

# Hunter Primary Newsletter – November 2024



**School Motto: *Together we are the Heart of Hunter***

Welcome to our November Newsletter. We hope everyone enjoyed their half term break in October. With the clocks changed, we are now well and truly in the darker mornings and evenings. A reminder that children should come to school with suitable footwear and a jacket. Our playground can be a bit of a wind trap, although it has still been relatively mild lately.

November is always one of those months that is particularly busy for us. Preparations for Christmas commence, and lots of engaging learning activities continue across all classes and the school community.

A big highlight in October was 'Beat the Street' – as I have communicated previously, to finish in 5<sup>th</sup> place has been an outstanding achievement for a school our size. Well done to everyone who took part, and once again I would like to thank enormously our parents/carers/extended family members for their support in helping with this.

With December around the corner, our October highlights included:

- Taekwon-do taster sessions for all classes – building community partnerships.
- Hunter Primary raising awareness for dyslexia awareness and challenge poverty week
- Our school community raising £372.70 in support of 'Wear it Pink' day for Breast Cancer.
- Selected P5-7 athletes taking part in their first Sportshall Athletics competition of the session.
- Selected P7 pupils taking part in their first Netball festival.
- Welcome to Miss McIntyre, Student teacher who will work with Primary 5, Room 7.
- Successful Primary 1 parent/carer curricular workshops which were led by our highly experienced and qualified Primary 1 staff.

Have a super November everyone!

**Mr. Gary Campbell**  
Head Teacher

## Our School Vision:

Here at Hunter Primary School we aim to be  
**Happy, Understanding,**  
**Nurturing, Truthful,**  
**Equal and Respectful.**



**Please follow us  
on Twitter:**

**@HunterPrimary**



If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school or by emailing one of the addresses below:

[office@hunter-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:office@hunter-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk)

[headteacher@hunter-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@hunter-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk)

[gw07baddeleyeileen@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw07baddeleyeileen@glow.sch.uk)

[gw11mclaughlinashley@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw11mclaughlinashley@glow.sch.uk)



Office email

Mr. Campbell's email

Mrs. Baddeley's email

Mrs. McLaughlin's email



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### P.E. Kit – reminder

We are noticing a growing number of children coming to school without their P.E. kit, resulting in them being unable to take part in P.E. P.E. is a compulsory subject in all Scottish schools, and children receive 2 hours quality P.E. per week. A reminder that children should come to school with a suitable P.E. kit. This may include:

- Shorts/leggings
- T-shirt (school polo top/change of t-shirt for senior pupils)
- Training shoes (can be pupil indoor shoes)

As a means of reminder, P.E. days for all classes fall on:

**Primary 1, Room 1:** Tuesday and Thursday

**Primary 1/2, Room 2:** Wednesday and Thursday

**Primary 2, Room 3:** Tuesday and Thursday

**Primary 3, Room 4:** Monday and Friday

**Primary 4/5, Room 6:** Monday and Wednesday

**Primary 5, Room 7:** Monday and Friday

**Primary 6, Room 8:** Tuesday and Thursday

**Primary 7, Room 9:** Monday and Wednesday

## PE KIT



Additionally, children are not permitted to take part in P.E. wearing jewellery – specifically earrings. If earrings can be removed before school on P.E. days, or if you supply your child with micropore tape, this will enable them to take part in their P.E. lesson. Thank you for your continued support.

### Parent Council Christmas Fayre

Our Parent Council Christmas Fayre will take place in the school on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November (10.00 am – 12.30 pm)**. As always, this is one of the highlights of the Parent Council calendar and is always a huge success!

In order to be able to run a successful event such as this, a lot of organisation and preparation is required. Our Parent Council are now looking for helpers/volunteers for the event. There is no expectation to stay for the full time, but if you were able to help for an hour or so, then please reach out to them by email, [hunterprimaryparents@gmail.com](mailto:hunterprimaryparents@gmail.com) or reply to the Parent Council Facebook page post that was posted most recently. Without your support, this event will not be able to go ahead.



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## Santa Dash ~ Whole School Fundraiser



Our whole school **Santa Dash** fundraiser will take place again this year on the back of the massive success of our first one last November which raised over £2000. This will once again take place at the **John Wrights Sport Centre** track on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November** in the afternoon (weather permitting).

Our Santa Dash fundraiser is in aid of topping up our school fund which is a pot of money that supports many items/events across the year. Examples of items it pays towards include: -

*~ food for Nurture intervention*

*~ school TV licence*

*~ essential resources for class activities*

*~ costs to reduce transport costs for sport festivals*

*~ Christmas party prizes (including P.1 gift)*

*~ P.7 leavers' celebration activities, including yearbook*

*~ gardening materials*

*~ purchase of foods for food tasting/making lessons and much more...*

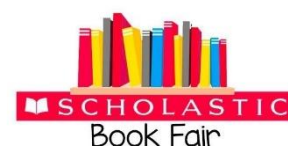
The children will be issued with a sponsor form week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> November with the challenge of how many laps they think they can complete on the 400m track, in approximately 45 minutes.

We had an amazing turn out of parents/carers/family members last year along with a real sense of school community and we are actively encouraging you to get involved again.

## Scholastic Book Fair – update

Our Primary 7 pupils are delighted to announce that as a result of the generous purchases at the Scholastic Book fair in October, the school has raised a commission total of **£521.07**. This is an outstanding amount that will go straight back into purchasing Literacy whole class readers for our stages and classes.

