



Hello everyone

Can you believe that we have only 8 school days to go before we stop for our Festive Break? There is a very excited buzz going around the school as we engage with our 12 Days of Christmas Calendar and next week is lining up to be every bit as exciting as this one!

LEARNING FOCUS:

Your child's Learning Focus for our next teaching block will be uploaded onto their Google Classroom today. This will inform you of what is planned for learning in your child's class until the end of February.

UNIFORM:

We continue to encourage children to dress for excellence and wear appropriate school uniform every day. A list of uniform items, including PE kit is available on our school website [here](#). Whilst we do not insist that items have the school badge, they should reflect our school colours. We have noted a number of children wearing items that would be considered non-uniform, especially on PE days, and ask for your support in ensuring that children wear the appropriate PE kit as far as possible. We know that cost associated with school uniform is one of the most significant for families and further information about help with these costs can be found using the link below, <https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/article/1221/Clothing-grants-and-free-school-meal>

As part of PE kit, the children should have a pair of gym shoes and a pair of trainers for outdoor PE. Please do not go out and buy new trainers if they don't have a pair as any existing ones would suffice. We ask that you provide a shoe bag which will allow the shoes to be left in school rather than be carried to and from school.

COVID MITIGATIONS:

Can I please remind you that when you are around the school gate or in the school playground you must wear a face covering or have your exemption certificate on show? Whilst inside the school grounds, you must also maintain a 2M distance from anyone who is not a member of your family.

P1 and P2 Christmas Story:

Primary 1 and 2 have been along to Caldwell Parish Church to film themselves retelling the Christmas Story. This was recorded and will be shared with their parents once it has been edited. In addition, our Primary 1 and 2 children will be retelling the story during our Carols and Shortbread event on the last day of school.

Christmas Cards:

Some of the children have given us names of recipients for the Christmas Cards they have made. We are sending cards in collaboration with the church. All cards will be placed in their post box and distributed by them. They also have a list which they will use in conjunction with ours to ensure that everyone who would benefit from a little message at Christmas is included.

Festive Lunch:

We will be sitting down to enjoy our Christmas Lunch on Tuesday 14th December. The children can wear Christmas jumpers and other Christmas accessories with their uniform on the bottom.

Nut Free School:

I am sure that you will be aware that we continue to be a "Nut Free School" and as such, children must not bring any products containing nuts or those with nuts identified as allergens (usually in bold within the ingredient list), to school. During the festive season, children sometimes have different snacks or food items in their lunch boxes and I ask all parents to be especially vigilant at this time to any items which may contain nuts. Many thanks in advance for your support.

Village Scavenger Hunt:

We are looking forward to getting ourselves out and about in the village, on Wednesday 15th at 2PM, looking for Christmas items that are being strategically placed around the village. We would like to thank members of our Parent Council for their help in organising this at this busy time of the year.

Christmas Movie:

Our House Captains undertook a survey this week with everyone in the school to help us choose which movie to watch on Thursday 16th. Nativity was the clear winner. We will be starting the movie before the end of lunch time to allow us time to watch it. The children can come dressed as they please on that day – pyjamas are an option! They can also bring a small snack and drink to be enjoyed during the movie.

Santa Dash:

Our Santa Dash takes place next Friday, 17th, from 2PM. Again I would like to thank those members of the Parent Council for again taking a lead to organise the route for this. The children can come with Christmas jumpers, Santa outfits, Santa hats etc. with their PE bottoms. It would be really great if you were able to come along and join us for this fun run/walk – dressed for the occasion! Children will only be able to run with members of their own family and all adults must remain at 2M distance from other adults and from children who are not members of their own families. We would appreciate your support in adhering to our current mitigations. If you do come along, you can take your child home once the course is completed.

Christmas Jumper Swap:

We have had a few jumpers handed in for our jumper swap. If you have a jumper which your child has outgrown, please hand it in as soon as possible. We will send out details of how you can obtain one of these pre-loved items at the beginning of next week.

Carols and shortbread:

Preparations are well underway for Carols and Shortbread on Wednesday 22nd December. There will be songs, music and dance, a hot drink and shortbread. All the makings of a lovely Festive afternoon. We would love if you could join us in the playground from 1.30PM. We ask that the children come dressed in their own clothes and with jackets, hats, scarves etc. for being outside. It would be really helpful if you complete the form [here](#) to let us know if you are planning on joining us for this and/or the Santa Dash. Again we ask that you support us in adhering to our COVID mitigations to keep everyone safe and healthy as we go off to enjoy our Festive Break. We have an early finish at 2.30PM but children can be taken home as soon as the event finishes.

Selection Packs:

McLaren's Garden Centre have gifted surplus Christmas Selection Packs, following an event they had last weekend. We will be distributing them next week. If you would rather your child did not receive one due to dietary requirements, can you please contact the school office.

Please do not hesitate to contact us. Remember no question or problem is too small to discuss with us.

Best Regards



Fiona McKay
Head Teacher