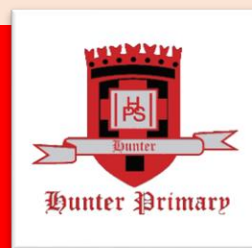


Hunter Primary Newsletter – Term 1 2026-27



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

Welcome to our first newsletter of the new school session! We design these termly updates to keep you informed about key communication across the year. Additionally, look out for our 'Week Ahead' updates on Sunday evenings (or right after a holiday) for a more detailed look at what is happening at Hunter week-to-week.

It was lovely to see such a big turnout at our 'Meet the Teacher' event on Monday 31st August. We hope you enjoyed coming into the school, familiarising yourself with your child's class and teacher. Our first formal Parents' evening will be held in October.

Our Primary 1 children have settled into school routines extremely quickly! They are a super positive bunch of youngsters, and we are looking forward to working with you and supporting their learning journey throughout their time in Hunter.

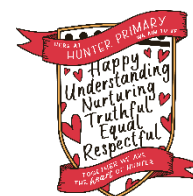
Please keep an eye on our School Calendar for key school dates on both ParentsPortal and the school website. A full overview of diary dates will be with you shortly.

Here's to a positively successful 2026-27 school session!

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
Facebook Groups:

**Hunter Primary
School, East Kilbride**



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

headteacher@hunter-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

gw11mclaughlinashley@glow.sch.uk

Office email

Mr. Campbell's email

Mrs. McLaughlin's email



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Staffing and classes update

We are delighted to welcome everyone back for the new term, along with several updates to our Teaching and Support staff this August.

- **Mrs. McLean** has returned from her maternity leave! She has moved upstairs from Primary 1 and is excited to be teaching Primary 4 in Room 4 this session.
- **Mr. Lindsay** has also returned to our team. He will be with us on a semi-permanent basis every Thursday and Friday, while spending Monday through Wednesday on an Area Cover basis in Primary 6/7, Room 8.
- **Mrs. Rasul** will be continuing her maternity leave for the first term of this session, after which she will be embarking on a one-year career break.

We send a warm #TeamHunter welcome to Mr. Wood who begins his first year of teaching. Mr. Wood will be teaching the children in Primary 5/6, Room 7 and will be supported by Mrs. McLaughlin.

We are pleased to share that Mrs. Hodge will be working with children across the school every **Monday and Tuesday** to provide targeted **Numeracy and Mathematics interventions**.

This dedicated support is designed to:

- **Boost attainment journeys** by meeting children at their individual points of need.
- **Develop and consolidate** key numeracy and mathematical concepts.
- **Build confidence** and core skills in a supportive learning environment.
-

Hunter Teaching Team 2026/27

Head Teacher	Mr. Gary Campbell
Principal Teacher	Mrs. Ashley McLaughlin
Primary 1 (Room 1)	Mrs. McHugh
Primary 2 (Room 2)	Mrs. Menzies (Mon/Tues) and Mrs. Hodge (Wed-Fri)
Primary 3 (Room 3)	Ms. McAdam
Primary 4 (Room 4)	Mrs. McLean
Primary 4/5 (Room 6)	Ms. Holmes
Primary 5/6 (Room 7)	Mr. Wood and Mrs. McLaughlin (Wed)
Primary 6/7 (Room 8)	Mr. Lindsay
Primary 7 (Room 9)	Miss Taylor
CCC Teacher	Miss Mooney (P.E. and Health and Wellbeing) (Mon-Thur)

Hunter Support Staff

Following the summer break, we have returned to several changes within our Support Staff. Unfortunately, Mrs. Hendry's absence will continue this year. We wish her a speedy recovery. Mrs. Millar who was a long-standing member of our Support Staff has decided to resign from her post and will not return.



Staffing and classes update - continued

We will shortly say a fond farewell and **HAPPY RETIREMENT** to Mrs. Glen who has been with us since 2018. Mrs. Glen has been a Support Assistant within South Lanarkshire for almost 20 years and we wish her all the very best as she embarks on the next chapter of her life next Wednesday. Mrs. Glen's final full day with us will be **Tuesday 8th September**.

