**Holy Cross Primary**

**Autumn Winter Newsletter 2019**

Great to see everyone wrapped up warm this morning, it’s been a cold start to the second term. Thankfully, the school is lovely and warm and there’s plenty of learning to heat everyone up!

**Icy Weather**

A reminder that in icy weather our Janitor, Mr McGill is required to grit the path from the school front entrance to the Main Entrance of the school building. After this and where safe to do so and if possible, he will then begin gritting a path around to the back playground. If the weather is particularly bad a decision to close the back stairs entrance will be made.

If the weather is icy, pouring of rain, heavy snow or you feel it is unsafe to take your child round to the playground please use the Main Entrance from 8.50am onwards. We are unable to supervise children before 8.50am.

If you require to drop your child off earlier, Breakfast Club is available from 8.15am onwards. This is free for **All** P1-3 children and £1 a day for P4-7 or free if you qualify for free school lunches.

(We’ll not turn anyone away if they haven’t money on their card- just top up when you can).

**Severe Weather**

We are made of hardy stuff in Holy Cross but in the event that North Lanarkshire Council decide to close the school due to adverse weather conditions we will contact you as soon as we can. On twitter if you follow @nlcwinter and @HolyCrossNLC you will be updated. We also have the technology to allow us to send texts/emails when not in the school building so please make sure we have your correct contact details. We will also update the Winter Weather section of our website to allow children to carry out learning at home. Fingers crossed there are no Beasts from the East!

**PE Outside**

In order for all classes to receive quality PE there may be times when your child has PE outdoors, please make sure your child is kitted out with joggers/tops suitable for outdoors. If you have any difficulty providing clothing for PE please contact the school and we will help you. Please remember that football colours/tops are not permitted in all North Lanarkshire Schools.

**Parent Teacher Group & Parent Council AGM**

These meetings will take place on Monday the 28th of October; 6pm for PTG and 6.30pm for Parent Council, all welcome.

**Uniform**

We have several bags of lost property at the minute, we could probably open a shop! If your child is missing any items please drop in and check. Can I also ask that you check the uniform your child is wearing, incase it has someone else’s name on it. If it does, let us know, we can give it back to the rightful owners and supply you with something from our growing stock☺

**North Lanarkshire Consultation**

‘Croy Entrance Features Consultation’ will take place from 10.45am on Tuesday the 29th of October over in the Church Hall. Everyone is invited to attend this short consultation event to have their say on designs and features to celebrate Croy’s mining and quarrying heritage. Children will discuss some ideas at assembly this week and our Pupil Action Group will attend the event in the Church Hall.

**Halloween Discos**

Discos will take place on **Wednesday the 30th of October,** £1 at the door.

P1-3 6.15-7.15pm Entry and exit via the Main Entrance.

P4-7 7.30-8.30pm Entry via senior playground door and exit via Main Entrance.

**No child will be allowed to walk home unaccompanied so please ensure an adult comes to collect them.**

**Science Centre Trip for Senior Pupils P5, P6 & P7s**

A big thanks to the Scottish Government who are funding trips to the Science Centre in Glasgow and making a contribution to the cost of buses. As a result the trip will cost an amazing £3 per child. The theme will be Planet Earth SOS and promises to be a great day out for children and helpers alike.

**Flu Vaccinations**

Coughs and sneezes spread diseases! The Immunisation team will be with us on the 4th of November. The [www.nhsinform.scot](http://www.nhsinform.scot) website has further information on vaccines.

**Inservice Days**

The school will be closed to pupils on the 18th and 19th of November. Staff will be working with our partner schools in the St Maurice’s cluster on Assessment & Moderation activities, Equalities learning, Tracking & Monitoring and a host of other topics. We know how to have fun;)

**Parking**

Thank you for ensuring that you park with extra care and attention when dropping off and collecting your children. Please remind your older children to come back into the Main Entrance if you are not there on time. We will always hang on to the wee ones until you get there, so don’t worry.

