

CHRYSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

DECEMBER 2019 & JANUARY 2020

Hello, and welcome to the latest issue of your Chryston Primary School News. Please retain a copy for your records as it contains important dates and information regarding all that's going on over the next couple of months.

COMMUNICATION

Please remember to check your emails regularly as I send communications to you to keep you up to date and remind you of upcoming events. If you are not receiving emails and others are telling you about announcements please contact the school office so that we can rectify this. We also make very regular use of our Twitter feed and if you have not already done so, you can follow us @Chrystonprimary.

WINTER WEATHER ARRANGEMENTS

Please ensure that you have read the recent email regarding arrangements in inclement weather. My janitor assures me that he will do everything he can to maintain access to the school but it is possible that the back gate may have to remain closed on occasion, particularly if it is snowing. We all need to be aware of this and plan ahead.

SOCIAL MEDIA

We can continue to cover internet safety in school but please check your child's devices regularly for their online activity to ensure that they are safe and acting responsibly.

P.E. TIMETABLE

Some classes may have disruption to their P.E. routine over the winter as we need to use the hall for show practices, etc. Some classes also have outside P.E. timetabled and this will continue unless the weather is particularly bad. All classes will continue to have at least one hour of P.E., either in the school hall or over at the hall in the Cultural Centre. However, if they are unable to have their second slot due to absence or bad weather, please be assured that we have a virtual system we use in classes and, when needed, the teachers use this for 15 minutes four times a week in addition to their hour of timetabled P.E.

NEW BUILD

Our school roll is currently 332 and I have no further information at this point regarding the new build. Architects visited the school recently and we have been told we will be having another modular unit installed in the playground on the grassed area between the two existing units. This is good news as even when the new build starts, it is certain that we will need further classrooms before our new school is ready.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

It is common for many of you to give your child's teacher a gift at Christmas. I previously asked that you stop sending gifts in to teachers and other staff as I am aware that it is becoming more and more expensive to do so. All classes have a minimum of two teachers, sometimes three, and also a Support Assistant. If you have more than one child, this can be very expensive. Your gifts are much appreciated but truly unnecessary, a card or letter from your child will more than suffice.

ROAD SAFETY

Please be mindful of our children's safety on the roads by driving carefully when around the school and in the village. I have noticed that people regularly jump the lights at the junction of Lindsaybeg Road and Main Street at the doctors' surgery. I know it might not be parents from the school but, please, just be mindful.

Again, I also remind you about parking. Please park responsibly away from the school, off pavements and away from junctions.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Our Breakfast Club starts at 8.15am. At no time should any child be left in the playground on their own before the doors open. We have also noticed that children are coming in later and later for breakfast. Please ensure that your child is no later than 8.30am so they're able to eat without going into class late and also so that catering staff can get the hall ready for children coming in for P.E. Please remember that the Breakfast Club is for children having breakfast and cannot be used as an early drop off. Anyone attending must pay for and have breakfast.

DOGS AT SCHOOL

You all know my love of dogs but can you please not bring them into the playground, even if they're carried, and ensure that dogs at the back gate are well away from the entrance?

FINANCIAL INCLUSION TEAM (FIT)

I have also attached a leaflet from the Financial Inclusion Team. This is a very expensive time of year and this is a free service that can help anyone experiencing financial hardship. If there's anything we as a school or the FIT team can do, please do not hesitate to contact us.

CHRISTMAS PARTY RAIL

Following the success of the Bootique, we'll have a Christmas Party clothes rail in the foyer from Monday 25 November. Any unwanted party clothes you have can be laundered and left, swapped or given a new home by simply hanging them up on the rail. It's a good way to recycle and hopefully will be a help to anyone who wants it. Please attach a wee label so that we know what age the item is for.

easyfundraising.org.uk

The Parent Council have asked parents to sign up to the Easyfundraising app. Every time you purchase goods from Amazon, eBay, Argos and many other retailers, the PC receives a donation. There's a link on the Parent Council's Facebook page to download the app.

