

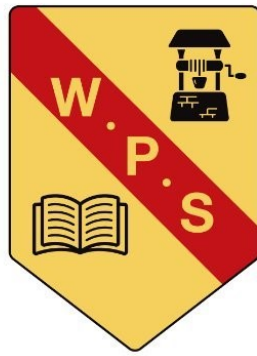
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December 2023



Twitter

@WallacewellPS



Newsletter

Welcome to our December. Now that December is here we are officially allowed to say the C word—

It's Christmas

Our countdown to Christmas is officially on. The weather outside may be frightful, but our Christmas celebrations are delightful! Our festive schedule is now in full swing, and remaining key dates can be found at the end of this newsletter.

As we approach the end of 2023 it is a good time to reflect on all that we have achieved this year so far. As you know our missions for this session are to improve numeracy, writing and approaches to health and wellbeing across the school and to work in partnership with all stakeholders across our leaning community. Our Challenge Leaders of Learning have been working with targeted intervention groups who are making very good progress in both literacy and numeracy. We now have three nurture trained staff who are helping to enhance nurturing approaches to teaching and learning across the school. We have introduced emotional check ins in all classes and are using the Circles Participation Framework to ensure our classrooms are inclusive for all. We also led and engaged in a very successful learning community inclusion event in October that has developed practitioner knowledge and practice to support staff to get it right for all of our young people. Additionally, we have worked really hard to gather and act on feedback from families which has resulted in increased after/before school clubs for pupils, more educational experiences such as trips for all classes and an enhanced focus on the issues families have concerns about such as the capacity of the school and the carpark/drop off zone.

We are looking forward to our Christmas Fayre next week—**Friday 8th of December 2023 from 3.30pm until 5.30pm**. We have a special Beatson fundraising table at the event, where a group of enterprising individuals will be selling some of the BEST jam this side of the River Clyde. Our staff team are also taking part in the Santa Dash to raise money for the Beatson on Sunday the 10th of December. Information on how to sponsor us can be found on our school twitter page.

As always, thank you for your continued support. If there is anything we can help with, please get in touch. The Staff Team at Wallacewell would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and all the very best for 2024!

Yours

Miss L Davidson

Head Teacher

**Contact Details:**

0141 557 5041

Headteacher@wallacewell-pri.glasgow.sch.uk

Child Protection Co-ordinator:

Miss Davidson (HT)

Deputy Child Protection Co-ordinators:

Mrs Taylor (DHT) or Miss Kelly (DHT)

Parent Council 2023-24

We would like to thank our Parent Council for their hard work and support during our first two terms of the session. They have organised two very successful fundraising events so far—'Chuck It In A Bucket' and 'Letters from Santa.' These two events have raised £432.39 which will be used to benefit the children of Wallacewell Primary. Our Parent Council have also joined financial forces with the school to buy every child a selection box this Christmas, which will be distributed at our upcoming Christmas parties.

Parent Council Contact Email: wallacewellpsparentcouncil@glow.sch.uk

Website Link: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/wallacewellprimary/>



Mobile Phone Policy

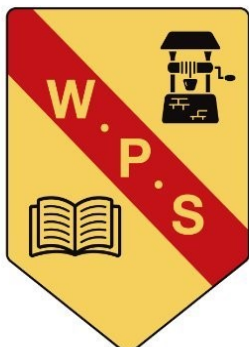
It has been brought to our attention that some children in P5-7 are not following our *Acceptable Use of Digital Technology* policy and are using mobile phones in unsafe ways during the school day. Whilst we understand the need for children to have access to phones as they make their way to and from school, there is no need for them to be accessed during the school day. Previously phones brought to school could be kept switched off in school bags. We have since liaised with GCC, other schools in the learning community and beyond and have implemented a new process to ensure the safety of all. Mobile phones will be collected in of a morning during registration and will be stored securely in classrooms until the end of the day. As part of our Health and Wellbeing and Anti-Bullying programmes we will continue to educate pupils about the safe use of digital devices. Thank you for your support and cooperation on this matter. We really appreciate the valued relationship between school and home to keep all of our children and personal devices safe.

