

Carolside News



December 2016

Dear Parent/Carer



Much has happened since I last wrote to you a few weeks ago and with Christmas just around the corner I trust that this newsletter will give you a flavour of everything that's been going on in Carolside this term.

Last week was full of Christmas activity and Carols & Shortbread, Infant Nativities and Nursery Nativity were enjoyed by all. We are very grateful to all those who took time to be in school and support the various events that took place this week. I'm sure you'll agree that the children were fantastic!

We have received excellent feedback from all those who were able to attend our recent Open Afternoons. We would like to thank you for your support of these events and, judging by the feedback, it was an experience that you all enjoyed. More recently than that, our Nursery was visited by the Care Inspectorate and we were pleased to receive a rating of 'Very Good' for this service. The full report will be published soon and we'll give you the details so that you can access this feedback.

With just a few days of the school term left I'd like to express my thanks, on behalf of everyone in Carolside, for your ongoing support - we wish you a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas. Please remember that we finish at half past two on Wednesday (21st December) and we look forward to seeing you all again on the 5th of January.

Yours sincerely

Bryan McLachlan

Mr Bryan McLachlan
Acting Head Teacher

Charities

We are very fortunate in Carolside to have such caring children and supportive parents/carers who have contributed to so many charities in recent months. Thank you so much for all your support. This is a summary of monies raised



£501.35



£437.73



Scottish Action for Refugees
£322.93



The Rainbow Room is in need of polo shirts and tights.
If you have any at home that your child no longer has use for we
would be very grateful for them.

NURSERY NEWS

It has been a particularly eventful and enjoyable term at Carolside Nursery.

During Book Week Scotland, the Nursery welcomed Primary 6 pupils daily to enjoy and share in reading activities. It was lovely to see the older pupils working so well with our younger children. The children enjoyed the learning opportunities they experienced linked to the books contained in the Bookbug Bags. These were given to the children to enjoy at home with their families.

Earlier this term, the children enjoyed the visit from Zoo Tots and were very brave when introduced to a variety of mammals, reptiles, amphibians and insects.

Last month, the Parent Fundraising Association organised a hugely successful Christmas Fayre and exceeded last year's total by raising over £1100. What a fantastic effort and many thanks to all involved!



The children worked extremely hard to learn the songs, actions and dances for their Nativities, The Sleepy Shepherd. All staff were extremely proud of the children's live performances last week.

PRIMARY 1

Term 2 for Primary 1 has been very exciting. After our Welcoming a Baby topic, we visited Greenbank Church to see a mock Christening. It was great fun and we got to explore the Church too!



The next week we went on another trip to the Transport Museum. We looked out for the differences between olden and modern day transport. We couldn't believe how transport has changed!

We took part in lots of different activities for Book Week Scotland. We were lucky enough to be given a Book Bug Bag filled with various books, stationery and fun things to do! On Monday we were introduced to the first book; "There's a Bear on My Chair" by Ross Collins. There was lots of rhyming in this book and we even thought of more rhyming words the author could have used! After that, we played a fun game of making paper chains with rhyming words. We had to sound out the words on our strips and walk around the class looking for people with words that rhymed with ours. Then we made a chain with them- it was so much fun!



On Tuesday, we had a very special day- it was our Open Afternoon! We invited a visitor from home to visit our classroom for the afternoon and help us with our activities. Our visitor read the next story in our book bags to us; "Hare and Tortoise" by Alison Murray. Then we made our own puppets of characters and props from the story. After that, we used our puppets to retell the story to our visitor. They really enjoyed coming to help us and said we were very good at telling the story with our puppets! We read the final book, "Shark in the Park" by Nick Sharratt, on Wednesday. We had heard rumours that there was a shark in Carolside Primary School! So, we designed our own telescopes, just like Timothy Pope's, and went on our very own Shark Hunt. The rumours were true! We found clues around the school and used our problem solving skills to solve them. Eventually, we found the shark in Mr Kerr's office! Luckily, the shark wasn't hungry as he had just had his lunch. Phew!

On Thursday we brought in our favourite books from home. We told everyone why they were our favourites and answered some of our classmates' questions. It was great because we got some ideas for new books we might like! Friday was a great end to the week.

The Primary 7s had been working hard all week to make books for us! They came down to our classrooms and read their books to us. We loved the stories and pictures.



