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| Ref: KL/  **Rephad Primary School and Nursery** Ladies Walk  Stranraer  DG9 8BW | Any enquiries please contact:  **Mrs Karen Logue;** Head Teacher  **Mrs Eilidh Paisley;** Nursery Manager  Tel: (01776) 704195  Email: gw08officerephad@ea.dumgal.sch.uk |
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27.11.23

Dear Parent / Carer,

A huge *THANK YOU* to all the Parent Council members who helped plan and run the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 25th November. It was a very busy day with a great deal of fun at the end waiting to hear who won the amazing amount of raffle prizes that were donated. Thank you also to everyone who attended and supported the event. Lots of great stalls were very busy and the Café had a roaring trade going. Santa himself was worn out by the end of the day but had a lovely chat with everyone who wanted to see him.

You should have received the most current **Class Newsletters** for term 2 on Friday. As previously, groups of classes are planning and working together, with many positive impacts. You may notice that children in several stages are focussing on similar topics, but the skills and tasks they are involved in will be differentiated for their age and stage abilities.

**STAFFING**

We have had some changes over the last term and wish to update you on staffing.

We have interviewed for our clerical assistant and Mrs Fiona Harvey will hopefully be able to begin the role prior to the Christmas holiday break. We want to thank Mrs Donna Denholm who has been an invaluable help in the office since October, it is always nice to have her back to help us out.

Mrs Baird is moving to a 4-day week and we are in the process of arranging interviews for a .2 DHT role. As soon as we can announce the preferred candidate we will let you know.

In the nursery we have been recruiting for several roles and as soon as we can finalise names of candidates we will inform you with a follow-up letter.

**SCOTTISH BOOK WEEK**  Book bags went home with all P1, P2 and P3 children the week of 13th November. We hope as a family you are enjoying the books and activities within the bag that was donated by Scottish book Trust. **Happy Reading Everyone.**

A poster with a camel on a hula hoop

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Children across the school will be rehearsing for our upcoming School Show on Tuesday 19th December.

Presentations will be 10:00 am and 6:30 pm at Stranraer Academy. Information about dropping off and picking up your child for the evening performance will be shared with the ticket allocation letter.

The P3, P4 and P5 classes have the main scripted show this year with ***Lights, Camel, Action!!***  You will enjoy the great array of music styles with the show’s links to Strictly come Dancing.

Rehearsals will take place in school but some are at the academy so children can become more familiar with the stage and area. This is a fabulous experience for the children and they are very excited about their preparations to present to you.

We hope you are enjoying all the lovely singing at home as the P1 and P2s are singing Christmas songs that focus on the build up to Christmas day, from Christmas shopping to pulling our crackers. **Getting Ready for Christmas** will be lots of fun. The P6s and P7s are preparing a very unique ***Rephad Voice*** a take-off of the show *The Voice.* We are sure you will enjoy the whole show.

Ticket information for the school will be shared very soon and tickets will remain £3 each. Please return your ticket allocation slip by Thursday 14th December at 3:15 pm so we can release extra tickets to the school community. There will be a raffle at each of the concerts including a lovely hamper each time along with other donated items.

Nursery Children will present their *Christmas Song Selection* on Friday 15th December at 10 am.

Two adults per family are invited to the nursery event that will take place in the school hall. If your child does not normally attend that day, please bring them along, if you are able, to join in the fun.

**CHRISTMAS PARTIES**

Children are asked to arrive at school in the morning dressed for their party. Each class will decide on their activities during the party and a snack/drink will be provided courtesy of the Parent Council. A few groups may have a special guest arrive during the party……it is all so very exciting!!!

Thursday 14th December 1:30 pm **P1 and P1/2**

Thursday 14th December 6:30 -8:30 pm **P7 Snow Ball** in the school hall. Adults must collect children after the event.

Wednesday 20th December 1:30 pm **P2/3 and P3**

Thursday 21st December morning **- P4s, P5s, P6s (**Children can bring a change of clothes for the movie afternoon.)

Friday 22nd December **morning - Nursery Party – more details in a separate letter from the nursery.**

**Movie AFTERNOON** will be Thursday 21st December in each class. This is an adaptation to our Movie Night of the last few years but a well-deserved afternoon for the children after all their hard work preparing and presenting the School Show. Children are welcome to wear their onesies/comfies for the day and bring a staffed friend to cuddle during the afternoon. Each class will select a movie suitable to them with the Universal rating but some movie for P4-P7 may have a PG rating but will inform you of this as choices are made. The special treat of popcorn and hot chocolate/diluting juice will still be offered during the afternoon.

**CHRISTMAS DINNER** will be Friday 8th December and children are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper that day as well. No monetary donations are required for this day. We know some children do like to wear Christmas jumpers at this time of year, but please ensure they have a polo shirt under them as we have found in the past some children can get very hot and have nothing to wear instead.

**SCHOOL DROP-IN**

Our next family drop in is Wednesday 6th December from 3:10 to 4:10 pm. This is a time to meet with the class teacher if you have specific questions about your child’s progress. There will not be any wider activities planned in the classroom or the school hall. Meeting with your child’s teacher will be on a first come, first served basis.

Mrs Baird, who is now leading the role of Additional Support for Learning, will also be available. Depending on the number of visitors, it may be necessary to arrange a follow-up time for a meeting but this will be done as quickly as possible.

We thank you for supporting all the different events and hope everyone enjoys the run up to the holidays.

In regards,

Karen Logue, Head Teacher