



# St Gerard's Primary Newsletter

## January 2015

### Glow

Glow 2 is now up and running and over this term we want to ensure that your child's log in details are accurate and working. When your child comes home with their username and password please take some time and look over the new Glow site with them. A leaflet from North Lanarkshire Council is attached to this email.



### Severe Weather

Over the next month or so weather



conditions may make school closure a possibility. If this takes place please use the following information given below to access information and tasks for the children.

The School blog

[blogs.glowscotland.org.uk](http://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk)

North Lanarkshire Council Website

<http://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=22856>

BBC Schools and Channel4 Learning offer learning opportunities for children and are available online.

If you have any questions regarding severe weather arrangements please contact the school.

### Homework

Prior to the Christmas holiday we met with a



group of parents to look at how we can support and improve homework

arrangements for learners and their families. We have prepared a parent leaflet explaining new arrangements that will go into operation after the February half term break. This homework policy will be piloted until the end of this academic year. I will ask that you participate in feedback, sometime in May, so we can finalize arrangements for August 2015. Many thanks to all the parents who offered the views and ideas to help improve our homework policy.

### Swimmers

Four of our P7 pupils will be representing St. Gerard's and North Lanarkshire in the Scottish Schools Swimming



Championships. The event is being held in Aberdeen on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2015. They were great in the North Lanarkshire heats and I am sure they will be brilliant and make us all proud. All the best, Erin

Speed, Rachel Healy,  
Shannon Reilly & Louisa Carroll.

### Lower School Playground

You may have noticed work being carried out in our lower school playground. We are improving our play facilities for our children promoting creativity and imagination in their play as well as brightening up their environment. This was due to the school being successful in our "Awards for all" bid worth nearly £9000. I am sure the children will enjoy the benefits of it in due course.

### Parent Council

Recently I wrote to you regarding joining our Parent Council as we are in need of new members. To date we have two parents who have informed the office that they intend to put their name forward. Please consider joining the Parent Council and pass your contact details to the school office staff.

## School Indoor Shoes

I have instructed all the children to take home their indoor shoes as a significant number of shoes are ill fitting or velcro not catching any more. Can you check that your child's indoor shoes are fitting correctly or arrange to have a pair of indoor shoes for Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January? Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

## P1 – 3 Free School Lunch



From January 2015 all pupils in Scotland's primary schools are entitled to free school lunch. Menus have been sent home and I would encourage you to inform your child of the daily menu to avoid any problems with menu choice. If your child is in P1 – P3 please make use of this free service but can you make sure you have money on your child's lunch card if they attend breakfast club or they want a snack at break time. The breakfast club and tuck shop is not free.

Can you also make sure that your cards are up to date and that all debts have been paid. It is helpful if children are not asking to put money on their card after the start of the school day so can I ask that you or your child top up your card from 8.30am till the start of the school day.

## Car Parking

I have recently been contacted by residents in the school area concerned that people parking in Kelvin Road and Bell Street are unsafe and parked inappropriately. While I cannot verify this information the school wants to have a positive relationship with the community and would ask that all parents using vehicles in the school area do so safely and within the law. Parking is a perennial concern for pupil and staff welfare and safety. Please consider your child walking or cycling to and from school but if vehicle transport is necessary please drive and park safely within the area. The school car park is a facility available only

to staff and to users who have a registered disability. Please do not use the school car park inappropriately and please remember your car will not be insured if an accident occurred in the school grounds



## Mrs. McIloney

And finally, many congratulations to Mrs. McIloney (Miss Gizzie) who was married on Hogmanay. We wish her and her husband all the best for the future. Best of luck on the phonetic pronunciation!