

I hope you and your family are well. We are very much looking forward to Christmas countdown celebrations in school over the next few weeks. We are looking forward to having some exciting celebrations and lots of fun and learning in school in the weeks to come.

Staffing Update

Unfortunately Mrs Laura Quinin's secondment has been extended for a further 8 weeks. Mrs Plewes will continue DHT (P1-4). Mrs Gemmell will be absent from school in January due to a planned operation, during this time Mrs Kayleigh Forsyth will be acting DHT (P5-7). Miss Arlene Fiddes will be returning to Riverside to cover P1F during Mrs Forsyth's acting position. Mrs Ledingham will return to P7L after the Christmas period.

Footwear and Clothing Grant

The 2025/26 application form for Free School Meals and the Footwear and Clothing Grant is available on the Stirling Council Website. Even if your child is in P1-P5 and receives free school meals there are still benefits for applying if you are eligible and we would encourage you to do so.

Follow the link below for application details.

<https://stirling.gov.uk/learning-education/schools/school-meals-uniforms/footwear-clothing-grant-school-meals/>

Seasonal Information

Primary 3 children will entertain the audience with their nativity play, 'The Wiggly Nativity'. We will then be able to have some of the nativity songs at our Church Service nearer Christmas. The dates for the P3 Christmas Nativity are Thursday 4 December and Friday 5 December at 2pm.

Primary 1 and 2 children will be hosting a Winter sing-a-long performance in our Nature Playground on Thursday 11th December at 2pm. Wrap Up Warm and enjoy some festive singing and cheer.

There will be an early lunch for all children on Wednesday 3 December, Thursday 4 December and Friday 5 December so that we have time to set up the hall for the dress rehearsal (Wednesday) and the concerts on Thursday and Friday. Lunchtime will be from 12.15 pm - 1.15 pm.

Forthcoming Festive Events

Monday 1 December

Christmas Post starts - children are welcome to bring in cards to 'post' to other children in our school. Envelopes must be addressed with the recipient's name and class. P4 Children will have the responsibility of sorting and delivering the post throughout the school.

Wednesday 3 December, Thursday 4 December & Friday 5 December - Early Lunch

There will be an early lunch for all children on these dates so that we can set up the hall for the concert. Lunchtime will be from 12.15 pm - 1.15 pm on these days.

Thursday 4 December

P7 Christmas Party from 7pm - 9pm in the school. P7 children will be issued with a letter with details of the party.

Tuesday 9 December - Festive Dress Down Day and Snow Dash

Children are welcome to join staff in our Festive Dress Down Day. They may come to school wearing either a festive/wintry jumper or something bright or seasonal, eg, a hat, tinsel. All children will take part in our Winter Snow Dash, organised by Primary 7 pupils and there will be a collection for Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity in honour of Lauchlan Thomson's memory.

Wednesday 10 December - Parent Council Christmas Fair

Please save the date for the Christmas fair! **6-8pm, Wednesday 10th December 2025. Adults £3, kids free** - includes mulled wine and a mince pie!

This fun festive school and community event is a highlight of the school calendar and we hope this year will be enjoyed by all.

How can you get involved?

- **Volunteer** to help in organising and running fair - come and join the team by contacting your class rep
- **Donations** - we need soft toys, bottles, tombola & raffle prizes. Please drop off to the office
- **External Stall holders** - spread the word to local businesses who may want to have a stall on the night

Any questions or suggestions please contact your class rep or rappstirling@gmail.com

Thursday 11 December

School Christmas Lunch will be a Christmas Dinner this year.

Thursday 11th December

P1 and P2 Winter Performance at 2pm in the Nature Playground.

Wednesday 17 December

M and M Productions Theatre Company will visit school on Wednesday 17 December with their performance of Sleeping Beauty. This is always an exciting event for the children and time for the whole school to be together. There is a cost per child of £5. Our preferred method of payment is by ParentPay, or alternatively you can send in payment with the return tear off slip sent out in early November.

Thursday 18 December

Our Christmas Church Service will be held at **10am** in Church of Holy Rude, Stirling.

Friday 19 December

The nursery will be holding their Christmas concert from 3.30pm to 4.15pm.

Christmas Parties

On the day of their class party children are welcome to bring party clothes, in a bag, to change into at lunchtime or can go home at lunchtime to change. Please inform your child's class teacher if your child is going home at lunchtime. There is no cost for the parties as we continue to pay for these events to keep costs down for families at this time of year.

Proposed Party Dates are:

Thursday 4 December	<i>P7 Christmas Party 7.00 pm</i>
Wednesday 10 December	<i>P3 Christmas Party -pm</i>
Thursday 11 December	<i>P6 Christmas Party - pm</i>
Thursday 11 December	<i>AP Christmas Party - after school</i>
Friday 12 December	<i>P5 Christmas Party - pm</i>
Monday 15 December	<i>P4 Christmas Party - pm</i>
Tuesday 16 December	<i>P2 Christmas Party - pm</i>
Tuesday 16 December	<i>Nursery Christmas party - pm</i>
Wednesday 17 December	<i>P1 Christmas Party - pm</i>

Charities

This session the charities we will be supporting are Glasgow Children's Hospital and Start Up Stirling. P3s are leading a reverse advent calendar for Start-Up Stirling, please donate if you can through your child's class. We will also be supporting Glasgow Children's Hospital through our whole school Snow Dash event.

Weather Conditions and School Closures

Just a reminder of our procedure for school closures here at Riverside.

Unless there is a Stirling Council decision to close all schools, we strive to keep the school open.

Please be aware that if we have to close the school, information will be available from

- Stirling Council website at www.stirling.gov.uk
- Central FM Radio (103.1)

At a school level we try to keep you up to date through

- SeeSaw
- School website at www.riversideprimaryschool.co.uk

If the closure is Council wide text messages may be used, however there is a possibility due to the high volume of texts being sent across the council that there may be a delay in parents receiving the message. Therefore please do check the other communication sources mentioned above.

P1 Enrolment for session 2026-27

*As you may know, it is now time to enrol your child for Primary One. Parents/carers should complete and submit an online enrolment form available on the Stirling Council website (www.stirling.gov.uk). The online enrolment form should be completed **no later than Wednesday 14 January 2026**.*

Friday 19 December - Lunch Arrangements for the last day of term.

The term ends on Friday 19 December at 1.30pm. If your child is home lunch they can leave at 12.30 pm and **do not** have to return to school in the afternoon. Children who require a school lunch will have lunch as normal at 12.30 pm in school, and can be collected by 1.30pm at the latest when school closes.

If your child is unable to attend on the last day of school please ensure that you phone or email the school to let us know. Thank you.

Dates for your diary

Friday 19 December 2025 School closes 1.30 pm for Christmas break

Monday 5 January 2026 School re-opens 9.00 am for Spring term