Attendance & Engagement

Wallacewell Primary are passionate about getting it right for the pupils we work with. In order for us to meet learners needs we require pupils to be in school on time each day. In Glasgow when a child's attendance falls below 95%, this becomes a concern for the school. We will follow the council and school procedures for managing attendance to support our families to ensure children attend school, on time, each day. Last month we will be starting to issue families with letters, as per the council policy, if pupils attendance has become a cause for concern. In January we will review attendance again and will send out further correspondence where attendance continues to be a concern.

Further information on current attendance levels and how to report absence has been attached to this newsletter. We would like to encourage all families to report absence using the pupil absence line—0141 287 0039.





Physical Education Reminder

As per Glasgow City Council policy, no jewellery is allowed to be worn during PE lessons, such as gym sessions, dance workshops and swimming lessons. This includes, but is not limited to:

- bracelets
- necklaces
- earrings
- nose-piercings

All jewellery needs to be removed before taking part in taught physical activities. This rule applies to boys and girls. We recommend that families take children to get ears etc pierced during the Summer break to allow ample healing time, 6 weeks, so that earrings can then be removed for PE. Glasgow's full Health and Safety document for physical activity can be viewed by scanning the QR code.

Consultation With Families

Thank you to all families who have attended family learning and engagement sessions over the last two terms. We appreciated the time parents and carers have taken out of their busy days to attend. Listening to feedback gathered over terms 1 and 2, we are going to try to facilitate some more evening family learning sessions to allow more families to engage.

We were delighted with the feedback we received at our recent Parents Evenings. Our staff, who all work very hard to get it right for our young people, love to hear your positive comments and praise.

- The staff are amazing.
- We always feel valued and heard.
- There is always a friendly face to talk to.
- Much better communication this year.
- All staff are very helpful and if they don't know they find out for you.
- The engagement from teachers and the new head teacher is very good.
- Communication with staff has improved so much.
- I feel more in the loop with the life and work of the school.
- The head teacher and staffs' number 1 priority are the children.
- The ethos of the school is very positive and encouraging.



In terms of next steps, some feedback was given about the frequency of emails from the school. Families unanimously asked for more and better communication at the end of last academic session. We are a large school and that combined with a request for more and better communication naturally comes an increase correspondence. We will however endeavour to condense as much correspondence as possible. Unfortunately, text messaging is not a method of communication we are able to use. We would however encourage families to download the Groupcall Xpressions app where we can send messages, in text form, in addition to emails at no cost to the school.

Extra Curricular Activities Reminder

You asked and we have delivered - more extra curricular activities at Wallacewell!

In term 2 we introduced more morning and after school clubs. We targeted the upper and middle school and next term will focus more on our lower school pupils. Following feedback from families we also plan to introduce a STEM afterschool club. More info will follow about this in the New Year.

We are delighted to share that our pupils who were part of our dance club performed at the City of Dance Heats on the 28th November at St Roch's Secondary and won. This gives them a golden pass to the final in May 2024!. Well done Team Wallacewell!



November 2023



Whole School

Average attendance

93.54% *(+0.15% from October)*

Lowest class
attendance rates

P5 – 91.89%

P2 – 92.58%

P3 – 93.07%

Attendance = Attainment = Wellbeing

Reporting Absence

How to report your child absent from school:

You should call the Pupil Absence Reporting (PAR) Team on: 0141 287 0039 to report your child absent from school. You can call the line every school day from 8:00am. You should call the absence reporting line before 9.30am on the first day of your child's absence.

Please do not use Groupcall to report your child's absence as this may not be seen by school staff and is not GCC protocol for reporting absence.

The Pupil Absence Reporting (PAR) team:

The Pupil Absence Reporting (PAR) service is provided by a dedicated team of experienced Education support staff. The information you provide to the team is updated in the school's system when you call, so the school is immediately aware of all absence information.

