

# Maidenhill Primary School

## Head Teacher's Bulletin



Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November

**Dear Parents/ Carers**

Rehearsals began in earnest this week for P1-P5's all-singing, all-dancing nativity performance, 'Lights, Camel, Action!' Despite our best efforts, the pressure of mounting our first whole-school nativity became too great and we had to break our own December 1<sup>st</sup> rule. A letter was issued in school bags this week with a tear-off slip that will let you order tickets- if you have checked bags to no avail, please get in touch with our school office for a replacement letter. Our nursery class nativity is scheduled for Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December with tickets on sale from next week.

This already means that the festive juggernaut is well on its way and there is no stopping it now. Many thanks to everyone who has helped with decorations for our very first Maidenhill Christmas- much appreciated (donations still welcome).

Our Parent Council are also organising a Christmas raffle to be drawn on the day of our nativity- any prize donations handed in to the school office are most welcome. They are also hoping to tempt you on the day with their home baking and with this season's must-have gift- a customised super-stylish Maidenhill tote bag. In addition, children from each class will be selling a range of Christmas crafts- make sure wallets and purses are at the ready (you have been warned!)

This is always a special time in a primary school and it is great when a community, regardless of beliefs and background, can come together to celebrate the traditions of the season. I am especially looking forward to the children's Christmas parties this year- Primary 3-5 on the afternoon of Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December pm and the nursery class- P2 on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December am. Party clothes can be worn all day if wished.

### **Casting Call**

In relation to the above, are you a larger gentleman of a jolly disposition.....or a sweet-natured, kindly lady who enjoys bucking gender stereotypes? If not, could you pretend to be one for a short time or do you know someone who could on the morning of Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December? If so, we desperately need to hear from you. We can't guarantee any financial remuneration, but the warm fuzzy feeling you will get from taking on this role will be priceless.

### **Community Christmas Tree**

The congregation of Newton Mearns Baptist Church have kindly offered to donate a Christmas tree to the Maidenhill community. The tree is to be sighted within the plaza area at the front of the school with the official 'lighting-up' to take place on the evening of Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December. The church are keen to extend an invitation to all community members to congregate at the plaza from 6.15-7.15pm for carols, hot chocolate and possibly a sneaky mulled wine. I am sure you will join me in thanking the church for this generous gesture towards our new community.

## **NHS Flu Vaccination Programme**

The NHS's flu vaccination programme for Maidenhill, which was due to take place on November 11<sup>th</sup>, has been re-arranged for the afternoon of Friday December 6<sup>th</sup>.

## **Maidenhill All-Stars**

I was delighted to present our awards to December's Maidenhill All-Stars (slightly early, I know) at today's assembly. Well done to Aasiyah, Ralph, Jamie, Sarah, Waleed and Lewis- we are proud of you and all your efforts!

## **Book Banding**

Last week's Book Week Scotland also saw the launch of our fantastic new library resources. The enthusiasm that the children have for the new books is electric and it is essential that we try to hold on to and build on this excitement for reading and the role it plays in life-long learning and enjoyment. A huge thanks to all our staff members for the hours (and days in some cases) that they have spent of their own time 'banding' our fantastic books. This is a mammoth task and we still have some way to go. However the effort already put in means that children will be able to select library books from the same or similar 'band' as the Big Cat books designed for teachers to use when leading guided reading sessions or phonics lessons in class. I know the commitment that our staff team has shown will be much appreciated.

## **Key Dates for Terms 2, 3 and 4**

Monday December 16<sup>th</sup>- P3, 4 and 5 Christmas Party (pm)  
Tuesday December 17<sup>th</sup>- Nursery Nativity, am and pm  
Wednesday December 18<sup>th</sup>- P1 and 2 Christmas Party (am)  
Thursday December 19<sup>th</sup>- School Nativity, 9.30am and 1.45pm  
Friday December 20<sup>th</sup>- School closes for Christmas Holiday at 2.30pm  
Monday January 6<sup>th</sup>- School re-opens for Term 3  
Friday January 24<sup>th</sup>- Tartan Day- a celebration of all things Scottish; tartan optional!  
Thursday January 30<sup>th</sup>- Learn With Us Afternoon 2, 2.00-2.45pm  
Thursday February 27<sup>th</sup>- STEM Fayre, time tbc.  
from Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March - Scholastic Book Fair comes to Maidenhill  
Thursday March 26<sup>th</sup> - Parent Consultation Evening 2, from 3.30pm  
Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup>- P4/5 Assembly; P4/5 Parents/ carers welcome to attend  
Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup>- School closes for Spring Holiday  
Monday April 20<sup>th</sup>- School re-opens for Term 4  
Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup>- INSET Day  
Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>- Holiday  
Friday May 15<sup>th</sup>- P1 Assembly; P1 Parents/ carers welcome  
Friday May 22<sup>nd</sup> and Monday May 25<sup>th</sup>- Holiday  
Tuesday May 26<sup>th</sup>- INSET Day  
Tuesday June 2<sup>nd</sup>- Nursery Sports  
Thursday June 4<sup>th</sup>- School Sports  
Friday June 12<sup>th</sup>- Summative reports issued to parents/ carers  
Thursday June 25<sup>th</sup>- Nursery Graduation, am

**Alasdair McDonald**  
**Head Teacher**