Finally, may I wish all of you a very happy and peaceful Christmas to enjoy time with friends and family and a prosperous, happy New Year.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ON NEXT PAGE...

ATTENDANCE – I draw your attention to the following in raising awareness of the impact of absence:

100% attendance	0 days missed	GIVES YOUR CHILD THE BEST CHANCE OF SUCCESS AND ENSURING THEIR FULL POTENTIAL IS ACHIEVED
95% attendance	9 days' absence. 1 week and 4 days' learning missed.	MAKES IT HARDER TO ACHIEVE FULL POTENTIAL AND SECURE THE BEST POSSIBLE OUTCOMES
90% attendance	19 days' absence. 3 weeks and 4 days' learning missed.	
85% attendance	27 days' absence. 5 weeks and 3 days' learning missed. Almost half a term.	IMPACTS SIGNIFICANTLY ON LEARNING AND PROGRESS WHICH CAN LEAD TO POORER OUTCOMES IN ACHIEVEMENT, WELLBEING AND SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT
80% attendance	36 days' absence. 7 weeks and 3 days' learning missed. Half a term missed.	
75% attendance	45 days' absence. 9 weeks and 1 days' learning missed. Almost a whole term.	
<p>If a child has 90% attendance, they will have the equivalent of one half-day off each week, that's 18 days a year, or 247 days over their school career of 12 years. That's over one year of lost education.</p>		

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

THURSDAY 28 NOVEMBER, 5.30-7.30PM: Christmas Fayre.

TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER: P1 and P7 Dental Checks.

WEDNESDAY 4 DECEMBER: Christmas Lunch.

Children can wear their Christmas jumpers.

THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER: P2 trip to Motherwell Heritage Centre, with Miss Bryden and Mrs Noble.

MONDAY 9 DECEMBER: Flu Immunisations.

P6 Christmas Party in school hall, 1.15-3pm.

P7 Christmas Party in Chryston Parish Church, 1-3.45pm, lunch included.

TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER:

P1 & P2 Nativity performance at 1.30pm & 6.30pm.

WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER:

P1 & P2 Nativity performance at 9.30am.

P4 Christmas Party in school hall, 1.15-3pm.

THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER: General Election – School closed.

FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER: Christmas Jumper Day – Cost £1 (voluntary, and a maximum of £2 per family).

P5 Christmas Party in school hall, 1.15-3pm.

MONDAY 16 DECEMBER:

P3 Christmas Party in school hall, 1.15-3pm.

TUESDAY 17 DECEMBER:

P2 Christmas Party in school hall, 1.15-3pm.

WEDNESDAY 18 DECEMBER: Special visitor to P1 in the morning and P1 Christmas Party in school hall, 1.15-3pm.

GETTING CHANGED FOR PARTIES

Children can be collected from the playground they play in from 11.55am on the day of their party and returned to the main entrance by 1.15pm to allow them time to go home, have lunch and get changed. P7 pupils should go directly to the church for 1 o'clock as they will be fed at the party. A letter will come home to you to complete and return if you want your child to walk home at lunchtime alone. All children P4 and under must be collected.

THURSDAY 19 DECEMBER:

Panto – Hopscotch Theatre will perform *Mother Goose* in the hall in the morning – thanks to the Parent Council.

Christmas Service – Chryston Parish Church, 1pm.

Christmas Holidays – School ends at 2.30pm and pupils return on Monday 6 January 2020 at 8.50am.

WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 13 JANUARY:

Enrolment of pupils for August 2020. Further details will be sent out via email, Twitter and nurseries.

TUESDAY 21 JANUARY, CHRYSTON PARISH CHURCH:

Parent Council meeting, 6.30-8pm.

MONDAY 27 JANUARY: Scottish Week.

P3 – 7 Performance Thursday 30 January 1.30pm and 6.30pm, and Friday 31 January at 9.30am.