Due to continued absences and vacancies, we are delighted to welcome two temporary members to the Support Staff team. Mrs. Pamela McCready joins us on a Monday – Thursday (every second Monday) and Mrs. Yasmeen Nawas will work every Monday – Wednesday. Mrs. McCready will also support the Breakfast Club.

Mrs. Shearon	-	Team Leader
Miss McCuaig	-	Office/Class based
Mrs. Crawford	-	Class based
Mrs. Black	-	Class based (Tuesday – Friday)
Mrs. Kelly	-	Class based (Monday, Tuesday and Friday)
Mrs. McCready	-	Class based (Every second Monday, Tuesday – Thursday)
Mrs. Nawas	-	Class based (Monday – Wednesday)

School communication: ParentsPortal, ParentPay and Facebook Group

Our primary channel for school communication is **ParentsPortal**, the official platform endorsed by **South Lanarkshire Council** for all schools.

It is vital that **all parents and carers are signed up**, as this platform is used to manage essential school tasks, including:



- **Updating details:** Keep your home address and emergency contact information current.
- **Giving permissions:** Seamlessly complete consent forms for school trips and activities.
- **Important updates:** Access real-time school announcements and notices.
- **Pupil reports:** View your child's academic reports as soon as they are released.

Need assistance?

If you require any technical support or help setting up your account, please contact **Miss McCuaig** in the school office, who will be happy to assist you.



ParentPay

ParentPay is a cashless system used by schools to pay for items such as school trips, milk, etc.



Our **Facebook Group** page will showcase learning and some key important updates. Access to this is moderated and any parent/carers adding will be asked a series of questions. Those who do not answer, will not be permitted access. We hope you enjoy viewing all the great learning that takes place in the school.

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School Uniform

At Hunter, we take pride in our school community, and **all pupils are expected to wear school uniform.**

Our uniform options consist of the following:

- **Bottoms:** Plain black or grey trousers, skirts, or pinafores.
- **Shirts & Ties:** A traditional white shirt paired with a school tie.
- **Polo Shirts & Cardigans:** A red polo top or red cardigan (with or without the school badge).
- **Knitwear & Sweatshirts:** A black, red, or grey jumper or sweatshirt.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our pupils look smart and feel a sense of belonging at Hunter.



Indoor shoes

To help maintain our clean carpets, we ask all children to **bring a pair of soft indoor shoes** to change in and out of at break times. These will be stored safely in the cloakroom areas. Please help us by labelling shoes with your child's name and room number.

P.E. Days & Health and Safety Guidelines

All children at Hunter receive **two hours of quality Physical Education** each week. To help sessions run smoothly, please note the following guidelines:

Dress Code for P.E. Days

- **What to wear:** On P.E. days, we encourage children to come to school wearing their **red polo shirt** instead of a formal shirt and tie.
- **Changing options:** Children can either wear shorts underneath their school trousers/skirt or use our changing spaces.
- **Footwear:** For older children, please ensure they bring **trainers** (as their soft shoes/P.E. footwear). The games hall floor can be slippery, and proper trainers provide the best grip.
- **Important restriction:** Strictly **no football colours** are permitted.

Jewellery & Health and Safety

- **Earrings:** For safety, it is extremely helpful if your child **does not wear earrings on P.E. days**. If earrings cannot be removed, please provide your child with **Micropore tape** to cover them. This can be stored safely in school.
- **Other jewellery:** All other jewellery must be removed prior to the lesson as a safety precaution.
- **Acrylic nails:** These are **strictly not permitted** in school. Pupils wearing acrylic nails will unfortunately be unable to take part in P.E. activities due to safety risks.

Weather & Locations

In periods of good weather, classes may take advantage of the sunshine with **outdoor sessions**, alongside our indoor gym time. Please ensure your child has appropriate outdoor wear if needed.