On behalf of Primary 7, thank you!



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## Attachment-informed practice at Hunter

Attachment and trauma have increasingly become a focus for education with the links between developmental trauma and attachment becoming widely known and understood. This has resulted in schools recognising how traumatic experiences can impact on a child's life and look towards alleviating the impact of trauma on learning.

One of the first steps in creating a trauma sensitive environment is becoming 'attachment-informed'. This means having a better understanding of how trauma can influence the way children relate to other people. Attachment theory describes how our earliest relationships, typically with our parents or caregivers, can shape the way we interact with others in later life. If a child experiences difficulties in these early relationships, they may struggle to build healthy connections later in life.

As a result, children who have faced challenges with attachment early in life may display distressed behaviour at school. A key aspect of attachment-informed, trauma sensitive practice is understanding that such behaviours are often rooted in adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and cannot be resolved by disciplinary measures. What these children truly need are nurturing relationships that foster trust, support emotional growth and encourage healing.

Research on resilience—the ability to adapt and thrive in difficult situations—highlights the importance of feeling connected to others, providing a 'safe base' from which children can explore and learn. In many cases, having just one significant relationship where a child feels valued and cared for can make a remarkable difference in their life outcomes.

To support this approach, South Lanarkshire Council have provided a framework that includes key elements of an Attachment-Informed, Trauma Sensitive approach across their 6 Attachment Strategy Pledges. These are:

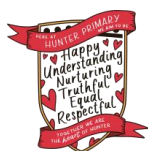
- See the whole person
- Hear their voice
- Recognise behaviour as communication
- Respond with compassion
- Act to make a difference
- Believe in change



As a school we have already achieved the first pledge 'Act to make a difference' and are working towards our second pledge 'Hear their voice'.

We are lucky to have a spare classroom again this year that has been transformed into a 'nurture' room. Small groups of children will work with Mrs McLaughlin in a variety of nurturing interventions that support our attachment informed practice.

What is nurture? The dictionary definition is 'to care for and protect someone or something while they grow and develop'.



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The six principles of Nurture are:

- Children's learning is understood developmentally.
- The classroom offers a safe base.
- The importance of nurture for the development of wellbeing.
- Language is a vital means of communication.
- All behaviour is communication.
- The importance of transitions in children's lives.



These six principles are the building blocks of Nurture and something we are embedding across our school not just within a dedicated nurture space. All staff (Teaching, Support and Facilities) receive training and guidance around the Nurture principles and SLCs Attachment Strategy. The aim of this is to support our pupils so they can reach their full potential and raise attainment in our school. This all helps us in our goal of becoming an attachment informed, trauma sensitive establishment.

If you have any concerns about your child and feel they may be a candidate for Nurture, please do not hesitate to get in touch. It should be noted that attending nurture is not something that every child will receive. There is specific paperwork that must be completed in order for a child to attend dedicated Nurture sessions. Sometimes the most beneficial route is to put support measures in place within the classroom.



### Celebrating Success and Achievement

Our **October** 'Heart of Hunter' award winners were presented with their certificate in October – all for demonstrating the Hunter values, congratulations!

Primary 1, Room 1	-	<b>Ayla C</b>
Primary 1/2, Room 2	-	<b>Shahzar K</b>
Primary 2, Room 3	-	<b>Leo McG</b>
Primary 3, Room 4	-	<b>Penny McC</b>
Primary 4/5, Room 6	-	<b>Sophie McC</b>
Primary 5, Room 7	-	<b>Alexander R</b>
Primary 6, Room 8	-	<b>Ace C</b>
Primary 7, Room 9	-	<b>Calvin C</b>
Health and Wellbeing, Miss Mooney	-	<b>Scarlett S</b>



Congratulations also to our children who were recognised for their **Road Safety calendar** competition entry, and our own **Primary 7 Scholastic Book Fair** competition.



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## Spotlight on Learning

**Room 1 – Sandwich making**



**Room 2 – Sandwich making**



**Room 3 – Sandwich making**



**Room 4 – Skeleton and Bones**



**Room 6 - 3D House models**



**Room 7 – Joint learning with Room 1**



**Room 8 – Reading music and performing**



**Room 9 – Bonfire Art and Literacy**



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## Diary Dates – November 2024

Remember to keep an eye on the 'Dates' section of the school app as this can change weekly.

<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November</b>	-	6.30 pm – Parent Council Meeting
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November</b>	-	Bonfire themed lunch menu P5-7 Basketball club begins
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November</b>	-	P6 Swimming (final session) 6.30 pm – P7 Open Evening @ Calderglen HS
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November</b>	-	<b>IN-SERVICE DAY – School closed to pupils</b>
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November</b>	-	Anti-Bullying week
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November</b>	-	Netball Festival 2 with selected P7 pupils
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November</b>	-	'Hunter Huddle' – Whole school pupil voice
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November</b>	-	Book Week Scotland/Road Safety week
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November</b>	-	Room 1 and 2 parent/carers Bookbug session from 2.20 pm
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b>	-	Room 3 and 4 parent/carers Bookbug session from 2.20 pm Boys and Girls Football festival 3 for selected P5-7 pupils
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November</b>	-	PM – Whole school Santa Dash (fundraiser) @ John Wrights Sports Centre
<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November</b>	-	10.00 am – 12.30 pm – Parent Council Christmas Fayre



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