children to explore healthy activities and choices more deeply. The open afternoon was very well attended and allowed visitors to see some of the new learning we have been doing but also supported you to work as a family to support your children. It was rewarding to see so many ASC children enjoying the various activities too.

World Book Day

The children enjoyed a variety of reading activities over the week last week but the highlight was World Book Day. All these lovely activities support our learners to practice their reading skills and get excited about reading activities. We had a brilliant reading focus assembly where we linked in with authors from across the UK. The Book Fair was a big success, many children enjoyed the treat of a new book. We have sent any additional orders away and as soon as they come into school we will give them to the children waiting. We will let you know in the next newsletter the total amount of money given to the school and what we will be spending it on.



Parent/Carer Consultations

Thank you again for the high turnout of families who have come along to meet with teaching staff and hear about the progress your child is making this year. The next parent reporting activity will be the end of year school report which will be due out to all families on Friday 5th June. We have worked as a staff to update the pupil report format and have added further information on the progress and level your child is working at.



Trip to Blair Drummond Safari Park – save the date

P1 to P6 children will be going to Blair Drummond Safari park for the school trip this year and we plan to go on Wednesday 13th May. Letters will be out following the Easter holidays. The rules have changed for parent helpers, we now can only take adults who hold a PVG. If you have a PVG and are keen to go on the trip then please contact us. We can update your PVG for school easily. If you do not have a PVG but would like to support us on the trip then please contact the school office prior to the Easter holidays. You will need to complete an application and provide paperwork and ID. The school will pay for the cost of this. We have a high number of adults who work in school on a Wednesday so we only need a small number of additional adults to support. Further information on cost and payment will be out soon, the Safari Park does not open for bookings until next week. PALS have donated £3 per child to lower the cost of the trip.

P7 Residential – Dalguise Trip 2026

P7 are gearing up for their most anticipated event. Dalguise awaits for a few nights, pupils will be challenging themselves with a variety of outdoor adventures, problem solving, teamwork and life skills. Making the beds might be the most challenging activity yet!

Current P6 pupils and families – an information session for your residential trip in 2027 will be planned for Term 4. Watch out for that date, you will be able to come into school and hear a presentation all about residential trips. A payment plan will be launched prior to the summer holidays.



Community Litter Pick

A community litter pick has been organized for P5 pupils alongside local councilor Jack Redmond. This will take place on Thursday 2nd April in the afternoon. All equipment needed for the event will be provided by Falkirk Council. If you are keen to support, please let the P5 teachers know. We will be focusing on the street outside the school and the side entrance.

Easter Service

The Easter service will be hosted at Larbert Cross on Thursday 26th March at 1.45pm with Rev Andrew Moore. All are welcome to come along and join with us as we celebrate Easter. If you would like to walk with us, please let your child's teacher know, you are very welcome to come with us.



MUGA (Multi Use Games Area)

Next week is the week we have all been waiting for.

Monday 16th March is the date for the final part of the new school MUGA to be installed. The exterior frame is being fitted. The tarmac section alone has been very exciting. We can't wait to see the finished product.

P1/2 Playground Renovations



PALS

The next PALS meeting is on Tuesday 28th April at 7.00pm and this meeting will be in school. The volunteers who support PALS and the school are vital in supporting the experiences and resources the children benefit from. Without PALS and volunteers it would be impossible to do the next exciting project.

A vital boost of cash will inject life into the P1/2 playground. Thanks to the £5000 grant from Todhill wind farm, money from PALS fundraising and also money from school fundraising, we are about to begin to install new play equipment and revamp the whole play space. This space can be used by any class during the school day but at playtimes and lunchtimes it is accessed by P1/2 children as well as a large number of the ASC children. High quality play is important for our children's enjoyment at school.

There are plans for interactive games and activity boards around the edge, additional benches for seating around a new artificial grass area, wall images and chalk boards as well as a mini trim trail in the playground space. The planning has been completed and the order is in, we hope this will be installed around May 2026. Below are some examples of what will be installed.



At the next PALS meeting we will be discussing the next goal for fundraising. It has been agreed a continued focus on the outside play areas is one that will benefit the children greatly.

Have your say – we'll see you at the meeting.



Communication

Our main means of communication is the newsletter emailed and messages on SeeSaw – please check over carefully to ensure you are fully informed of news from school.

You can phone or email at any time. If nobody answers the phone, please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

events out with our control. We will highlight any changes through email, this newsletter and SeeSaw.



March 2026

Tues 3 rd	Parent/Carer Consultations in school – 4.30-7.00pm
Wed 4 th	ASC Family coffee morning – info to follow Larbert Cluster Schools Choir Concert – Larbert Tryst 7.00pm
Thurs 5 th	World Book Day P4 Outdoor Learning session
Tues 10 th	Cross Country Team to Callendar House Race AM
Wed 11 th	Parent/Carer Consultations in school - 3.30-6.00pm
Thurs 12 th	P4 Outdoor Learning session P7s to Hopetoun House Trip Assembly – Religious Observance – Celebrations of Eid
Tues 17 th	P7 Falkirk Herald Photo – no hoodies please
Thurs 19 th	P3 Outdoor Learning session
Fri 20 th	Red Nose Day – Crazy Hair Day
Sun 22 nd to Wed 25 th	P7 Residential to Dalguise Outdoor Centre
Thurs 26 th	Tempest – Individual and Sibling Photos in school - AM P3 Outdoor Learning session End of Term service – Easter – Larbert Cross 1.45pm
Mon 30 th	P6 team entering the Euro Quiz

April 2026

Wed 1 st	P7 Tuck Shop
Thurs 2 nd	P3 Outdoor Learning session P5 Community Litter Pick along the Lade 1.15pm
Fri 3 rd to Fri 17 th	Holidays – School and ELC closed (gentle reminder – school and elc are closed Friday 3 rd April)
Mon 20th to Thurs 30th	ECO/Learning for Sustainability focus – Climate Heroes
Mon 20 th	P7B Outdoor Learning session
Thurs 23 rd	Earth Day – Climate Heroes assembly P7M Outdoor Learning session

Mon 27 th	P7B Outdoor Learning session
Tues 28 th	National Superhero Day PALS Meeting – 7.00pm in school
Thurs 30 th	P7M Outdoor Learning session



May 2026

Fri 1 st	In-Service Day – School and ELC closed to pupils
Mon 4 th	Holiday – School and ELC closed
Thurs 7 th	Election Day – Ladeside unaffected P6/5 Outdoor Learning session
Mon 11 th	P6 Outdoor Learning session
Tues 12 th	P7s To Larbert HS – Transition Day Pupil Council Meeting
Wed 13 th	P7s to Larbert HS – Transition Day P1-P6 Trip to Blair Drummond Safari Park all day ELC Fun day in ELC and school
Thurs 14 th	P6/5 Outdoor Learning session Assembly – Religious Observance - Buddhism
Fri 15 th	P1-P3 Disco – Shorts and Shades 5.45-6.45pm P4-P6 Disco – Shorts and Shades 7.00-8.30pm
Mon 18 th	P6 Outdoor Learning session
Tues 19 th	ELC open evening at Kinnaird Waters for all new ELC families starting next year (August 2026 and beyond)
Thurs 28 th	P1 & 3/2 Outdoor Learning session
Fri 29 th	P7 Leavers event in school - evening