



December

Together we will shine!

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to begin by thanking our school community for all their support over the last few weeks as we celebrated Christmas. I hope all of our children and families are looking forward to spending time together during the Christmas and New Year festivities.

School Christmas Show

Thank you to everyone who joined us for one of our four Christmas concerts, I hope you enjoyed watching our children perform "Songs of Christmas past." A special thanks to Mrs Mills, Miss Wilson and Primary 7, who wrote and organised the shows. A huge thanks to the entire staff team for their hard work and also to the parent helpers who volunteered to support behind the scenes.

Christmas Raffle

This years Christmas raffle was a massive success raising almost £900 for our school funds. A total of 12 large hampers were created from generous donations from parents/carers which we are very grateful for. The lucky winners are as follows:

Finn - P1a

Zoe - P6/7

Ruaraidh - P5a

Eileen - Catering Staff

Mia - P6

Grace - P6

Connor - P4b

Zoe - P2
Georgia - P1b
Faryaal - P4b
Ava - P4a
Andrew - P1b
Laila - P6/7

Christmas Enterprise

Primary 6 and Miss Calderhead organised a Christmas enterprise event with a wide range of stalls and activities. Thank you to the Primary 6's who raised around £500. What an achievement!

Christmas Fun Day

On Thursday 21st December all classes will have their Christmas fun day! I hope all children enjoy their planned activities which have been designed by each class teacher. 😊

Playground and Dogs

The school office have received several concerns from parents outlining safety risks regarding parents/carers and dogs within the school playground. As advised we have a system in place to support supervision within the playground from 8.45am. To help us support the health, wellbeing and safety of all children, all adults should remain **outwith the school gates** and I would respectfully ask adults not to congregate in groups at or near to the school gates or playground as this slows down access to the designated areas and causes delays for other parents/carers/adults collecting their child(ren).

Please drop your children off and pick them up from the designated points, continuing to follow the one-way system in operation around the school. **No dogs are allowed within school grounds at any time.**

New latecoming arrangements and Car Parking

As part of our commitment to supporting attendance and reducing latecoming the following new arrangements will be put in place from our return to school on 8th January 2024. **All children arriving after 9am (until 9.15am) should enter via the P1 entrance gate and door and not via the main entrance.** The school car park will also be monitored by staff at this time.

Please note that the school car park is for **staff and visiting specialists at all times during the day, before and after school (including Breakfast Club).**

Parents/carers without Eastfield Primary School child parking permits are not authorised to use the car park. Should you feel your child requires a parking permit please contact the school who will be happy to discuss this with you. I politely request that parents/carers do not enter the car park or use the car park as a drop off or turning point as this is not safe and unauthorised use can negatively impact the safety of children using the school bus or our nursery garden (8am to 6pm). I appreciate that the vast majority of parents are making alternative arrangements and I would like to thank you for your support in keeping all of our children safe.

Should you find parking challenging please note, car parking is available across the road at "The Smiddy" and a crossing patrol is there to ensure that children (and adults) can cross the road safely.

Furthermore, please be mindful of parking in the street behind the school, especially across residents' driveways. We have received a large number of complaints from local residents who have been blocked in and Police Scotland are now monitoring this situation.

As always, the Breakfast Club is available from 8.15am to support families with drop off arrangements and childcare.

Pantomime

We welcomed Theatre Online Ltd on Friday 22nd December to present their live theatre production of **Beauty and the Beast**. All children had the opportunity to take part in the audience at no cost. The cost has been joint funded by ticket sales from our Christmas Show and also supported by the Parent Council. I hope they enjoyed the performance.

School Choir

I am delighted to announce that our school choir performed incredibly well in our local Tesco (Craigmarloch) on Wednesday 20th December. A huge thank you to Mrs Mills for leading the choir and organising the performances.

Parent Council - Elf Escape

A huge thank you to our Parent Council for leading and organising this years Elf Escape, the children had a great time participating in the activities. Thank you to the class teachers for supporting the event by decorating the Elf hats and supporting on the day. The total raised was £2148.85 for the school and £959.20 in the nursery. Well done everyone!

Gritting

The Parent Council have been supporting the local community by gritting paths around the perimeter of the school. They have created a list of volunteer helpers to support with this prior to the school day. I hope you would join with me to thank them for their continued commitment to supporting our children and families to get to school safely. Should you wish to volunteer, please contact the Parent Council who will be delighted to welcome you to the team!

