



ORCHARD NEWSLETTER

November/December 2016

Official Opening

Thank you to all parents, carers, staff and invited guests who came along to our official opening. It was a very special event and it was a pleasure to share this with Mr Quail and Clyde Valley High School.

It was the role of some of our Primary 7s to show round invited guests and other visitors and it was really interesting to talk to the architect who designed our very special school campus.

Isabelle Boyd, Assistant Chief Executive of Education, Skills and Youth Employment wasn't with us at the opening ceremony, however she will be visiting the school on Thursday 17th November. I am sure she will be going round classes and speaking to the children. As well as seeing the development of the school since we opened.

I am stunned that this is the November/December newsletter. 2016 has flown by and our planning for this very busy period is well underway. The dates and events for December are included in this newsletter! We hope you are able to join us for many of these events and celebrate the festive season with the school and nursery.

Jill Woodward

Head Teacher

Parent Council

Our first Parent Council event of this session is on Tuesday 15th November in the assembly hall.

Our Parent Council have issued their first newsletter and this is on their page of our website.

Also on the website is the constitution for the new Parent Council.



Opening Ceremony

Drop Off

There are two areas for drop off. One in front of the main building and the other around the smaller car park. Please use both as a pick up and drop off.

Do not use them as parking bays!

Birthdays



A birthday is a very special event. Due to allergies in the school I would ask that as parents/carers you do not hand birthday cakes into the mainstream or LCSC areas of the school. The mainstream classes are large and we have children who have allergies and therefore is very difficult to share out cake. In the LCSC classes teaching staff will decide the best way to celebrate a birthday, meeting the needs of those in the class.

As a whole school we will celebrate each child's birthday at assembly. On a monthly basis we will present each child with a card and a birthday sticker. The card will contain a birthday pencil.

The cards are not bought but have been designed by these children. Every class was asked to design a birthday card and our Principal Teachers chose the winning designs. These have now been printed onto card and are being used as part of our celebrations.

Well done to our winning artists!!



Birthday Card Design Winners

Translation

Informacja dla Polskich Rodziców. Szkolne publikacje jak newsletter, listy do rodziców, informacje o zajęciach dostępne są również w języku polskim. Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać takie tłumaczenie, proszę o kontakt.

Information for Polish parents. School publications like Newsletters, letters to parents or information about events are also available in Polish language. Should you wish to receive such translation, please contact me.



Letters & Website

We do try as a school to limit the amount of letters and information coming home in school bags, however sometimes this is the best way of communicating to all parents/carers in the school community.

I will tweet on the school's Twitter account to let you know when information has been issued. On some occasions this may not come home that night, if you have any concerns about letters and information not coming home please contact the school.

A copy of all letters sent home will be added to the parent forum page of our website. These will be there for the full session for your information.

Our class home learning sheets will be added to the class blog pages as a back up.





Christmas Events

Christmas is a busy time of year both at home and in the school. We have lots of activities planned for the children and for families to join with us. Below I have detailed many of the events that will be taking place. We will continue to tweet reminders about events, please use this to take note of things that will be happening.

Friday 2nd December - Coffee and Crafts afternoon

In partnership with the Parent Council we will be opening the school to parents/carers. Our parent council will be organizing a fundraising coffee afternoon. While joining us to have a coffee and raise funds you can go round the classes and buy some Christmas Crafts made by the children. Your child(ren) can come out of class and join you. More information be sent home soon.

Friday 9th December - Christmas Jumper Day

This year we will be enjoying a fun filled Christmas Jumper Day at Orchard Primary. Children and Staff can wear bought or home made Christmas jumpers/ t-shirts. We will start the day in the hall with a jumper parade and a sing-a-long. There will then be a range of activities, some fundraising and some free. Children should bring a £1 donation on the day. All funds raised will go to support the wider activities we do in school.

Parties -

Children should get changed into their party clothes for the afternoon of their party. They can bring clothes with them to get changed after lunch in school or be collected from the main office to home for lunch and come back in party clothes. Each party will have games, dances, prizes and treats.

