

St. Peter's Primary School

November Newsletter 2016



Saint Peter's Primary School
Braehead Road
Glenburn
Paisley
PA2 8DZ

Head Teacher: Sharon Mazzoni
Telephone: 0141 884 2855
Fax: 0141 884 7779

email – enquiries@st-peters.renfrewshire.sch.uk



Dear Parents/Carers

The time is fairly flying by. It is hard to believe that it's November already. Halloween was a very successful and enjoyable event with many marvellous creations. Our children enjoyed parties in class and had many fantastic trick or treat stories to tell. I have also heard about their adventures on Guy Fawkes night which seems to have gone with a bang! We are now preparing for one of our busiest and most joyous times of the year.

Staffing update

Sadly, Nicola, our senior nursery officer, is leaving St Peter's nursery and will spend her last day here on Friday 18 November. Nicola has worked here for the past 6 and a half years and has provided many children with very positive learning experiences. We will miss Nicola very much, I am sure you will all join me in wishing her every success for the future. Nicola's job will be filled using Renfrewshire Council's recruitment procedures as soon as possible.

Mrs McRobbie has returned to St Peter's on a supply teaching basis. She is currently teaching P5/6 on Mondays and Tuesdays and P6 on a Wednesday. We are delighted to welcome Mrs McRobbie back and she looks very happy to be here.

Religious Life of the school

We continue to be very well supported by Canon Eddie, Deacon John and Father Robert as we encourage our children to fully participate in their faith journey. The whole school took part in a special Mass to mark the end of the Year of Mercy on Wednesday 9 November. This was a very spiritual celebration and the children behaved beautifully. There are various Masses and services arranged throughout the months of November and December (Advent). Children from Primary 5 – 7 will also have the opportunity to receive confession during this period.

Many pupils in Primaries 4 and 7 are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (P4), Holy Communion (P4) and Confirmation (P7). This is a very important time in their lives and you can support them at home by encouraging daily prayer and continuing to highlight the importance of attending Sunday Mass. Canon Eddie is always delighted to see the children from St Peter's at church.

There will be a Mass of enrolment for all Primary 4 pupils, parents/carers and family members on Sunday 27 November at 10am and a similar Mass will be held on Sunday 11 December for Primary 7 pupils, parent/carers and family members.

Parents Evening

I look forward to seeing you and your children on 15 or 17 November. Scholastic book fair will be here on the evening should you wish to purchase any books. We will also have an art exhibition for you to view which will be filled with framed art work from every child in the school. These can be ordered and purchased at a cost of £8 per picture or 2 for £14. Possibly an opportunity to buy some early Christmas presents. Please enjoy!

Robot Workshop

As part of their 'Robots Topic', Primary 4 participated in a programming workshop run by 'Bricks 4 Kidz'. The children used Lego Mindstorm. They then downloaded their programme on to a robot and were delighted to see it do as they instructed.



Eco Drama

The 'Forgotten Orchard' is a heart warming story of kinship, local food and legacy and re-welcomes to our plate the charismatic Scottish apples of our heritage. P3-5 enjoyed the performance where they learned about the history of the apple. The children had to complete an evaluation of the performance, here are some of their comments:

'Like us apples are all different'

'Apples can be grown in Scotland'

Pomme is the French word for apple'

'There is an apple tree called Katy'

Primary 6 and 7 will enjoy the performance on Monday 14 November.

P5 MSP Visit

Primary 5 will soon receive a visit from Neil Bibby who is coming to talk to them about a day in the life of an MSP. They are all very excited about this and look forward to learning more about their topic 'Parliament'.

Epidemiological study

All pupils in Primary 5, 6 and 7 will participate in an online survey which will ask them to answer questions about going to school and living in Renfrewshire. The information gathered will be used by Renfrewshire Council to help develop Renfrewshire Council's Integrated Services Plan. This plan allows the council and all partner agencies to work together in striving towards achieving better outcomes for Renfrewshire's children and young people. Our children will take part in the survey between 21/11/16 and 02/12/16.

Armistice day

We will hold a two minute silence on 11 November at 11am to honour the millions of people who have died during war. Our pupils always show great respect at times like this and I am sure this year will be no exception.

Road Race Championships



Mrs Caitlin McLean, Acting Principal Teacher, accompanied many pupils from P6 and P7 to the On X at Linwood on Thursday 10 November to take part in the Road Race Championships. The boys and girls of St Peter's did very well. Lewis Cameron, P6 won a first place medal. Well done Lewis!



Netball Team

Congratulations to our netball team who participated in the Eillish Herron netball league. St Peter's won three out of four matches! They are excellent ambassadors for our school. Congratulations to Hannah O'Donnell, P7 won the 'player of the match' trophy. Well done Hannah! Keep up the good work. Thank you, as always, to our parents who give up their time to coach our children every Thursday.

St Andrews Day



We relish any opportunity to celebrate being Scottish and what better way to do this than to participate in Scottish poetry, song and dance. There will be a Scottish themed assembly taking place for pupils on 29 November at 1.30pm. Pupils are asked to perform and share their talents with the whole school. Teachers will talk to the children about the type of acts we would like to see. We are hoping for some Scottish highland dancing as well as singing and poetry recital.

Suitable clothing

Now that the temperature has dropped please ensure that the children come to school dressed for the weather. Lots of learning takes place outdoors so children should always have a warm, waterproof jacket with them. Time for the winter woollies!

Parking

I must remind you that parking on the zig zag lines is illegal and irresponsible. I have received a complaint from a member of the public who could not safely walk to her destination as a result of someone parking in a very obtrusive manner. Please follow the safety rules and set a good example to the pupils of St Peter's.

Dogs

Please remember that dogs are not allowed in our playground. I understand that many people bring their dogs while dropping off and collecting their children. Some of our pupils are very scared of dogs and this can cause a high level of anxiety for them. I would ask that you bear this in mind and if you do bring a dog and you are standing out with the playground, please leave the entrance/exit clear to allow everyone free access. Thank you for your cooperation.



Film Club

This is a real success which is being enjoyed by many on a Friday at the end of a busy week (including some school staff ☺). The next film shown is 'Santa Claus is Coming to Town' on Friday 16 December at 4pm. Come along and enjoy getting into the festive spirit.

Disco (change of date)

The snowball Christmas disco takes place on Thursday 1 December and not Friday 2 December as stated in the previous newsletter. Please accept my apologies for any confusion. This event is organised by our parents and they are always looking for helpers on the evening. Please consider giving some of your time to help out. You'll have lots of fun.

Christmas Shoppers Night

Our very hard working parents are organising a Christmas Shopping night to take place in the school hall on Friday 18 November from 6 – 8.30pm. Please come along and enjoy the festive atmosphere while picking up a bargain or two. Pupils should come to school dressed in clothes of their choice on this day in exchange for a bottle (to be placed the bottle stall). All glass bottles must be handed in to the school office by an adult.

Christmas Concert

The Christmas concert will take place in two parts. P1 – 3 will perform 'The Nativity' and P4 – P7 will perform 'Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs'. The show takes place on 13, 14, & 15 December and it will be the same performance on all 3 days. Tickets will initially be issued (free of charge) maximum 2 per family. You will soon receive a letter with a tear off slip asking you to request your number of tickets and preferred date. Once they have been returned and tickets have been given out, the remainder of tickets will be issued on a first come first served basis.

As always, please feel free to contact me at the school should you wish to discuss any matter. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Yours sincerely

S. Mazzone
Head Teacher



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Comments: _____
