

St. Peter's Primary School

November/December Newsletter 2018



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Dear Parents/Carers

It's hard to believe that we are quickly approaching Advent. Time flies when you're having fun. As you can see, we have a very busy few weeks ahead of us. I am sure you are all looking forward to enjoying lots of positive experiences and participating in plenty of festive cheer.

Staffing update

You will be aware that Mrs Fergusson has secured a post as Principal Teacher in another local authority. Sadly, we said goodbye to her on Friday 23rd November. I am sure you will all join with me in wishing her well as she moves on to pastures new. We will soon welcome a new member of staff as a result. I will inform you as soon as this appointment has been made.

We have now welcomed Linzi McGregor to our staff team. I am delighted that Linzi (ASNA) is supporting many pupils across the school. She will soon provide after school learning activities (look out for letters in your child's school bag).

Clubs

I am very grateful that many staff members are giving their time to provide after school and lunchtime clubs.

Mrs Ewing is preparing to deliver coding club and will continue to support our school communication by updating the website.

P5 – P7 football club finishes on 4 December for the Christmas period. Mrs MacLean and Mr McKechnie will provide a letter in January detailing the new dates for next term.

Mrs McLean is running the St Peter's choir on Tuesday lunch time. The children are preparing for services in the church and at Braemount Nursing Home.

Mrs Thomson and Eileen Connell continue to coach netball to all P5-P7 pupils every Thursday. Mrs Quinn delivers art club each Monday for particular stages.

We have various Active Schools clubs but the uptake has been very low this term. I am aware that signing up has now moved to an online procedure. Please let me know if you are having difficulty with this.



Religious Life of the School

Congratulations to Canon Eddie and Deacon John who enjoyed fabulous celebrations during the 60th year anniversary of St Peters Church. This was a very special celebration for everyone involved in the church and lovely to see Bishop John as well as many other priests on the evening. It was lovely to see our school community represented so well in the evening too.

P4 and P7 Sacraments

The Mass of Enrolment took place for P7 pupils who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on 25 November at 10am in St Peter's Church. A similar mass will take place on Sunday 9 December at 10am for P4 pupils receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

Catholic Education Fortnight

This is now underway with various activities taking place across the Diocese. Mrs Lawson, DHT has provided a separate newsletter detailing the events taking place over the two weeks. Thank you to everyone who attending our Catholic Education Sunday Mass.

Braemount Care Home Remembrance Service



Our senior pupils in primary 7 spent a morning with many senior citizens in our local care home to give their time and prayers while thinking about those affected by war. Canon Eddie led a dedicated service followed by hymns. We are very proud of how our pupils conducted themselves during this visit. They are a credit to themselves, their families and our school.



Anti – bullying

We have recently started to engage with Brian Donnelly who currently supports many schools in their quest to become anti-bullying establishments. Thank you to everyone who recently completed a questionnaire during Parents Evening. Your comments are very encouraging and we appreciate that very much. Brian will collate the questionnaires of all pupils, parents, staff and community members. He will then provide us with detailed feedback and support us in devising our action plan while developing our updated policy. There will be 3 meetings for parents/carers to gather your views about bullying and provide you with feedback on our survey. They are as follows:

Monday 3 December 2 – 3pm

Friday 7 December 2 – 3pm

Friday 18 January 2 – 3pm

There will be a meeting at 3pm on Friday 18 January for those who wish to be involved in developing our policy. Brian's approach supports our work on restorative practice and we look forward to your involvement.

Seasons for Growth

Seasons for Growth is a programme for children who have experienced significant change or loss. Seasons for Growth is based on the belief that change, loss and grief are a part of life that many of us have to deal with. Mr McIntosh is now trained to deliver this programme and will soon begin work with a group. Please look out for information which will follow shortly.

Parents Evening

As always, attendance at Parents Evening was tremendous with a magnificent 96%. It was lovely to see so many of you there and I hope you enjoyed hearing about your child's progress and achievements as well as seeing their wonderful efforts in their folders of work. Thank you for your contribution to our Book Fair, we raised a magnificent £745 which will generate commission for the school to buy books.



Bedtime Story Club

Mrs Campbell arranged a bedtime story session on Thursday 22 November to coincide with World Book Week. Story telling took place in the school library from 5.45pm until 6.45pm. Children wore pyjamas and brought along a favourite teddy. It was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who was able to come along.

