

| Making Friends | Eco Friendly | Responsible | Respect | Yes we can! | Learning Outdoors | Enjoy a healthy lifestyle | Exciting Opportunities |
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October 2023



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed a lovely October break. It was lovely to see the children back to school wrapped up for a frosty morning! Please remember to make sure your child always has a warm, waterproof jacket, labelled with their name, so that they can continue to enjoy the outdoors in all weathers. Shoes can become wet or muddy so please also provide a pair of shoes to wear indoors. An old pair of trainers or slip on sandals are ideal. Slippers are not suitable.

Dark nights mean Halloween is approaching and we are looking forward to lots of fun at the Halloween disco on Thursday evening. Please note that scary masks and any unsuitable accessories (scythes, swords and any other weapon type accessories) are not permitted. More information about arrangements for drop off and pick up will be issued soon. Don't forget to visit the pre-loved Halloween costume rail at the main entrance. All donations are free to take and can be re-donated next year!

Staff News

There have been a few recent changes to our staff team. We welcomed back Mrs Taylor before the October holiday which meant saying goodbye to Miss McArthur who covered P5/4 in her absence. Many thanks to Miss McArthur for her continued commitment to Merrylee and a warm welcome back to Mrs Taylor.

Sadly, we also say goodbye to Mrs Scullion. She has decided to resign as support for learning worker to spend more time with her family. I am sure you will join me in wishing her well and thank her for her time at Merrylee.

Merrylee Bike Bus

If you are looking for safe and sustainable travel to school, why not join the Merrylee Bike Bus? If you'd like more information contact merryleebikebus@gmail.com and/or on WhatsApp <https://chat.whatsapp.com/JgJp0XgeQg71GLg6LQubPY>



Please continue to respect the traffic restrictions in place outside the school at drop off and pick up times as part of Glasgow's School Streets campaign and encourage your children to walk or cycle to school. The bike shed is opened at 8am and locked at 9.10am each morning. It is opened again between 3 and 3.30pm each day. As there are times when the shed is open and unattended I recommend that your child uses a bike lock. The school cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage to property.

Cost of the School Day

We value opportunities to get out and about but are aware that the cost of trips can be challenging. We use the PA and school funds to subsidise all trips as much as possible. We have also recently taken advantage of public transport when possible as an affordable and interesting way to get to local events. If

you need help paying for any trips etc, please don't hesitate to get in touch. All matters are dealt with confidentially and discreetly. This includes the cost of P6 and P7 residential trips.

Your child may also be **entitled to a clothing grant and or free school meals**. Please do not hesitate to apply. All children in P1-5 receive free school meals but it is also worth applying if you are eligible as grants are often given for the school holidays. Information can be found on Glasgow City Council website. Not only will families benefit from any grants received, but the number of successful applications by families also benefits school staffing and the budget we are allocated for school.

If you have any other ideas about ways we can help with the cost of the school day, please get in touch.

Parent/Teacher Consultations

You will be aware from recent communication that we are using an online booking system for parent's night appointments. To access this, you will need to create a Parent Portal account. If you haven't already signed up, we would advise you to sign up as soon as possible. Parents Portal can be accessed using this link <https://parentsportal.scot/pportal/> - Parents/Carer will need a MyGov account. You can then use the same login details to access Parents Portal. Further guidance on registering can be found on the Glasgow City Council webpage: <https://glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=27638>

If you have any issues signing up or linking your child, please get in touch with the School Office on 0141 637 6798 between 9.30am-2.30pm.

Please note: The booking system is not yet live. We will notify you when the booking system is live for booking.

Seasonal Events

You will see from the diary dates, there are a number of events booked for all of our children to enjoy during the festive season. We have managed to secure some funding including an in-school pantomime production for P4-7. Further information about each event will be issued in due course.

In a change to our Nativity tradition, our P2s will be performing for parents and family this year, supported by P3. Our P1s will also be getting into the festive spirit with a Christmas sing-along. We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to enjoy these performances.

I hope that that the information in this newsletter is helpful. Please see below for dates for your diary.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any concerns or wish to discuss any matter.

Colette Haddock

Head Teacher

chaddock@merrylee-pri.glasgow.sch.uk

Miss Kirk (DHT P1-3) gw15kirkcatriona@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

Mrs McLaughlin (DHT P4-7) gw10mclaughlinlynsey@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

School office 0141 637 6798 (office hours 8am-4pm)

Absence line 0141 287 0039

Dates for your diary (supporting information about upcoming trips and events will be posted on Seesaw as appropriate)

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| Thursday 26 October | PA Halloween Disco (further details to follow) P1-3 6.15-7.15pm P4-7 7.30-8.45pm |
| Friday 27 October | Fit & Fruity Friday Pupil Voice Conference @ SEC (Pupil Voice P7 reps) |
| Monday 30 October | Anti-Racism Workshops (Diversity Committee) |
| Wednesday 1 November | Parent Association meeting 7pm |
| Thursday 2 November | P7 swimming – final session for block 1 |
| Monday 6 November | P6a Visit to the Gurdwara Pupil Voice Forum @ City Chambers (Pupil Voice P5 & P4 reps) |
| Thursday 9 November | P7 swimming – first session block 2 |
| Thursday 16 November | Parent/Teacher consultations 4-7pm |
| Tuesday 21 November | Parent/Teacher consultations 4-7pm |
| Friday 24 November | Fit & Fruity Friday |
| Wednesday 29 November | Parent Association meeting 7pm |
| Saturday 2 December | PA Christmas Fair 10-12 (details to follow) |
| Monday 4 December | Cinderella pantomime P4-7 (in school) |
| Wednesday 6 December | P2 – ‘A Christmas Carol’ @ The Tallship (10am) Pupil Voice Forum @ City Chambers (Pupil Voice P7 reps) |
| Thursday 7 December | P3 – ‘A Christmas Carol’ @ The Tallship (10am) |
| Wednesday 13 December | P1 – ‘Ginger’ @ Tramway Theatre 1.30-2.30pm |
| Thursday 14 December | P7 Christmas Ceilidh 7-8.15pm (details to follow) |
| Friday 15 December | P2 Nativity supported by P3 @ 1.45pm (in school) |
| Wednesday 20 th December | P1 Christmas Sing-Along @ 2.15pm (in school) |
| Thursday 21 December | P1 Christmas Party with special guest |
| Friday 22 December | School closes at 2.30pm for holidays |
| Monday 8 January | School reopens for term 3 |