



St Joseph's Primary School Newsletter

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

This year our infant department have been practising very hard for their Nativity performances, they have even used Google Classroom to practice the songs at home! Primary 1 have been trying to keep the Shepherd awake in their performance of 'The Sleepy Shepherd'. Our Primary 2 are recounting the traditional story of Christmas in 'The Nativity' and Primary 3 have been carrying their Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh in their performance of 'The Three Kings'. Please check the dates for your diary section of this newsletter for our performance times and dates. The ticket allocation emails have been sent directly to you and the majority of tickets have been issued, we still have a few tickets left if you contact the office.

During the period of Advent we are called to prepare for the coming of Jesus and we are reminded of the importance of love and family. With this in mind Primaries 4 - 7 have been organising family Advent services which help to bring us back to the true message of Christmas.

We wish you a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!
With all our best wishes,

Mrs S Martin and Staff of St Joseph's Primary School

Fundraising

As always, our children have been looking at ways to help the wider community during the period of Advent. This year our children from P3-P7 have chosen a variety of worthy charities, these decisions are made based on their understanding of the work the charities do and links to some charities.

P3 will be collecting for the St Margaret's adoption society.

stmargaretsadoption.org.uk/

P4 will be collecting for Missio.

www.missio.org.uk/

P5 will be collecting for Social Bite.

<http://social-bite.co.uk/>

P6 are collecting for SCIAF.

www.sciaf.org.uk/

P7 will be collecting for Marie Curie.

www.mariecurie.org.uk

December 2018



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Pyjama Day

A big thank you for your kind donations towards Cancer Research UK on Pyjama day. We raised a fantastic £439.15 for a very worthy cause. Well done to our House captains who organised the event.



P7 Provost Debate

Over the last few weeks our Primary 7 classes have had the opportunity to participate in topical debate presided over by the Lord Provost.

P7b worked incredibly hard on their Provost Debate. They were debating whether "the driving age should be lowered to 15". With a close vote of 19 against the motion and 15 for, the driving age will remain at 17 for now!

Primary 7a were debating the voting age in the UK at the Provost Debate. They proposed that the voting age should be lowered to the age of 10. With a vote of 19 to 16, they decided that the voting age should remain at 18 years old.



Literacy Workshops

Following on from the success of our recent workshop on supporting children with Literacy difficulties, we will be offering 2 additional workshops to parents to help provide strategies and techniques to support your child's development of Literacy skills.

Literacy Difficulties – Reading with your child Thursday 31st January 2019

The session will cover how to:

- Help your child decode unfamiliar words using letter and vowel knowledge, syllables and spelling rules as tools.
- Expand your child's vocabulary and comprehension through simple questioning.
- Speed up your child's reading by developing their knowledge of blending.

This event is suitable for children in primaries 1-4 who are experiencing difficulties with their reading. Doors will open at 2.30pm for parents to enjoy a tea or coffee and a chat. Children will join us at the end of the school day. The session will finish at 4pm.

Literacy Difficulties – Preparing for secondary Thursday 7th February 2019

This session will cover how to:

- Use technology effectively (mobile phones, laptop, iPad, notepads and Glow)
- Use 'text to speak' (software that reads text aloud for you) and 'speak to text' (software that types what you say)
- Layout your work in Microsoft word.
- Organise your homework and class materials.

In this session we will be working in our parent/child pairs on the computers in the ICT Suite. Please bring along any technology you have and I can show how to use the software we will be discussing on your devices.

This event is suitable for children in primary 7 who are experiencing difficulties with literacy. Doors will open at 2.30pm for parents to enjoy a tea or coffee and a chat. Children will join us at the end of the school day. The session will finish at 4.30pm.

Parent Council

The next meeting of our Parent Council will be held in **St Joseph's Primary ICT Suite** on **Tuesday 5th February at 7pm**. This is the first meeting to be held in our school for a few years and is open to all parents to attend.