We were very excited to hear that a Cinderella pantomime was coming to Carolside Primary! Our favourite characters were Buttons and the Fairy Godmother. Another big event in Carolside Primary this month was our Human Rights March! We used our Class Charter and discussed the importance of our rights as children. Then we made banners and marched around the streets of the school singing our chant. It was super!

November and December are very exciting months for Primary 1. We have been preparing for our Christmas Celebration by practicing the songs and going over our lines. We have even been decorating our classrooms with lots of lovely crafts. We wanted to make sure it's perfect for our visitors! It was lovely to see everyone there.

PRIMARY 2



Primary 2 pupils are very excited about their new playground toys. We would all like to thank the PTA for buying them.

We would like to thank all who came to our Christmas Plays. It was great fun, although it was really hard work learning all the words of the Christmas Carols!

We helped Santa look for Eric the Elf. He fell out of the sleigh looking for the houses of all the children who had been good and kind and deserve nice Christmas presents.



We have been writing letters to Santa telling him that we are all on the case and making posters so that others can help us look for him. Eric wasn't wearing his seat belt which everyone in P2 knows is silly because during Road Safety Week we learned that wearing seatbelts is one of the ways you can keep yourself safe when travelling in a car.

PRIMARY 3

The Romans

It's a busy time of the year for Primary 3 at Carolside Primary School. We have been learning all about the Romans as part of our Social Studies topic. We even had the opportunity to visit the Glasgow Resource Centre to participate in a Roman workshop. It was an excellent afternoon and we discovered Roman artefacts such as coins and armour, including a sword! We participated in fun group activities, such as building an aqueduct and arched bridge. We also dressed up in as a Roman soldier which was very exciting!

We then showcased our hard work for our families to see at our Romans Open Afternoon. We shared our learning journey through songs, photographs and drawings. We participated in different activities, including a Roman Numerals Maths test! We all had a fantastic time and thank everyone who attended.

Book Week Scotland

We enjoyed Book Week Scotland, particularly Miss McCracken's storytelling session. We received a Read, Write and Count Bag from Book Trust Scotland which included a range of books and activity sheets.



Carols and Shortbread

Christmas time is near and P3 have been having a great time taking part in festivities to celebrate Advent and Christmas. We invited family members along to our 'Carols and Shortbread' event. This gave us the opportunity to present the amazing Christmas poems, stories and wishes we have created. We hope everyone enjoyed listening to our festive songs and in making a holly wreath.

Merry Christmas when it comes from all staff in Primary 3 ☺

Primary 4

Primary 4 pupils were delighted to welcome parents to their Open Afternoons. Children enjoyed showcasing their knowledge and understanding of their Social Studies topic - Charities. They worked particularly well with the adults who came, to design and create their own charities.

As part of a whole school initiative to achieve Rights Respecting Schools level 2, Primary 4 took part in a Rights March around the school. They identified articles from the UNCRC which were relevant to their lives and used these to create banners and posters which were displayed throughout the march.



Festivities began in Primary 4 when Cinderella came to school with the Pantomime. Once they had warmed up their voices they began to practise their songs for Carols and Shortbread. Children enjoyed the opportunity to perform in front of the visitors and the event was a huge success.

Primary 5

P5s have had the most amazing time planning our Enterprise topic this term. We used the TASC wheel to generate ideas about ways we could showcase all the things we have been learning about Scotland. We decided to hold a ceilidh for our Open Afternoon and invite all our parents and family members to attend. We organised a Bring & Buy Sale to raise money to buy refreshments for the ceilidh. We managed to raise a whopping £163.95! We wrote invitations, designed posters, made decorations, created programmes and of course, practised our Scottish dances.

The ceilidhs were a great success and we loved having friends and family join us.

Primary 6



Primary 6s have thoroughly enjoyed their Harry Potter novel study this term. In class, pupils have been learning how to extract information from the novel to create new texts such as newspapers and leaflets. Pupils have now completed their shoebox dioramas based on a scene from the novel and are delighted with their results.

P6 classes have even created their own version of Quidditch and have been very excited to compete against different houses during PE sessions in the MUGA.

The pupils also worked hard to prepare for a visit to Bonnyton House where classes performed Christmas songs and carols for residents.



Primary 7

This has been a busy and productive term for Primary 7. Our writing this term has been inspired by author Martin Stewart who visited us before the October break. We have written imaginative stories and have been developing our self-editing and re-drafting skills. Our final stories were submitted for Martin to read and choose his favourite.

