

# Golfhill Primary School, Whitehill Campus

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@1Golfhill



## Newsletter - November 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

It is hard to believe the autumn weather has turned to wintery showers. The prospect of building snow sculptures had us all excited. It was great to see the children dressed for the weather. Last month comments slips were included in the newsletter. The office did not receive any slips back. I trust that you find the newsletter helpful and the lengthier spotlight on classes this month. Please feel free to pass on any comments to the office.

### Whitehill Secondary transition

Primary 7 pupils have now had a couple of visits to Whitehill and are thoroughly enjoying their visits. The P7 teachers are working together and have planned a number of maths lessons. Staff will meet again to discuss how the children got on with the planned lessons and compare results with the national benchmarks.



### Pantomime

**The pantomime invoice is now due. Please send in £5 per ticket. Thank you.**

### Literacy improvement

November is fast becoming Literacy Month with lots of exciting activities to encourage our children in their reading:

- P4-7 Launch of First Minister's Reading Challenge - Every pupil now has their own reading passport.
- P1-3 will receive a gift bag containing books/activities from the Scottish Book Trust.
- P6/5 are organising our annual Scottish Children's Book Award voting in The Book Bug category. Older class will have shared reading sessions with younger pupils prior to the whole school casting their vote.
- Throughout the school we are launching our new Home Lending Book Bags for pupils to borrow lovely new books to enjoy.
- Week beginning 21st November the whole school will be celebrating Scottish Book Week.
- Book Fayre in Whitehill street area during Parents' Night – P7 helpers will be encouraging us all to read and buy a book. Proceeds to school library.

### Lines

Your help with allowing the children to line up independently is much appreciated. The children are very precious and we want to make sure all are safely inside. As a result, please stand well clear of the lines and the area just outside the front door at 8.45 a.m. This will enable staff to see all the children and to monitor them as they enter the school building. Should you be making your way out of the grounds via the car park gate, please wait until all the lines have entered the school building before doing so. Similarly, should you need to speak with office staff, please allow the lines to enter the school building before making your way to the outer foyer thank you.



### Late coming and attendance

You will recently have received information update regarding attendance and late coming. We will continue to closely monitor these areas to ensure consistently high standards in Golfhill as both attendance and late coming have an impact on the children's learning and progress.



### Christmas Fayre

The Christmas Fayre is a popular event in the school calendar and helps to raise much needed funds for the school. This year the fayre will be held on **Friday 9 December**. The children and staff are already busy making items to sell. Should you wish to support us either on the day or beforehand, please let the office know thank you.

Please send in donations week beginning **Monday 28 November**. Items will be sorted and stored in school.

How can you help?

- **Bric a brack** – do you need a pre-Christmas clear out? If so please hand in good quality books, DVDs, games etc. for this stall.
- **Teddy tombola** – do you have a stash of soft toys and teddies? Send in teddies and soft toys for this popular stall.
- **Dress down day** – we will have a special dress down day on **Friday 2 December**. Children can come to school in their own clothes (no football colours thanks) in exchange for an item for either the tombola or raffle.
- **Would you like to buy your child's craft?** – A slip for you to complete will be sent home the week of the fayre. If you complete and return this, it means your child's craft will be reserved for you. Please bring the money to school on the day of the fayre.
- **Baking for the tearoom** – please send in some baking to be enjoyed in the tearoom

### Some of what to expect on the day –

- free entry
- face painting
- popcorn and hotdogs for sale
- adult tearoom
- 'no adults allowed room' (children only – they may be buying a present for someone special!)
- crafts on sale
- jarbola
- crafts to make and buy
- teddy tombola
- tombola



## Spotlight on some classes

**P2/1** – the children continue to enjoy their outdoor learning and were demonstrating their knowledge of sounds by writing words outside. “We wrote cat, dog and sun.” said Kelsi. In science the children were amazed at what happens when skittles mix with hot water. Miss Munro’s door is often open and the sound of Jolly Phonics singing can be enjoyed by all.



**P3** – enjoyed their recent trip to Tesco for the Farm to Fork and shared their learning with the rest of the school. P3 are delighted to welcome back Mrs Johnstone who will be teaching the class Wednesday pm – Friday. Our sincere thanks must go to Mrs Little for teaching the class all week during Mrs Johnstone’s absence.

**P4** – wrote some super spooky stories recently and were delighted to learn that Mrs Maureen McKenna (Director of Education) liked the tweet about this. Miss McCarten is going to start a lunchtime homework club.

**P5/4** – Primary 5 children enjoy their new block of swimming and Primary 4 are taking advantage of the smaller numbers and heading out each Monday to take part in Bikeability. The children have been learning about the importance of clean water and we have found out that many children across the world do not have access to clean water. We will be giving a class presentation at assembly about what we have learned and we will have a fundraising project on Monday - Wednesday (14th - 16th Nov) to raise money for Water Aid.

P5/4 will be taking part in a Cantata about the life of a great Scottish thinker, John Duns Scotus, who travelled around Europe in the 13th Century. They will be singing songs with children from around Glasgow in Wellington Church on Tuesday 22nd November.

**P7** – Ayush was very fortunate to win GEAAP’s competition and was awarded with an ipod. Congratulations Ayush! Lia treated the school to an excellent presentation to start dyslexia awareness week. She really encouraged us all to give things a go and not give up. We were able to show our support for dyslexia by wearing blue ribbons in school. Thank you Lia!