Thank you to our Social Committee who have organised our Primary 6 and Christmas Disco on Tuesday 18th December from 6.30—8.30pm

Previously loved uniforms

Thank you for your donations to our uniform stall at parents evening. We raised nearly £80 for our school fund.

Due to the huge amount of donations we felt that it would be fitting to donate the non bagged items to those in need. We sent several bags of skirts, trousers, shirts and jumpers to those who need it most in another area of Glasgow.

School Choir

Mr Hampsey has been working very hard with our school choir and they are now ready for their first public performances. The choir will be singing to welcome our guests to the nativity performances over the next few weeks. They will also help raise money for the Prince and Princess of Wales hospice by singing in Silverburn and they will be entertaining the residence at Bonnyton House Care Home.

Football strips

Our school football team are now the proud owners of new football strips! Thank you to the kind sponsorship of **TCS Response** and **North Visual Studios**.

Thank you also to our parents who so generously responded to our request for a sponsor.



Correspondence

As you will be aware the majority of our correspondence with parents is through email. This session we have started using 'Forms' for parents to request tickets or places at class events and this had worked exceptionally well. We are aware, however that some parents are not receiving our emails or they are being filtered into 'Junk'. In order that we can ensure you receive the correct information in a timeous fashion we would ask that you inform of us of any issues and check your email regularly.

If you do not have access to email please contact the school office and we will issue paper copies.



Reverse Advent Calendar

This year instead of making a normal advent calendar, P7 are making a reverse calendar where everyday a few P7 pupils bring in something for the food bank. eg. canned food, toys, clothes, (hats, scarfs, gloves and anything that will keep people warm during winter). Please make sure all donations have a good use by date as it will need to keep until Christmas. All donations that will help at this time of year will be much appreciated and will be given to the food bank through the Advent Giving Tree at St Joseph's Parish Church.



Reminder

Just a gentle reminder that football colours are not allowed to be worn to school or as part of a PE Kit.

Diary Dates

Date	Time	Event	Stage
Tuesday 4 December	10am	P2 Nativity	P2 and family
Tuesday 4 December	3.15pm	Fun Fitness	P2 and P3
Wednesday 5 December	3.15pm	Football Club (last one)	P4 and 5
Thursday 6 December	2pm	P2 Nativity	P2 and family
Thursday 6 December	11am	Choir to perform at Bonnyton House	P6 and 7 Choir members
Friday 7 December	2pm	P5 Advent assembly	P5 and family
Monday 10 December	9.45am	Dress rehearsal	P1
Monday 10 December	10.30am	Advent Confessions	P5-P7
Monday 10 December	3.15pm	Archery club	P6 and 7
Tuesday 11 December	10am	P1 Nativity	P1 and family
Tuesday 11 December	1.30pm	Enterprise Christmas fayre	P1 - P7
Tuesday 11 December	3.15pm	Fun fitness	P2 and 3
Wednesday 12 December	9.45am	Dress rehearsal	P3
Wednesday 12 December	1pm	Choir performing at Silverburn	P6 and 7 Choir members
Thursday 13 December	2pm	P1 Nativity	P1 and family
Thursday 13 December	6.15pm	P4 Advent assembly at St Joseph's Church	All welcome
Friday 14 December	2pm	P6 Advent assembly	P6 and family
Monday 17 December	10am	P3 Nativity	P3 and family
Monday 17 December	1.30pm	House reward afternoon	Winning House
Tuesday 18 December	2pm	P3 Nativity	P3 and family
Tuesday 18 December	6.30pm	Christmas disco	P6 and 7
Wednesday 19 December	2pm	P7 Advent assembly	P7 and family
Thursday 20 December	1.30pm	Choir performing at Bonnyton House	P6 and 7 Choir members
Friday 21 December	9am	Christmas Jumper Day!	P1-7
Friday 21 December	9.30am	Pantomime - Dick Whittington	P1-7
Friday 21 December School Closes for Christmas Holiday			
Monday 7 January 2019 School reopens			