

St Mary's Primary School

November 2020

Bulletin

Christmas Activities



We are planning a number of activities to ensure the build up to Christmas is as magical as we can make it. We are also very aware that many will need our help more so than ever so we are keen to support as many good causes as we can.

We will be having a Christmas jumper (or any other Xmas clothing) day on **Friday 4th December** for **Radio Clyde - Cash for Kids**. We are hoping all children will **donate £1.00**

We will be having a **Santa Dash** in aid of **Strathcarron Hospice** on **Wednesday 9th December**. This event will be sponsored and sheets will be sent out in a few weeks. Every child will receive a Santa hat for the event.

Pantomimes

We have booked not one but two pantomimes as we know the children have missed out on so much. **The Wizard of Oz** is an interactive panto which will be shown in the hall. There will be three showings throughout the day so that we can keep numbers down and we will separate bubbles with perspex screening. Our second panto is **Cinderella**, this is an online event and will be shown in class. The school will be subsidising both these events but we do have to charge £5 per child as the costs are high. Please look out for the **IPAY payment information** being sent home to those who have **not** signed up, if you have already signed up for this please make sure you can access the account online. NLC are wanting schools to be cashless systems and relying on parents using the online payment system in place.

Class Hampers / Food Bank Donations



We will be raffling hampers in aid of school funds and each class will have a box for any donations. We are also collecting again for our local food bank and again donations can be sent in with your child from now and will be stored in class.

Christmas Cards

Each class will also have a Christmas Post Box. Cards can only be delivered to children in the class and will be stored until the last week as we need to quarantine them. Any cards not handed in by Friday 18th December **will not** be delivered.

Dates for your Diary

14 th November	Sacred Heart Communion 10am
21 st November	St Joseph's Communion 11am
26 th November	Whole School FLU Immunisation
2 nd December	Christmas Lunch
4 th December	Christmas Jumper/Clothing Day - £1
9 th December	Santa Dash – Sponsor sheet
11 th December	Cinderella Panto
15 th December	Wizard of Oz Panto
W/B 17 th Dec	Christmas Parties
22 nd December	School Closes at 2.30pm

Christmas Lunch

This will take place on **Wednesday 2nd December** - £3.00. Please look out for the Text/Xpression message asking what your child would like to order. Can we also remind you to top up your child's lunch account too. Thanks

Christmas Show

Plans are in place for St Mary's Virtual Christmas Show. A link will be emailed out towards the end of December which will allow parents to watch from the comfort of their own home. Raffles will be drawn and shared online. Information regarding ticket sales will be shared next month.

The money raised from hampers will be used to subsidise the pantomimes and to allow us to book the **Silent Disco** for our **Christmas parties**. The children have requested this as they loved the last one so much.

Community – We will continue to work with Campsie Gardens sheltered housing this year. Although we cannot visit we will send cards and good wishes and will share the link to our school show.



Staff Gifts

Gifts for staff are neither expected or required. All staff would prefer your own family are catered for first. If anyone wishes to hand in a small gift, these must be brought in by the child and again will require to be quarantined before being taken home.

First Communion



We wish to thank our Parish Priests for all the support they give our school and our families. We are delighted to congratulate the children of Primary 5 who will be receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time over the next two weeks.

Help / Reminder

We understand that the pressure on some of our families is even greater this year. If anyone is struggling please get in touch as we can and want to help. Requests for help will be treated sensitively and confidentially.

Thank you all for complying with the regulations in place. Can we remind parents that face coverings should be worn in and around the school grounds, social distancing must be maintained and that no parents should approach staff at the end of the day. We are confident that the measures we have in place are keeping our families and staff safe.

Xpressions App

We send out text messages for absences/trips/events and general reminders. At the moment the school has to cover the cost of these messages. If all parents downloaded the **Xpression App** from the app store we can send these out for **FREE**. We can also send attachments which would allow you to check straight from your phone. The school require an up to date email address for you to download this, we will pick this up from the Annual Data Check form which you will have received. If you have the app already please ensure you have the push notifications on. Thanks

To receive these messages, download the Groupcall Xpressions app from the Apple, Google or Windows stores (Search 'Groupcall Xpressions').



Mobile Numbers/ Email

If you are not receiving any of our messages either by text or the Xpression App please call the school office. We also send out the monthly Newsletters/ Bulletins by email, if you are no longer using the one we have on file please contact the office. You can also check the school website for information from the classes and all our Bulletins too.

Thanks

REMINDERS

Absence - Please remember if your child is absent from school to call the office on the first day. Please do not email any member of staff as this may be missed if out of the building.

Sickness/Tummy Bugs – Children should not return until 48hours clear due to passing on the infection.

Gym Days – No jewellery to be worn on gym days, all earrings must be taped up at home or removed prior to coming to school.

School Ties – Available from the school office - £4 each.

New Contact Details – If you have changed any contact details – Address/home/ mobile number or email, please pass this onto the school office. It is very important that we have up to date information in case of an emergency.

Afterschool Clubs – If your child attends a club and no longer wishes to attend or is missing a session please contact the school office, a register is taken for all the clubs run in school.

Bus children – If your child is not returning home on the school bus please inform the office or teacher by sending in a letter or phone call.