Primary 7 is having a football match with St Denis' to celebrate their participation in the topic Sense Over Sectarianism.



**The Sunshine Room** – Mrs Todd and Miss Thomson are updating their food hygiene certificates this month. The children who visit the Sunshine Room can look forward to lots more cooking (yum!)

Mrs Duff’s knitting club has started up again. We can look forward to some lovely crafts soon.



Mr Mackin has just taken delivery of 30 trees and bushes which will be planted by the Polli:nation group made up from pupils from P6/5. The trees and bushes will enhance the biodiversity of the playground and make our playground more attractive to wildlife.

### Eco News

Fabulous news!!! Mrs Baruah heard recently that we have been granted the continuation of our Green Flag. This is a wonderful achievement for the school community. We continue to promote this in our school. Mrs Baruah and children have just this week been out tending the potatoes.



### Choir

Mr Mackin will be meeting with the choir in preparation for the singing at the Forge.

### Upcoming dates and events (please also refer to dates in the Parent Council update)

- Friday 11 November – P5/4 class assembly 1.30 p.m.
- Thursday 17 November 1.30 p.m. – NPFS parent focus group – tea/coffee and bite to eat provided – all welcome
- Thursday 17 November – parents'/carers' night – 3.15p.m. – 8.45p.m. This will take place in the Whitehill Fuel Zone and street area. Please enter via the Whitehill Secondary entrance.
- Friday 18 November – P3/2 class assembly 1.30 p.m.
- Friday 25 November – school orchestra rehearsal (further details from Mrs Ryan)
- Friday 2 December – Carol singing at the Forge and P6 and P7 to Bellahouston Ski Centre
- Monday 5 December – Friday 9 December – Whitehill pupil Eilidh Stirling in school
- Friday 9 December – Christmas Fayre
- Thursday 15 December – am Platform for Rapunzel
- Thursday 15 December – P5 children to Kerrydale Suite at Celtic Park for Christmas party (p.m.)
- Friday 16 December – school nativity/concert (details to follow)
- Christmas parties – Monday 19 December (upper school) and Tuesday 20 December (infants)
- Wednesday 21 December – non-uniform day and school closes at 2.15pm
- Thursday 5 January 2017 – return to school



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 look forward to speaking with you all next week at Parents' Night.

Best wishes

*Mairi*

Mairi Thomson Head Teacher

## Golfhill Parent Council Report November 2016

Huge thanks to all the pupils, carers, grandparents and parents that took part in our **Autumn Disco**!! All of the children looked incredible in their costumes and had a tremendous time. Thanks to your support the disco raised £325 to support the school!!



Particular thanks and recognition to the volunteers who gave their time and their energy and helped out on the night – Isabella Leese, Nikki Runciman, Andrea Williams, Diane Dickie, Maria Tzoneva-Hadjigeorgieva, Ashley Smith Hammond, Shaneese Robinson, Claire Macdonald, Linda Williams, Jen Woods, Drew Hammond, Anne Louise Kieran and Carmen Rubio Gutierrez.

### Upcoming dates

**10 November:** Ministerial Engagement Session - Education Governance Review

**11 November:** Film Club *How to Train Your Dragon* 2:45 – 4:30pm\*

**17 November:** NPFS focus group – all parents/carers welcome & encouraged to take part (in advance of parent's evening)

**22 November:** Parent Council meeting 6:30 – 8PM

**25 November:** Film Club *Bambi* 2:45 – 4:10pm\*

**9 December:** Christmas Fair

\*Tickets available from the school office

### Have you been to Film Club yet this year?

Film club is a regular fundraiser offered to the Golfhill community by the parent council every other week. Held in the Whitehill lecture theatre, it has a real cinema feeling! We started running film club in 2013 and it has been going strong ever since. For £2 each pupil gets a movie in the auditorium, a drink and a snack. We do ask that P1&2 pupils have a grown up bring them – our experience has been that for our younger moviegoers sometimes need a bit more support. Plus, who doesn't love visit to the pictures? It's a great thing to share at the end of a long week! If you've never tried film club, or it's been a while please do join us!

Films are supplied via Love Film and we're always open to suggestions and recommendations. We publish the dates and times of each film club on the Parent Council Facebook page. You will also get a bag drop each month with details about each film with information on ratings and run times (so you know when to come to pick them up!).

## It's Jarbola time!!

Every year at Christmas we go a bit jarbola mad ☺ What is jarbola? It's a fun way to get creative with your kids, recycle and raise money!

Simply get a clean and intact jar (Parent Council will leave a small supply in the school office for anyone who cannot obtain one from home) and fill it with small and inexpensive items. Here's a few ideas to get you started:

- Sweets
- Marbles
- Hair accessories
- Bouncy balls
- Lego
- Colouring pencils
- Or your own idea!



The jar should then be labelled with the pupil's name (i.e. From Jane) decorated if desired and donated to the school. Jars will be displayed in School Foyer in the run up to Christmas and then be available for purchase for £1 at the Christmas Fair.

In the past, pupils have enjoyed both making the jars, admiring their friends' contributions and purchasing each other's (or their own!) during the Fair.

We hope you will all enjoy participating in Jarbola whilst raising money for Golfhill Primary School. We invite each and every pupil to participate, and as with all Parent Council fundraisers all monies raised go directly to support the school.

That's all from the Parent Council for November. Thanks and stay in touch! If you have any questions about any of the above, please contact us via email, Facebook or in person.

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