P6 & 7, P4/5/6L & P5/6/7L - Wednesday 14th December

P4 & 5 & P4/5L - Monday 19th December

P2&3, P2/3/4L & P3/4L - Tuesday 20th December

P1, P1/2 L, P2L & P2/3 L - Wednesday 21st December

Thursday 15th December - P1-3 Nativity

There will be two performances of our nativity. One afternoon and one evening. Information will be sent to all P1-3 families separately .

Thursday 22nd December - End of Term Assembly

Please join us in the assembly hall for our Christmas Service. We will start at 9.20am and will have performances from our choir, whole school singing and children who are learning an instrument.

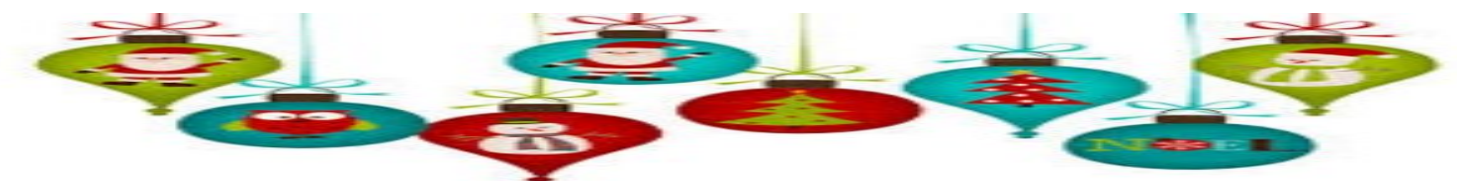
All P1 Santa Visit - Sssshhhhh !!

Santa will visit all out P1s in the afternoon of 22nd. We would like to invite parents/carers to join us for some Christmas singing and see Santa arrive to celebrate Christmas with P1s. After his visit children will be able to leave early with Parents/Carers where possible.

Friday 23rd December - Hopscotch Panto

Hopscotch theatre company will be in school in the morning to perform their panto Aladdin.

School closes at 2.30pm....



Dates & Events

Below are dates that you will need for term two. Please look at Page 3 for Christmas dates

Friday 18th Nov	Children in Need Day. Dress down and activities to fund raise. £1 donation for the charity
Monday 21st Nov	School closed to pupils. In-Service Day
Wednesday 23rd Nov	Local Area Football festival
Friday 25th Nov	1st Payment for P7 Kilbowie due.
Tuesday 29th Nov	P5 visit to Kelvingrove
Friday 2nd Dec	Snapshot Jotters home
Tuesday 6th Dec	ABC Music Workshop in school Parent Council Meeting 6.45pm
Monday 12th Dec	LCSC Parent Support Group Meeting 9am
Thursday 15th Dec	P1-7 Flu vaccinations
Friday 16th Dec	2nd Payment for P7 Kilbowie due
Friday 23rd Dec	School closes 2.30pm
Monday 9th Jan 2017	School Opens 8.50am for new term



Contact Us

Please call the school if you have any question or concern.

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ht@orchard.n-lanark.sch.uk

Visit us on the web at

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/orchard/>

On Twitter

[@primaryorchard](https://twitter.com/primaryorchard)

Parent Helpers

Many thanks to all who completed the Parental Evaluation at our parents night in October. The results of this evaluation have been displayed in the school and posted on our Twitter page. These will now impact on the school's improvement priorities.

Mrs Mackenzie will now be planning how we can get parents more involved in the learning and activities in the school. If you weren't able to complete the evaluation but would like to be a parent helper in school, running after school clubs or helping at trips please contact Mrs Mackenzie.

Coming soon !!

Our next development to involve the children will be to establish Pupil Committees/Groups. These will allow all children to have a say in the school and lead developments in different areas. Mrs Bowden will be taking the lead in this school development.

Mrs Woodward will also be establishing a Pupil Voice committee who will be having a voice in school improvements and the school curriculum.