Parent Council meetings are accessible for all of the parent forum to attend should you wish. The dates for this session are as follows and minutes from these meetings will be shared with the wider parent forum;

Dates
24 th January 2024
5 th March 2024
14 th May 2024

BMX - Rock up and Ride

We have been working in partnership with Scottish Cycling and Cumbernauld Centurions BMX Club to deliver a pilot project aimed at encouraging children to BMX and cycle. As part of this, a group of P5 and P6 children have enjoyed BMX coaching sessions at Broadwood BMX Track and been gifted BMX bikes, helmets, pads and a year's free membership with Cumbernauld Centurions. Due to the success of this project, further children will have the opportunity to enjoy this experience in the new year.

Sports

Our successful sports programme has continued this term and I would like to thank all staff and children who have supported this. Particular thanks go to the students from New College Lanarkshire and St Maurice's High School who have supported PE sessions and after school clubs as part of our ongoing partnerships.

Recent sporting highlights include:

P3 to P6 children enjoyed rugby taster sessions delivered by former parent Mr Williamson of Cumbernauld Rugby Club;

5 teams of P5 and P6 children enjoyed participating in the NL Active Schools Rugby Festival at Broadwood on 30th November;

4 senior football teams (including children from P5 to P7) participated in the NL Active Schools Football Festival at Broadwood on 7th December; and

16 of our P5 to P7 children have qualified for the NL Active Schools Cross Country Finals in the new year. Well done to everyone!

World of Work - Business Engagement

Mr Rutherford, in his developing the young workforce PEF PT role has organised a variety of local businesses to come in and discuss skills for learning, life and work. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience from Albert Bartlett, Pet's at Home and Hospitality Management. I'm sure the children now have a wider understanding of the world of work and education's place in it. Thank you to our presenters for their fabulous input and we look forward to further events in the future.

Children in Need

Thank you to our fantastic P5 (Mrs Dickson's class) who raised a total of £575 through various fun enterprise projects. I am very proud of your achievement and this will go a long way to support those less fortunate than us. Well done!

Primary One Enrolment

Registration for infant beginners for session 2024/2025 will take place week commencing Monday 15th January to Friday 19th January 2024. Parents/carers can enrol their children at Eastfield Primary School at the following times:

Monday 15th January - 11am to 12pm and 1.30pm to 2.30pm;

Tuesday 16th January - 10am to 12pm;

Wednesday 17th January - 9.30am to 10.30am and 1.30pm to 2.30pm;

Thursday 18th January - 9.30am to 10.30am and 1.30pm to 2.30pm; and

Friday 19th January - 9.30am to 10.30am and 1.30pm to 2.30pm.

Class Assemblies

Class assemblies will take place from the new year. Please see dates below for your child(ren's) class. These are not ticketed events and parents/carers from the class are more than welcome to attend. Please note that all assemblies will start at 11am and refreshments will be available afterwards.

Dates for the Diary

January

Friday 26th - P4a Assembly

Tuesday 30th - P7 Ford Castle Trip Information Evening

February

Friday 2nd - Snapshots to Parents/Carers

Friday 9th - P1b Assembly

Monday 19th- Wednesday 21st Ford Castle Trip (P7)

Friday 23rd - P1a Assembly

Parent Council Meeting (TBC)

March

Friday 1st - P4b Assembly

Friday 8th - P2 Assembly

Tuesday 19th - P5 Titanic Trip Information Evening

Friday 22nd - P3 Assembly

Parent Council Meeting (TBC)

April

Friday 26th - P2/3 Assembly

May

Friday 3rd - Snapshots to Parents/Carers

Friday 17th - P5b Assembly

Wednesday 22nd - Parent/Carer Consultations

Tuesday 28th - New P1 Information Meeting & Lunch

Thursday 30th - P6 Camping Trip Information Evening

Friday 31st - P5a Assembly

Parent Council Meeting (TBC)

June

Friday 7th June - Reports to Parents/Carers

Tuesday 11th - Nursery & P7 Graduations & P6 "Stepping Up" Assembly

Sports Day (TBC)

I hope that the information in this newsletter is useful and I wish you all a happy Christmas break and best wishes for a prosperous 2024!

Kindest regards

Mrs Lesley McPhee

Head Teacher

