



Kirkstyle's Newsletter November - December 2011

Whitlees Windfarm

Both primary 7 classes visited Glasgow Science Centre's sustainable energy education site at Whitelees Windfarm.

Archive Arts Day

Mrs. Ross and her primary 7 class had a blast from the past using film and media to revisit the memories of Kilmarnock at the Dick Institute.

James McClelland

A local author arrived in school last week to speak to the whole school at Assembly and afterwards to Question Time in the Pr.2 Literacy groups. Primary 2 pupils had the opportunity to purchase signed copies of his books and the school have kept three copies of each for our own school library, for everyone to enjoy.

James McClelland is local to Ayrshire and his books about a young boy and his pet sabre toothed tiger are published locally in Darvel. The pupils listened to sections from his first two books; chapters involving diplodocus and the mighty T-rex after he had talked about his own childhood experience of writing. We hope that he has inspired some pupils to take the plunge and jump into stories and writing; using their imagination to take them on adventures.

Olympic Games

Japan (Kirkstyle) is currently sitting in Bronze medal place within East Ayrshire following on from a Learning Community win against Loanhead, Hillhead and St Andrews primaries. Aiden McCutcheon was awarded man of the match for his excellent game play in each of the heats. The team are now heading off to the final being held today at ?????????? against the semi finalists, we wish them well and hope they come back with another medal.

The school have added a Japan display to our downstairs wall and hope to keep it up to date with all the Olympic News and scores. The motto for Japan is "**Determination**" and we hope that the competitors show some in the coming events.

Flames Club

Primary 6 and 7 pupils were invited to join an afterschool activity class for a 5 week block, these pupils and a further ten volunteers will be heading to Kilmarnock College next week for the big presentation. The pupils will be making a banner to represent their motto and flying the flag high for Japan.

Switch off fortnight!

The Eco Warriors & Eco Committee met with Miss. Davers during Assembly time and have undertaken some auditing tasks to get us switching off and not wasting energy on standby. They have visited classes and corridors; adding stickers and signs to remind everyone to switch off – perhaps you could try this at home!

We are pleased to announce that the monies raised by this committee through the Rag Bag recycling has been sufficient to pay for the Nativity costumes last year and in addition purchase the Pantomime costumes for this year's upper school performance. Both sets of these costumes will be used year in year out, depending on performances so well done to the pupils involved and thanks for your old clothes donations, keep them coming.

School Pupil Council

The Pupil Council met with Mrs. MacKinnon during Assembly time last week and started on a fund raising opportunity which involves the whole school. The pupils visited each class asking the pupils to pen a self portrait to be included in artwork for tea towels and aprons hopefully to go on sale prior to Christmas, if not early in the New Year. We will keep you posted if this venture will be available in time for Christmas pressies.

Upper school Panto

The dress rehearsal was a huge success and the school enjoyed watching brothers, sisters and school friends dress up and entertain them. Some of our pupils are very talented and we hope they keep up the acting and singing in their future Secondary education establishments.

Bag Packing

Volunteers and Parent Council members gave up some of their free time to bag pack at Morrisons last weekend for Parent Council funds. The event was a huge success and the Parent Council donated £600.00 to the Palace Theatre pantomime fund and reduced the cost of everyone's ticket and transport. A huge thank you must go to the small band of volunteers who turned up; without these people the fund raising would not be possible. Remember no matter how little any support offered is welcomed and reduces the work for the few – "Many hands make light work!" as the saying goes.

Stocking Fillers

We hope you had the chance to browse through your Special Edition Yellow Moon Christmas Catalogue from which you can choose from a selection of stocking fillers, games and art and craft activities. If you still wish to purchase anything you can do so direct to Yellow Moon; online, by freepost, by phone or by fax. When you place an order quote the school's source code of **SK1186** and automatically the school will receive cash back for any orders processed.

You are not obliged to buy anything but the school will benefit from any items purchased so have a look – it might save you a shopping trip!

After schools Clubs

We have continued with the new afterschool clubs; Homework for parent and pupils in Pr.1 & 2, basketball for the Pr.5 Japan team, football for Pr.3/4 and Flames active club for Pr.6/7.

Diary Dates

30.11.11 – Upper school panto – whole school to view rehearsal
01.12.11 – Upper school panto – Parent performance –am
01.12.11 – East Ayrshire Basketball Final – Pr.5 selected players
02.12.11 – Upper school panto – Parent Performance – pm
05.12.11 – Pr.5, Pr.5/6 & Pr.6 Rugby sessions
05.12.11 – Pr.7 pupils full day visit to Kilmarnock Academy
06.12.11 – Pantomime at palace Theatre (Cinderella) – whole school
06.12.11 – Flames active club visit to Kilmarnock College – selected 20 pupils
08.12.11 – Orchestra performance
08.12.11 – Christmas School Lunch
12.12.11 – Pr.5, Pr.5/6 & Pr.6 Rugby sessions
14.12.11 – Pr.1 – Pr.3 Nativity – whole school to view rehearsal
15.12.11 – Nativity – Parent performance – am
16.12.11 – Nativity – Parent Performance – pm
16.12.11 – Singing for Hansel at Morrisons– Pr.4
19.12.11 – Pr.5, Pr.5/6 & Pr.6 Rugby sessions
19.12.11 – Pr.4 & Pr.3/4 (Pr.4s only) singing at Matalan – 9.45am
19.12.11 – Pr.3, Pr.3/4 & Pr.4 Party
20.12.11 – Pr.1s & Pr.2s Party
21.12.11 – Pr.5, pr.5/6 & Pr.6 Party
21.12.11 – Pr. 4 & Infant choirs singing at ASDA 11.00- 12.00
22.12.11 – Pr.7 Evening Party
22.12.11 – SHINY GOLDEN TIME
23.12.11 – School Closes for Christmas 2.30pm
09.01.12 – Pupils return to school
27.01.12 – Pr.1s visiting Ayr Burns Museum – Timorous Beasties workshop & tour
27.01.12 – Pr.6s visiting Burns House Museum, Mauchline
31.01.12 – Pr.7 visiting Culzean Castle – World War II workshop

**All additional activities that have been added since last Newsletter are shown in different typeface.*