The Pupil Absence Reporting (PAR) service has been created to provide an efficient flexible way for parents/carers to report absence. We recognise that in some circumstances, for example, to report or discuss a sensitive issue, you may still require to speak directly with the school. The following guidance should be applied:

Please phone the PAR team to report the following absences:

Sickness absence: if the absence lasts more than one day, parents and carers are required to call on subsequent days to provide an update. A letter should be provided to the school when the child returns from their absence.

Medical or dental appointments: Parents and carers should call the team to report absences for medical or dental appointments. The school requires a letter or appointment card as evidence of the appointment to ensure permission is given to be absent from class.

Please phone the school directly to report the following absences:

To make sure you receive the right support you require, parents and carers should still contact the school directly to report absences of a sensitive or personal nature, for example:

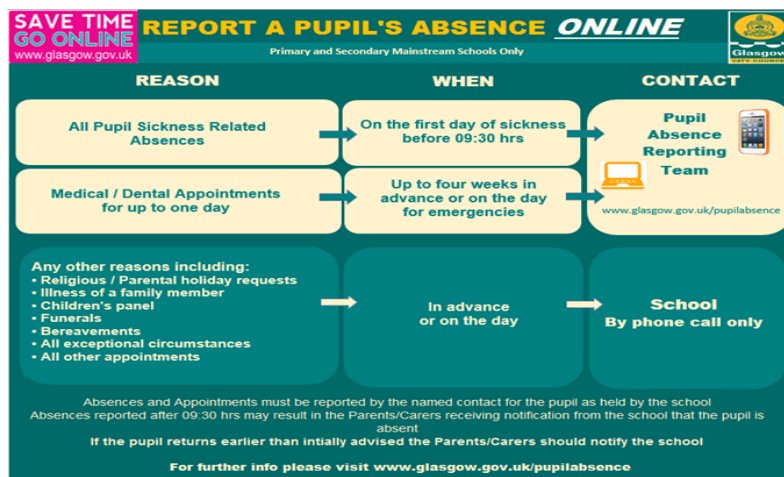
Bereavement

Serious illness, for example, an absence which is going to last more than one week

Injury, for example, broken limb

Contagious diseases or illness

You can also report your child's absence by using an online form, though you need to register with myaccount to do so. More information can be found here: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/pupilabsence>





Wallacewell Primary Countdown to Christmas 2023



Tuesday 5th December

- Primary 1-Primary 3/2 Pantomime Trip (AM – Cinderella at the Platform Theatre)

Thursday 7th December

- Primary 3-5 Pantomime Trip (AM- Scrooge at the Tron Theatre)
- Home baking donations for Christmas Fair to be handed into school office

Friday 8th December

- Christmas Fair (3.30pm-5.30pm)

Monday 11th December

- P1-2 Nativity Dress Rehearsal (AM- For pupils & staff only)

Tuesday 12th December

- P1-2 Nativity Dress 9.30am – 'It's A Baby'

