

Golfhill Primary School, Whitehill Campus

Telephone: 0141 554 7723

Head Teacher: Mairi Thomson

Website - <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/golfhill/>



@1Golfhill



Newsletter – December Update 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

It is hard to believe that the holidays are almost upon us. So far this month the children have been enjoying the countdown to Christmas and all that the festive period brings. I hope this continues!

Here is an update on the goings on in school. Remember the twitter feed and the school website also has up to date information and some classes are really getting into the swing of sharing their terrific learning there.

Christmas Fayre



Friday 9 December was the busiest day in the Golfhill calendar so far this session. The school community turned out to support in huge numbers. We had an incredible 157 people through the door! Thank you so much to all the parents/carers who joined us on the day. Thanks also for all the help beforehand. This helped make it a real success.

Thank you so much for your generosity. Together we raised an

astounding **£1140!!!** This money goes directly to school funds to help provide experiences throughout the year for

the children.

Christmas Countdown

- Tuesday 13 December - Infant dress rehearsal
- Wednesday 14 December - whole school dress rehearsal
- Thursday 15 December Pantomime trip. Buses leave at 9.30am prompt. Performance begins at 10am. **Thanks to all those who have paid their £5 ticket money.**
- Thursday 15 December P5 children walk to Celtic Park Kerrydale Suite for 1pm for Christmas party.
- Friday 16 December Nativity and concert 2 performances **10.30 am and 1.15 pm**. Tickets on sale from the office for £1
- Monday 19 December 12.40 - 2.45 pm - P4-7 party
- Tuesday 20 December 12.40 - 2.45 pm - P1-3 party

For the parties, please come in own clothes. Children will be given a drink, crisps and chocolate treat. If there are any dietary requirements, please let the office know/send in own snack.

- Wednesday 21 December – come dressed in own clothes (no football colours thank you)
- Wednesday 21 December - 1pm whole school Christmas sing a long
- Wednesday 21 December - school closes **2.15pm**



Parent/carer feedback

You may remember at parents' night, you were asked to complete a questionnaire to help us evaluate how well we are doing. We received 69 questionnaires back so thanks to all those families who took the time to share your thoughts with us. The results have been collated and are shown below-

Listening
=
Learning

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
The school helps my child to be more confident.	34	32			1
My child enjoys learning at school.	37	30			
My child's learning is progressing well.	41	25	1		
My child is encouraged and stretched to work to the best of their ability.	32	34			3
The school keeps me well informed about my child's progress.	31	32	3		
My child feels safe at school.	37	31	1		
My child is treated fairly at school.	40	29			
I feel staff really know my child as an individual and support them well.	41	25			2
My child benefits from school clubs and activities provided outside the classroom.	22	32	5		6
The school asks for my views.	26	32	6		3
The school takes my views into account.	22	38	3		4
The school is well led.	32	35	1		1
Overall, I am happy with the school	42	26		1	

(Please note some questions were left blank so the numbers may not total 69 for each statement.)

There was also one response that was half way between agree and disagree for '*The school keeps me well informed about my child's progress.*'

What have we learned from this process?

On the whole the results show that parents/carers are pleased with the education and care in Golfhill. We are absolutely delighted with this feedback and as a team we will continue to do the very best that we can for the children and families in Golfhill. If you would be interested in joining a focus group to help us evaluate, please speak to the office and we can pick up on this in 2017.

In response to the numbers above, I thought it might be helpful to provide a run-down of the clubs currently on offer:

Lunchtime clubs	Afterschool Clubs
Tuesday P4 - Bikeability with Mr Moore	Football P4-P7 runs each week on a Tuesday (new term begins 17 January)
Tuesday P4-7 - Knitting Club with Mrs Duff	Dance P1 and P2 children Monday 20 February – 27 March and Monday 24 April – 12 June (details to follow)
Friday lunchtime P7 Bikeability level 2 with Mr Moore	Film Club – dates advertised on Parent Council Facebook page, at assembly and in newsletters
Starting in 2017 – Monday lunchtime Journalists' Club with Miss Hayworth	
Tuesday P4 Homework Club with Miss McCarten	
Wednesday - P4-7 Scratch Club with Grace and Amelia in ICT Room	