The four finalists were Jialaud Tianfield, James Allan, Daniel Langford and Jamie Sedgewick. They were presented with prizes by Martin who was delighted to see some budding authors in the making.



Martin Stewart also visited us during Book Week Scotland. He talked to us about the importance of reading and how text of any form can be interpreted in different ways. He also ran a lunchtime workshop where he chatted to Primary 7s about how he became an author. During this week we also wrote story books for Primary 1 pupils. We loved visiting Primary 1 to read our books and some favourite books of our reading buddies.

Our topic this term has been World War II and we have been researching different areas of the Home Front in groups. We then became the teachers and taught the rest of the class about our area of research. We enjoyed finding out what countries were allies and/or had been invaded during our Open Afternoon where we also created propaganda posters with our guests.



On Monday 12th December Primary 6 and 7 travelled to Rutherglen Town Hall to enjoy an afternoon performance of Cinderella. There was lots of booing, hissing and cheering as well as lots of rustling of sweetie wrappers!

Yearbook Committee



The Primary 7 Yearbook Committee has been busy working on this year's project. We invited the PTA to join us at one of our meetings where they kindly offered to support us by paying the deposit for our yearbooks. The Primary 7s donated a tremendous amount of games, books, DVDs etc for the Yearbook Committee to sell at the Christmas Fayre.

The committee worked really hard all afternoon and were delighted to raise the wonderful sum of £130.04 to subsidise the yearbooks. Thank you for your support.

Carolside Choir



The Carolside choir members meet weekly throughout the year. They enjoy singing together, rehearsing and preparing for end of term services. At the end of term one we were treated to a fabulous rendition of 'True Colours'. Mrs Frew especially enjoyed and appreciated that performance!

Term two brought a couple of extra performances to work towards. The members of the choir met for extra rehearsals to prepare some seasonal Christmas carols. The first event was the school Christmas Fayre. A huge thank you to the choir members who performed at the Carolside Christmas Fayre on Saturday 3 December. You definitely set a Christmassy atmosphere and your smiles brightened everyone's day. Thanks to Mrs Friel for helping on the day.

The second event was to perform at Mrs Roddick's Greenbank Church Manse on Tuesday 13 December. Again the choir performed to an extremely high standard and added to the Christmassy atmosphere of Mrs Roddick's charity event to raise funds for the Blind School in Bethlehem. Well done!



Finally, as we write, we look forward to the choir's end of term performance in the church on the last day. Thank you to all choir members for their continued commitment. Also, thank you to Miss Milne, Mrs Sweeney and Mrs Mackay for leading the choir all year round. Keep it up staff and pupils, well done!



Primary 7, 5a and 5b are nearing the end of their Mindfulness 16 lesson Programme with Mrs Watson. The children have been taught various formal and informal practices such as sitting and lying meditations, mindful movement and mindful eating.

There will be further opportunities to participate in mindfulness activities with class teachers next term and to join the Mindfulness lunch club on a Tuesday. Some of the children have commented on their experience so far:

- "I enjoy mindfulness as it's fun and relaxing." - Eva, P5c
- "Mindfulness makes you feel calm and relaxed and helps when you feel angry." - Kirsty, P5c
- "I like the lying down practice as it's relaxing." - Eve, P7d
- "I like the sitting practices as it helps me become more calm and focussed." - Iona, P7d

Pupil Council

Several reps attended the October Parent Council meeting and gave a short presentation, explaining the role of the Pupil Council and outlining progress made over the last year. Mrs Woodman, Chair of the Parent Council, was invited to the first pupil meeting of this term and enjoyed a self-evaluation task carried out by the reps – four lists were compiled of things which the school should start doing, do more of, do less of and stop doing. Only one comment was added to the 'stop doing' list which confirms the school is doing well but there is always room for improvement. Reps refined these lists after consulting with classmates and items which are achievable will be added to the School Improvement Plan.



Reps worked with the JRSOs to finalise arrangements for the Dress As You Please Day last month, supporting the charity Brake. The fantastic sum of £437.73 was raised.

 Mrs Campbell, our Catering Manager, attended a meeting in November and answered reps' queries on menus and portion sizes. The dining hall extension will make a big difference to lunch arrangements after the holidays. 

Everyone would like to thank the PTA for funding the new playground equipment for all stages.