(Please see below for each class's designated P.E. days.)

<u>Primary 1, Room 1</u>	Tuesday	Friday
<u>Primary 2, Room 2</u>	Thursday	Friday
<u>Primary 3, Room 3</u>	Monday	Thursday
<u>Primary 4, Room 4</u>	Monday	Tuesday
<u>Primary 4/5, Room 6</u>	Tuesday	Wednesday
<u>Primary 5/6, Room 7</u>	Tuesday	Thursday
<u>Primary 6/7, Room 8</u>	Monday	Wednesday
<u>Primary 7, Room 9</u>	Wednesday	Thursday

Breakfast Club

A reminder that **all pupils** are welcome to come to the Breakfast Club. This runs daily and is available **8.15 – 8.45 am**. There is no charge for this, and children will be offered the choice of **Weetabix/toast/fresh fruit and a cup of water/milk**. Pupils attending should report to the member of staff in charge to be registered in the building. Pupils will be dismissed into the main playground at 8.45 am.



Healthy Snacks & Our 'Fruit and Book' Initiative

At Hunter, we are actively encouraging all children to bring a healthy morning snack to school to fuel their learning.

We are also excited to continue our 'Fruit and Book' sessions across all classes (though the format may vary slightly for our upper-stage pupils). This wonderful initiative takes place almost every day, and your child should be able to share which days their class participates.



To help us support this program:

- **What to bring:** On 'Fruit and Book' days, we kindly ask parents and carers to provide their child with a piece of fruit.
- **Extra fruit available:** To ensure no one misses out, extra fruit will be made available with a rota in place so that all classes have an opportunity to have some extra.

Working together...

Parental partnership is very important to us in Hunter, and we work very hard to build positive relationships with all our parents/carers, in order that we can work together to support all our children to reach their potential and feel happy and safe in school.

We are always here to help so, in the first instance, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher via the main school office with any queries or concerns. I would ask that in all instances you contact the school directly and avoid posting any concerns you may have on social media/WhatsApp groups, as in our experience, many worries can be easily resolved with a quick conversation.

Mrs. McLaughlin and I are also here to help. Our door is always open, and you can contact us using our email addresses on page 1 of this newsletter, or by giving the school a call.

If you have a skill or talent that you would like to share, and would like to get involved in the life of the school, please contact Mr. Campbell. We would welcome any parent/carer who would be keen and interested in running an extra-curricular club.

