



Education Resources
Executive Director **Carole McKenzie**
Burnside Primary School
Head Teacher – Ms. Gayle McDonald

Friday 15th August 2025

Dear parent/ carer,

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to all our families after the summer break. It was just lovely to see all the smiling faces returning to school yesterday, and to welcome our new pupils and their families to the Burnside community. I hope everyone had a safe and restful holiday and enjoyed the warm weather while we were off.

I will try to share a newsletter with families every month, including key information about the life and work of the school. One important piece of information I like to share at this time of year is the School Leadership Team pastoral remits, so you know who your first point of contact within the school is, if you need any help.



Head Teacher: Ms Gayle McDonald
headteacher@burnside-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Primaries 1- 3 Mrs. Lynne Mullen (Depute Head Teacher)
deputet2@burnside-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk



Primaries 4- 7 Mr. Scott Millar (Depute Head Teacher)
deputet1@burnside-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk



Meet The Teacher

You are invited to come and see your child's classroom, and meet their teacher, on Friday 22nd and Monday 25th August, from 2:30 -3:00. Please enter via the main door, and we will direct you to your child's class. Please note that this will be a time to meet the teacher and share in your child's learning, and the teacher will not have the capacity to discuss any individual concerns during Meet The Teacher. We would encourage you to get in touch the usual way if you require any support. I hope you are able to come along on one of these afternoons.

Breakfast Club

We run a free breakfast club every day from 8:15 – 8:45. Pupils who attend will then be supervised in the playground from 8:45 until school begins. There is a choice of toast and Weetabix, and milk or water.

Breakfast Club is supervised by members of our Support Staff. We also rely on parent

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volunteers to help supervise this free service, and some of our regular volunteers (who we appreciated for many years!) have now moved on as their child has left Burnside. If you are able to offer to help supervise the Breakfast Club- even if it isn't every week!- please let us know.

Please complete the form (link below) as soon as possible, **by Friday 22nd August** at the latest, to let us know if you intend to send your child to the Breakfast Club, and on which days. It's a busy club, and knowing your child is coming helps to speed up registration.

<https://forms.office.com/e/0nB8yx0rsK>

Playground

When dropping your children off in the morning, we would ask that you wait outside the gate to wave them off, and not in the playground. If there are lots of adults in the playground it becomes too crowded and overwhelming. From 8:45, there should **only** be school staff and children in the playground from a security point of view.

At the end of the day, you are welcome to come in to wait in the playground, but we ask you to stand well back at the fence, not crowding the door area, so children can clearly see their adults.

While we love furry friends, unfortunately dogs aren't permitted in the playground at any time, and will need to wait to be reunited outside the gates.

Many thanks for your support and co-operation.

Staffing News

Welcome to a few new staff members this session. We have 2 Newly Qualified Teachers, Miss Pamela Carr and Miss Melissa Ranjan, teaching in P2/3 and P4. Joining us on a Monday is Ms. Joan Madden, who has been funded using the Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) to provide Support for Learning. Mrs. Emma Cameron is teaching P6 on a Wednesday, and Miss Lisa Priestley will be working in P2 and P3 Monday- Wednesday.

Joining us in the office will be Mrs. Eve Kinnear, after a successful competitive recruitment process. We hope she will join us soon, with her start date to be confirmed.

We wish our Janitor, Mr. Richard Woods, all the best as he departs into his wonderful retirement journey next Friday. We are sad to see him go, and I'm sure you will join me in wishing him all the best for a long and happy retirement. Our new janitor, Mr. Mark Everett, has been recruited and will start as soon as possible.

Office Hours

The office is open from 8:30- 3:30 every day to provide assistance. *It is closed each day for lunch between the hours of 11:40 and 12:20.* We are happy to help at any other time- feel free to pop in, email or call.

PE Times/ Homework

Teachers will be in touch soon to communicate arrangements specific to each class, regarding matters such as PE days, Google Classroom and homework.

Dates for the Diary

We will include upcoming dates in each newsletter, but here are some dates that we already know about. Other dates will be firmed up soon (e.g. festive dates for later in the term) and we will add them to the list for the first newsletter in a few weeks' time.

Monday 18 th August	P1 pupils – beginning usual times of 9-3
Friday 22 nd and Monday 25 th August	Meet The Teacher 2:30 – 3:00
Monday 1 st September	Parent Council 7:10
Friday 26 th and Monday 29 th September	September weekend- schools closed
Wednesday 1 st October	Parent Council 7:10
Friday 3 rd October	Work samples sent home to parents
Monday 6 th and Tuesday 7 th October	Individual and family photos
Tuesday 7 th October	Parents' Evening
w/b 13 th October	October holiday- schools closed
Monday 27 th October	Flu Vaccinations
Thursday 30 th October	Halloween Disco
Monday 10 th November	Inservice day 3- schools closed
Wednesday 12 th November	Parent Council 7:10
Wednesday 26 th November	Pantomime in school (Snow Queen)
Monday 8 th December	Parent Council 7:10
Friday 19 th December	School closes at 2:30
Monday 5 th January 2026	School reopens at 9am

Please get in touch if I can help you with anything at all. My email address is above, and I can also be reached via the school office on 0141 634 1916.

Kind regards,



Ms. Gayle McDonald
Head Teacher