



Hermitage
Primary School



November 2025 Newsletter



Welcome Back – October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

A belated and very warm welcome back to all our pupils, families, and staff after the October holidays. We hope everyone enjoyed a restful and enjoyable break, and that our children have returned refreshed and ready for the busy and exciting term ahead.

As we look back over the first term from August to October, there is so much to celebrate. Our pupils have enjoyed a wide range of learning experiences and opportunities both in and out of the classroom. Outdoor learning continues to be a real strength of our school, with regular visits to the park and lots of learning taking place in our beautiful outdoor spaces.



Open Afternoon

Our **Open Afternoon** was a wonderful success – thank you to everyone who was able to attend and share in the children's achievements. We were also delighted to see such enthusiasm for our **after-school and lunchtime clubs**, which have included outdoor games, basketball, coding, mindfulness, sewing, and football.

Quiet Space

The opening of our new **Quiet Space** at lunchtimes has been greatly appreciated by those pupils who prefer a calm area to enjoy their lunch and relax with friends.

Toast Club

Our **Toast Club** has also gone from strength to strength – what a fantastic way to start the day! A special thank you goes to **The Ginger Breadman** for generously providing freshly baked bread to support this initiative. We are so grateful for the continued kindness and support of our wider community.

Parent Council and PAL Committee

Our **Parent Council** and **PAL Committee** continue to play a vital role in supporting the development and maintenance of our school environment. We are extremely thankful for their ongoing hard work and generosity. A new **display in the school foyer** celebrating their contributions is currently being developed – please do take a look when you next visit.

Halloween Discos

We are delighted that the ever-popular **Halloween Discos**, organised by our fantastic Parent Council, returned this year – always a highlight of the autumn term! Thanks to all who organised and came and a thanks to Nature's Harvest for supplying our healthy treats. We are so fortunate to be supported by local business!



Forces and Me Club

Our **Forces and Me Club** is also up and running this term, offering a welcoming and supportive space for our service children. Huge thanks to our teachers and support staff for leading and nurturing this important group.

Pupil Parliament Elections

Pupil Parliament elections have now taken place, ensuring that pupil voice remains at the heart of our Gold Rights Respecting School. Each committee is currently drawing up its action plan for the coming months, continuing our commitment to living and upholding the **UNCRC Rights of the Child** every day.

School Choir

We're especially thrilled to have a **school choir** this year, who will proudly represent Hermitage Primary at the **Helensburgh Christmas Light Switch-On**. A huge thank you to **Mrs Ridland** for her enthusiasm and organisation in leading our choir.

Nut Free School

Polite reminder: Our school is a nut-free environment. For the safety of our students, please do not send any food items containing nuts (including, but not limited to, peanut butter, Nutella/hazelnut spread, cereal bars) in your child's lunchbox or for shared treats. Thank you for helping us keep all children safe.

Arriving at School

Children should arrive promptly at school every day to avoid disruption to classes and learning. School gates open and the playground is supervised from 8.50am every day. As late comings are logged and monitored a member of the Senior Leadership Team will get in touch where there is a pattern of recurring late comings to offer support.

Parking Issues

Pick up and drop off times can be extremely busy in the streets surrounding the school. We therefore ask that you park considerately if travelling by car, leave our zigzag lines clear **at all times**, **avoid residents no parking zones** and sitting with car engines running for the well-being of the children. I would also ask that you refrain from parking on the Parklands School zigzag lines on the corner with Grant Street.

Christmas

And finally... dare we mention the **"C" word** just yet?

Christmas plans are already underway!

Key dates for November and December are listed on the following page, with more information to follow closer to the time.



Key Dates for November/December 2025

- **Tuesday 18th November - Friday 21st November** – Scholastic Book Fair
- **Saturday 22nd November** – Choir performing at Helensburgh Christmas Light Switch-On
- **Monday 24th November** – In Service Day, school closed to pupils
- **Tuesday 25th November** – Parent Council Meeting, 7:15pm-8:15pm
- **Friday 5th December** – Parent Council Christmas Fayre
- **Tuesday 9th & Wednesday 10th December** – Infant Nativity Performances
- **Monday 15th December** – P1 & P7 Dental Checks
- **Tuesday 16th December** – P1 Christmas Party, 1:30pm-2:30pm
- **Wednesday 17th December** – Christmas Service, 10am, at Helensburgh Parish Church. Seating limited, not all children performing.
- **Wednesday 17th December** – P1-P7 Forces and Me Christmas Party, 12:15pm-1:00pm
- **Wednesday 17th December** – P2 & P3 Christmas Party, 1:30pm-2:30pm
- **Thursday 18th December** – P4 & P5 Christmas Party, 9:30am-10:30am
- **Thursday 18th December** – P6 & P7 Christmas Party, 1:30pm-2:30pm
- **Friday 19th December** - School Christmas Lunch
- **Friday 19th December** – School closes for Christmas Holidays at 2:30pm

Thank you

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to a busy, joyful, and successful term ahead together.

Warm regards,

Hermitage Primary School

Head Teacher: Mrs Gemma Houston
Hermitage Primary School
Tel: 01436 672949