Wednesday 13th December

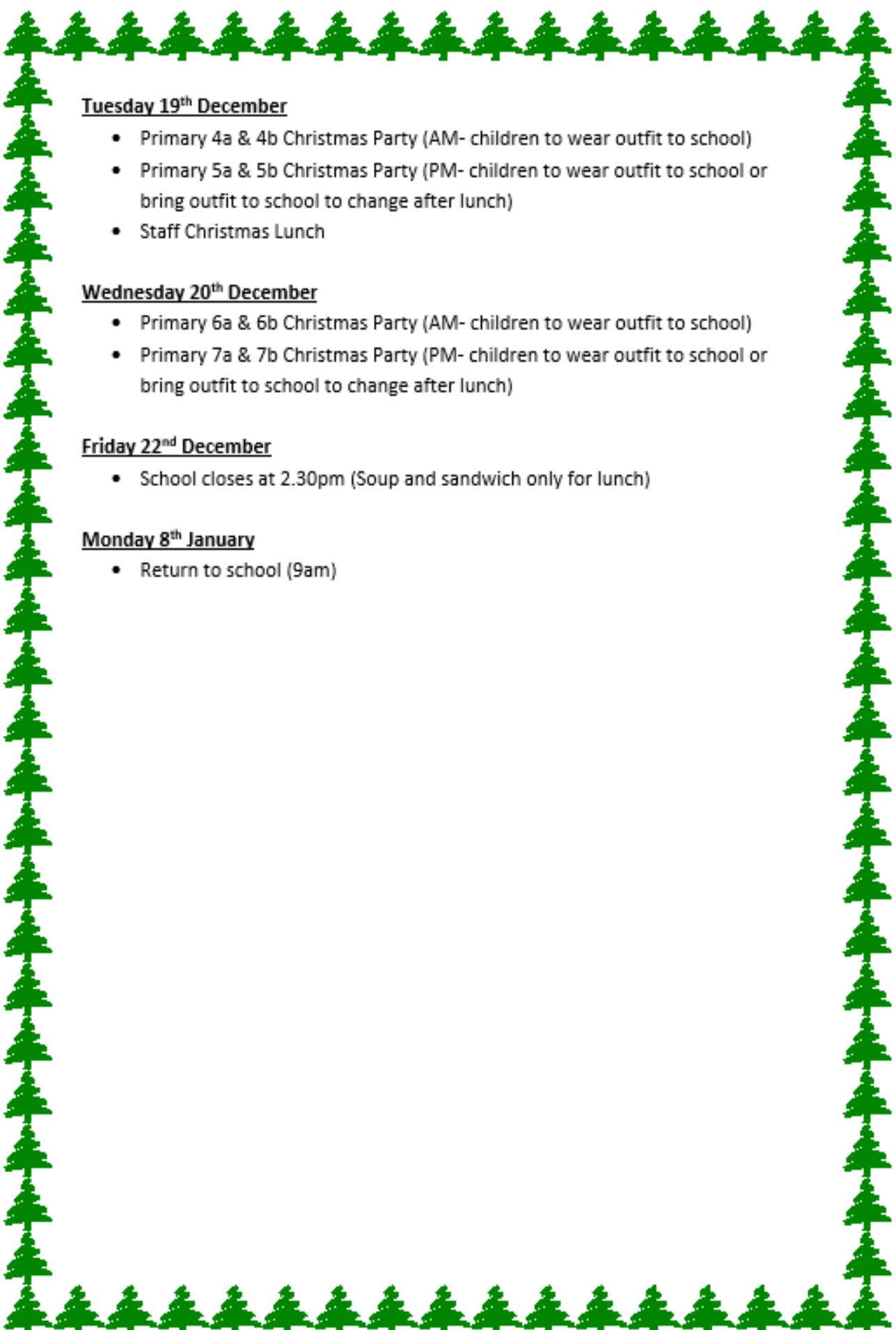
- P6-7 Pantomime Trip (AM – Scrooge at the Tron Theatre)
- P1-2 Nativity Dress 1.30pm– 'It's A Baby'

Friday 15th December

- Festive Assembly (AM – School staff and pupils only)
- Christmas Dinner in School (Orders to be placed by Thursday 30th November)
- "Christmas Top Day" (Chuck it in a bucket for School Defibrillator Fund)

Monday 18th December

- Primary 1a, 1b, 2/1, 2a & 3/2 Christmas Party (AM- children to wear outfit to school)
- Primary 3a & 3b Christmas Party (PM- children to wear outfit to school or bring outfit to school to change after lunch)



Tuesday 19th December

- Primary 4a & 4b Christmas Party (AM- children to wear outfit to school)
- Primary 5a & 5b Christmas Party (PM- children to wear outfit to school or bring outfit to school to change after lunch)
- Staff Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 20th December

- Primary 6a & 6b Christmas Party (AM- children to wear outfit to school)
- Primary 7a & 7b Christmas Party (PM- children to wear outfit to school or bring outfit to school to change after lunch)

Friday 22nd December

- School closes at 2.30pm (Soup and sandwich only for lunch)

Monday 8th January

- Return to school (9am)