PTA

It has been a busy couple of months for the PTA.

Thank you to everyone who ordered Christmas cards through Cauliflower Cards. The PTA raised £1210! The Family Photography day was a great success. We raised £648.

The Christmas Fayre was a big success; a great day was had by all! Thank you to everyone who volunteered and to everyone who came along on the day to support the event. We could not run these events without you. We raised the amazing amount of £5600 on the day!

Thank You!

With the money raised, the PTA would like to fund mobile cooking stations for the new Dining Hall extension to allow the children to take part in the cook school.

Watch out for the Family night and Adult night in February/March next year. Dates to follow shortly!

Thank you for your continued support.

Have a Merry Christmas.

Debbie & Julia
Co-Chairs, Carolside PTA



CAROLSIDE

SPORTS CLUB



Carolside Sports Club currently provides basketball and football training for boys and girls on Sunday afternoons at Williamwood High School. We also have football teams at all ages which participate in local Saturday morning East Renfrewshire and Paisley District leagues. Our club is run exclusively by parent volunteers. All volunteer coaches are trained by the club following the SFA Coach Pathway for coaching children, so that our children receive the best possible coaching.

We are affiliated with the SYFA and Basketball Scotland, with all coaches PVG Disclosure checked (all provided by the club) to keep our children safe.

After lots of hard work behind the scenes we are happy to announce that Carolside Sports Club is now a registered Charity.

Scottish FA Quality Mark Development Level Club.

Training returns on Sunday 8th January 2017.

Within the East Renfrewshire League, Carolside is now the second largest club within the league, in terms of number of teams and children competing.

We have welcomed our new P1s on Sundays and all the children are loving their football. All primaries are really enjoying their training and playing their league matches.

The P1s start playing fun 4s on Saturday mornings from March.

The current P7s are nearing the end of their fund raising for their trip to Barcelona in April 2017. The next year group, the current P6s, will be starting their fund raising in the new year. They are planning to go to Madrid in 2018 for their P7 trip.

.....Looks like we have started something!!



BASKETBALL



Our basketball club has gone from strength to strength since starting last year. It is held in the gym hall in Williamwood High School 2pm – 3pm on Sunday afternoons. Come along and register your child's interest.

Next training is on 8th January 2017.
Basketball is open to all P3-P7 children.

Our new Basketball team 'CAROLSIDE SHOOTERS' has played its first 2 matches in Paisley Basketball league. The next league match is 18th January 2017.

If you think your child would be interested in joining the football or basketball training, please come along to Sunday afternoon training at Williamwood High School.
£2/session on a drop in basis.

Remember water bottles and shin guards.

Follow us on our **Facebook** page – **Carolside sports club**
or our website <http://www.carolsidesportsclub.blogspot.co.uk/>

Your Sports Club needs you!

As always the club could not run without the help of volunteer parents. If you feel you could help 'tend' the front desk to take the Sunday training register to helping with general admin / marketing / etc. duties behind the scenes please get in touch with us.
We would love to hear from you.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM ALL AT THE SPORTS CLUB.





We are delighted that so many of you have now registered with ParentPay and hope you are finding it straightforward and beneficial. For those of you who have not yet registered we would encourage you to do so - if you experience problems please contact the school office on 0141 570 7100.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December 2016		
Wednesday 21	Christmas Service (one parent/carer per P1 pupil invited to attend) Close for holidays	9.45am Close 2.30pm
January 2017		
Thursday 5	Return after Christmas holiday	
Wednesday 25	P7 Burns Supper	1.45pm
Friday 27	Jotters and targets home	
Tuesday 31	Parent Council Meeting	7.00pm
February 2017		
Friday 10	In-Service Day	
Monday 13 - Wed 15 (inc)	Holiday	
Monday 20	Start of Financial Awareness Week	
Friday 24	Jotters home	
Monday 27 - Friday 3 March	STEM Fair	
March 2017		
Thursday 2	World Book Day	
Monday 6 - Friday 10	Book Fair	
Tuesday 21	Parent Council Meeting	7.00pm
Friday 24	Jotters and targets home	
Tuesday 28 & Wednesday 29	Parents' Consultation Evenings	Times tbc
Friday 31	Spring Service Greenbank School closes	9.45am 2.30pm

We Wish You All a Very Merry Christmas



And Our Best Wishes for 2017