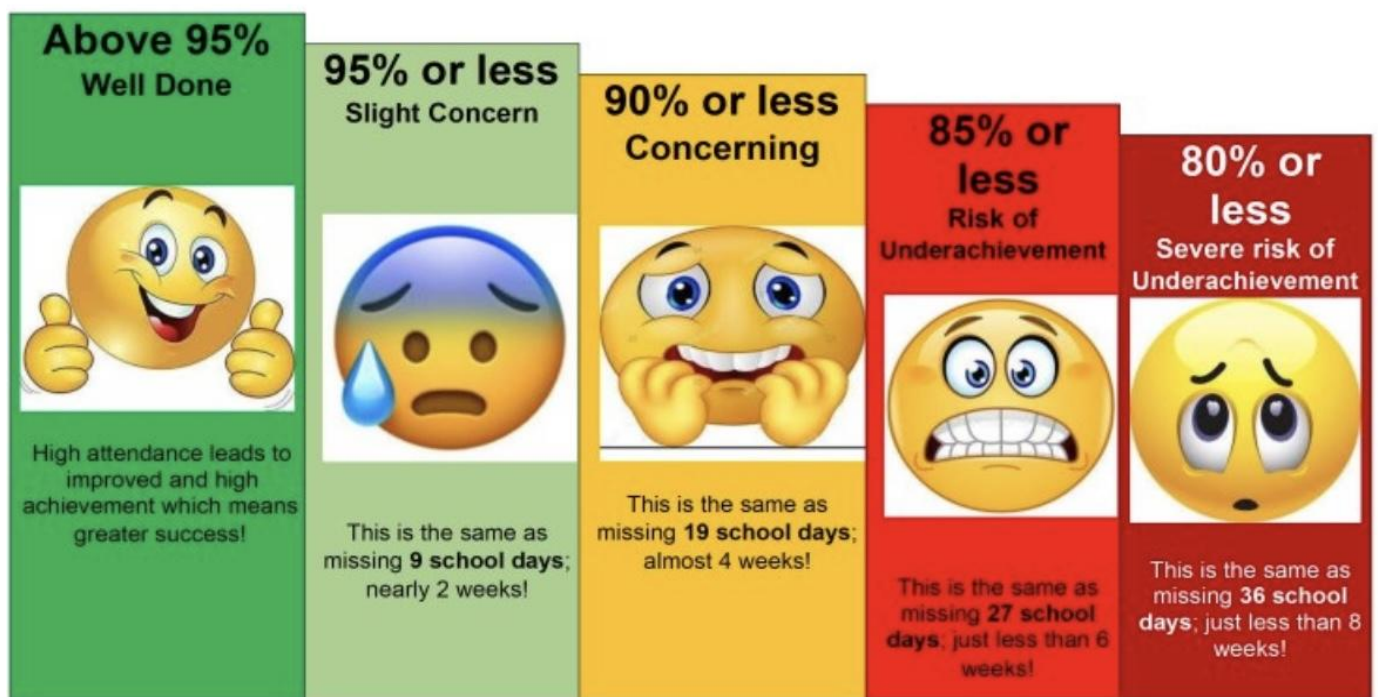
I am very much looking forward to continuing to build on the already strong partnership we have in our school community. Here's to an excellent year in Hunter Primary!

Happy, Understanding, Nurturing, Truthful, Equal and Respectful



Attendance and Absence reporting

Children should come to school unless too unwell to attend. Our school attendance rates are usually very good however we see a direct correlation between attendance and attainment. Pupils with lower attendance rates fall behind their classmates, are less resilient and confident. All pupil attendance is monitored regularly and where an attendance rate falls **below 90%**, this is monitored weekly. Where there is a pattern of poor attendance the Head Teacher will contact the parent/carer to discuss whether there are any supports that can be put in place. It is also helpful to contact the school should you have any attendance concerns regarding your child. It is our priority to work together in partnership to ensure the best outcomes for all children.



If your child is going to be absent from school, please contact the school office and leave a message on the answer facility (**option 1 to report a child's absence**). Please tell us your **child's name, class and specific reason for absence**. Please note a specific reason is needed to authorise your child's absence.

Attendance is recorded as either 'authorised' or 'unauthorised'. **We are unable to authorise holidays taken during term time unless you are able to provide a letter from your employer (on headed notepaper) to explain your reason for your holiday.** Absence through illness or appointments are 'authorised' where we have the exact reason for absence.

We thank you for your continued support with this.

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Hunter Primary **School Improvement Priorities 2026-27**

As we continue to progress into our 2026-27 session and reflect on all the work that was undertaken last session, please see below our 3 main strategic priorities for this year:

School Improvement Priority 1: Raising attainment (Literacy):

Transform literacy outcomes by embedding our robust writing pedagogy across the whole curriculum, explicitly linked to a progressive Listening and Talking framework.

School Improvement Priority 2: Raising attainment (Numeracy and maths):

Raise attainment in Numeracy and mathematics through embedding 'Fluid Groupings' application and VCPA teaching at all stages across the school which raises attainment.

School Improvement Priority 3:

Embed SLC Skills Framework in all classes through Skills Masterclasses and linking skills to learning and teaching.

School Improvement Priority 4 (Calderglen Learning Community):

Attendance and Engagement/Formative Assessment/Transition planning

Our full Standards and Quality report highlighting key successes and achievements of session 2025-26 can be found on the school website.