Please speak to the office for more information on any of these clubs. Similarly if there are any parents/carers willing to run a club, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Activities provided outside the classroom

Over the course of the year, all children should benefit from outdoor learning in the school grounds or elsewhere outside. Some recent examples include: P4 cycling with Mrs Gray, P5 swimming lessons at Whitehill pool, P1 learning about shadows, P2/1 collecting leaves and twigs for shapes, P1 and P2/1 exploring Westercraigs garden, P3 trip to Tesco, P5/4 science experiments, P6 and P7 going to Glasgow Ski Centre and The Sunshine Room visiting The Swallow Café.

Some of these examples appear on the school website and twitter feed. If you feel it would be beneficial for us to display this learning in school, please just let the office know. We would be more than happy to do so.

Photographer Feedback

Thanks to those parents/carers who sent in their feedback on the class photographs. We received 19 slips back and a couple of responses via email. The results are as follows:



	Yes	No
I like the style of the casual class photograph	10	9
I would like an individual photo of my child each year	19	
I would like the option to buy a class photograph each year	12	7
I like a more traditional school photograph	11	8
I like a more informal school photograph	11	7
I think the cost of £14 per photograph is acceptable	10	5

If you have not had a chance to send in your feedback, please feel free to still send it in so it may be considered. So far the results are overwhelmingly in favour of individual photographs with the option of buying a class photograph but the question of style is not clear cut.

What now? Mrs Jones will contact a couple of photographers to gather costs in preparation for 2017. It was noted that the timing of the photograph could be earlier. We will endeavour to book this closer to the start of the session rather than so close to Christmas. Next session we will also offer the option of siblings being photographed together.

Music to our ears

We are thrilled to have received twelve ukuleles. Mrs Ryan and Miss Hayworth have thoroughly enjoyed their training as part of Glasgow Creates and can't wait to get playing with P6/5 and P5/4. Watch this space!!!



As we look ahead to 2017 - Upcoming dates and events

- Seasons for Growth begins in school 13 January led by Mrs Ryan
- Student teacher Miss McCracken begins again with P1 (week beginning 9 January – Thursday 9 February)
- Monday 9 January P1 and P2/1 - PEPASS physical activity project begins with Andrea Robertson from Glasgow City Council. This lasts for 7 weeks and will include a session for parents/carers.
- Thursday 12 January - P4 Active Play 10 week project with PEEK begins. This learning takes place outside. Special provision will be made for children who due to health reasons can't be outside.
- Thursday 12 January - P6/5 Active Play Champions with PEEK (10 children for 8 weeks) This learning takes place outside.
- Wednesday 18 January – Parent Council Meeting
- Proposed date Thursday 19 January – P5/4 to Celtic Connections concert
- Proposed date Wednesday 25 January - Orchestra to Celtic Connections concert
- Friday 3 February – Dental team in to apply fluoride varnish to children's teeth (P1-P4)
- Friday 20 January – P4 Assembly
- Friday 27 January – whole school Burns' Celebration
- Date to be confirmed Thursday 9 February – P3 Assembly
- Holiday - Monday 13 and Tuesday 14 February
- In-service Day 4 – Wednesday 15 February (children do not attend)
- Monday 20 February – Student teacher Miss Differ begins again in P7 until 31 March
- Friday 24 February – Pinocchio performance by M&M Productions in school for whole school
- Thursday 9 March – Open Afternoon
- Friday 17 March – P2/1 Assembly
- Tuesday 21 March – Parents' Night
- Friday 31 March – non-uniform day (contribute £1 towards school funds)

Any further updates will be sent home where possible via letter, text message, twitter and on the web.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me via the office. In the meantime, I wish you well and hope that you are able to enjoy a wonderful family Christmas.

Best wishes

Mairi