Our neighbours are very patient, especially given the volume of cars collecting children. Please ensure that if you are parking to the rear of the school in Barbegs, you do not block in residents. We rely on our neighbours to keep an eye on our school when we are not here over weekends and holidays and we truly appreciate their efforts.

Recent inconsiderate parking by rail commuters has been brought to the attention of North Lanarkshire Roads dept, Police Scotland and the Lord Provost. We will continue to work with our partners to keep our children safe.

**Sky Academy**

Our first class of P7s will attend Sky Academy this Friday. It’ll be late back to the school but we’ll text parents/carers to update when they leave Livingston. Mrs Lalley’s class will go on the visit in January. Places at the academy are like gold dust so a big thanks to the staff who organise the events and pounce when the email from Sky arrives!

**Children in Need**

Our pop up shop selling Pudsey and Blush merchandise will open this week. We will have a dress down/spotty day on Friday the 15th of November with learning related to how all children deserve and should have their rights, even when they need extra help. Given we’ve just had a dress down day recently, children can make a donation to Children in Need if they’d like to, it’s not compulsory.

**RNLI**

A member of the Royal National Lifeboat Institute will visit our senior assembly on the 22nd of November to speak to our children about safety around water; important information as we have a canal nearby.

**Enrolment Masses**

Enrolment Masses for Confirmation are this weekend coming, Saturday 26th vigil, Sunday 27th 9.30am and 11.40am. Please ensure you attend with your P7 child. First Reconciliation Enrolment Mass Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th November.

**Feast of All Saints**

Please join us at Holy Cross Church at 10am for this important Feast day where we remember those who have gone before us and celebrate their good example of how we can do our best, help others and love Jesus.

**Confirmation**

Please remember our P7s in your prayers as they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday the 12th of November at 7pm.

**Christmas Fayre**

Our elves/children will shortly be working on their Christmas Crafts in time for our Christmas Fayre on Saturday the 30th of November 10am-12.30pm. We’ve contacted Santa and although he’s very busy he is hoping to come to our Fayre because all the children are so well mannered and fantastic at Holy Cross ☺

**Christmas Shows**

Our Nativity, P1-4 is “The Magical Christmas Journey” and will take place on Wednesday 11th December at 1.30pm and 6.30pm.

Our P5-7 show is “Panto Pandemonium!” this will take place on Thursday 12th December at 1.30pm and 6.30pm.

We hope to invite our senior supporters in the parish and any Grans and Grandads to show Dress Rehearsals, not the full polished performance but a chance to see their wee stars shine. Details to follow.

**Raffles**

We have great raffles at Holy Cross thanks to the generosity of many people and local businesses and the tireless work of our Parent Teacher Group who organise it all. If you have anything or know a local business who would like to donate please contact the school.

**Christmas Parties**

Christmas Parties will take place in the last week before the holidays, details to follow.

**Mobile Phones**

We are seeing a huge rise in the number of children bringing mobile phones to school. Unless it is absolutely necessary for your child to have a phone on their journey to and from school please do not allow your child to bring their phone to school.

**Office Staff**

Please be advised we will not be fully staffed in our office on Thursdays and Fridays from this week. Where possible please write a note if there if anything you need to pass on to the class teacher or member of staff.

It may take us longer to respond to your calls but, as always we will do our best.

**Christmas Service**

School closes at 2.30pm on Thursday 19th of December. We will hold a Christmas Carol service over in the Church at 1pm on this day. It’s a beautiful way to end the term and might even bring a tear to your eye with ‘Away in a Manger’. Please join us if you can.

**Finally**

*Don’t Count the Days, make the Days count!*

It’s 10 weeks to Christmas, we have loads of learning to tackle and fun to be had. Every day is an opportunity to learn and grow and we will do our best to ensure your children are happy in Holy Cross. If you have any concerns regarding your child please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Marie Murphy

Head Teacher

Friend of Santa.