Community Links – West College Scotland

We are building effective links with partners in our local authority and, as a result, primary 6 recently attended Science workshops at West College Scotland. Our pupils learned about breathing, the heart, mixing chemicals, finger prints and rockets. Fantastic learning and great fun was had by all!



Sporting Achievements

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We have recently been successful at many sporting events and we are feeling very proud of our active and healthy pupils.

Thank you to Mrs Robertson and Ms McGregor who accompanied our girls football team last week to Castlehead High School. Congratulations to the team who are through to the next round, they did us proud.

We are also very grateful to Mr McIntosh for supporting our boys football team who were successful in gaining a place in the next round. They did very well indeed. Thank you to the parents who were able to take them there and stay to cheer them on too. Good luck to both teams as they progress through the competitions.

Our basketball team competed at Castlehead High School on 20th November and represented us very well. Thank you boys and girls. St Peter's netball team are participating in the Eilish Heron League on 26 November 3.30pm. A huge thank you to Mrs Thomson who supports them each week during their practice (her skills are legendary!). I am sure they will do very well as they are a very dedicated group of players. There will be a friendly netball match on 17 January at 3.30pm between St Peter's and Bushes Primary. This will give the players the chance to develop their skills while building positive relationships with others in the community. Good luck everyone.

Beauty and the Beast

All of our pupils enjoyed a free panto on Monday 19 November performed by Hopscotch Theatre. This was a very kind gift from St Vincent de Paul so a massive thank you to them. They do fabulous work for the school and we are grateful.

Bring & Buy Sale

P6/7 organised a bring & buy sale on Friday 23rd November. They raised a total of £328.43! Well done and thank you for all your kind donations.



Christmas lights switch on

Congratulations to Taylor McPherson (P6) who was runner up in the Provost's Christmas Card Competition. Taylor enjoyed VIP treatment as the Paisley Christmas light switch on took place. Well Done, Taylor, we're all very proud of you!



Christmas Family Panto

Tickets (£5 each) going fast for this opportunity to bring the family along to see "Peter Pan" on 11 December at 6.30pm. Please contact the school office with your order form/reply slip and money as soon as possible if you would like to take advantage of this special offer.

Christmas concert

This year P1 to P7 are performing 'Children of the World' for their families and the community. The show is about the Angel Gabriel bringing children from around the world to meet the baby Jesus. Children in P6 and P7 are also helping to run the performance with added duties such as music direction, curtains and stage directions, costume preparation and dance creation. This will take place on the following dates and will be the same show each day:

Tuesday 11 December	1.30pm (doors open at 1pm)
Wednesday 12 December	1.30pm (doors open at 1pm)
Thursday 13 December	1.30pm (doors open at 1pm)

There will be no cost for this show. Our hard working Parents will be selling raffle tickets each day and are always keen for as many parents as possible to be involved in selling tickets. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you are free to help on any of the days.



Christmas Lunch

All pupils will enjoy a Christmas Lunch on Tuesday 11 December. Please note that if pupils do not wish to eat a traditional Christmas Dinner they should bring a packed lunch on this date.

Christmas Parties



Every pupil in our early learning and child care class and P1 – P7 will have fantastic fun on Wednesday 19 December while enjoying their Christmas Party. Nursery – P4 will enjoy a special visitor!

All pupils should come to school dressed in their party clothes. (please be mindful of the weather – warm coats and no high heels)

Christmas Fun Day

Our Parent Council held their annual fun day on Sunday 25 November in Blacklandmill Bowling club at 2pm – 4pm. This was a tremendous community event with a very festive atmosphere. Thank you to everyone involved.



Health and Safety

Again, I must remind you NOT TO USE the staff car park (unless previously agreed) while dropping off or collecting your child. This is to ensure that no-one is hurt. Thank you for your co-operation.

We have had a few complaints about parking around the school. Please adhere to the rules of the road by not parking on zig-zag lines. Failure to comply with this could result in a fine. Our community police would appreciate your support.

I would like to ask you not to block entrance/exits to the school ground. It would be helpful if you did not stand at these points while waiting for your child or dropping them off. Please remember you are always welcome to come into the playground. This is a great opportunity to chat to other parents/carers and build positive relationships. However, we would encourage you to stand back from the children's lines in order to encourage independence. Please remember that all adults in the playground have a responsibility to behave as role models for our children. Thank you to those who show a good example. I would also like to ask that you do not lift your child over the fence at the beginning or end of day.

First-Aiders

The following members of staff have been trained and are currently recognised First Aiders within our establishment. Rhona Kenneth, Stephanie Kennedy, Elena Braxton, Katrina Robertson.

Parent Council

Thank you so much to everyone who contributes to the work of this group. Your support is greatly appreciated throughout the year, especially at Christmas. The curtains which were purchased during last school session are being used and you will all have the opportunity to see their effectiveness during the Christmas Concert. I look forward to seeing many of you shortly.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch. I am happy to discuss any concerns or matters with you at any time. Please feel free to contact me at the school. If I am unable to speak with you I will always aim to return your call within 3 working days. Normally, I will return your call on the same day. You know that your views are very important to us and I would appreciate you taking a small amount of time to provide feedback in relation to the information provided in the newsletter. I look forward to seeing you all at various events in the very near future.

Yours sincerely

S Mazzone
Head Teacher

Nov/Dec Dates for your Diary

Monday 19	1.30pm 3 – 4pm	Catholic Education fortnight begins “Beauty And The Beast” performed by Hopscotch Theatre Company – Gift from St Vincent de Paul Art Club (Mrs Quinn)
Tuesday 20	2.15pm 4.30 – 6.30pm	Citizenship Group Meetings Basketball Competition
Wednesday 21	P1&P1/2	Visit to Glenburn Library
Thursday 22	5.45 – 6.45	Bedtime stories for P1 & P2 (Mrs Campbell organising)
Friday 23	7pm	Cluster Mass at St Fergus, please come along Bring & Buy Sale (6/7 organising)
Sunday 25	10am 2 – 4pm	Mass of Enrolement for P7 in St Peter’s Church. Please come along. Christmas Party in Blacklandmill Bowling Club (organised by Parent Council)
Monday 26	3.30pm 7pm	Mrs Thomson taking a group of pupils to Castlehead High For Eilish Heron Netball League. St Andrew’s Academy Parent Council Meeting
Tuesday 27	7pm	Parent Council liaison meeting – a huge thank you to Mr Paul Docherty who has been attending these meetings as our representative.
Wednesday 28	6pm	Parents Council Meeting
Thursday 29	11am	St Andrew’s Day Assembly in school hall
Friday 30		St Andrew’s Day holiday

December

Monday 3	2 – 3pm	Wear something Christmassy day Anti-bullying meeting for parents/carers
Thursday 6	6.15 – 7.15pm 7.30 – 8.30pm	P1 – P3 Disco (organised by Parents Council) P4 – P7 Disco
Friday 7	10am	First Friday Mass (Please come along if you can and join our school community – your help is always greatly appreciated)

	2 – 3pm 4 – 6pm	Anti – bullying meeting for parents/carers Movie Club organised by Parent Council – everyone is invited to join in the fun with a small charge of £2 to be Paid at the door.
Monday 10	1.30pm	Christmas Concert Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday 11	1.30pm	Christmas Lunch for pupils Christmas Concert (doors open at 1pm)
Wednesday 12	1.30pm	Christmas Concert (doors open at 1pm)
Thursday 13	1.30pm	Christmas Concert (doors open at 1pm)
Wednesday 19	All day 7pm	Christmas parties (nursery – P7) St Andrews Christmas Concert
Friday 21	2.30pm	School closes for Christmas Holiday

January

Monday 7 January	9am	School reopens to staff and pupils
Wednesday 16 January	1 – 3pm	P1 Registration (for pupils starting school In August 2019)
Thursday 17 January	1 - 3pm	P1 Registration (for pupils starting school In August 2019)
Friday 25 January	1.30pm	Robert Burns Assembly in school hall

February

Monday 4 February		Parents/Carers to receive letters today asking to request preferred Parents' Evening appointments.
Monday 11 February		HOLIDAY
Tuesday 12 February		HOLIDAY
Wednesday 13 February		In Service Day (Staff only,pupils do Not attend).
Wednesday 27 February		Parents' Evening appointment letters to Go home today.

March

Wednesday 6 March	10am	Ash Wednesday Whole school to attend St Peter's Church
Wednesday 13 March	5 – 8pm	Parents' Evening
Thursday 14 March	3 – 6pm	Parents' Evening

April

Monday 1 April – Friday 12 April		HOLIDAY
Monday 15 April	9am	School reopens to pupils and staff
Friday 19 April		HOLIDAY Good Friday
Monday 22 April		HOLIDAY Easter Monday
Tuesday 23 April	9am	School reopens to pupils and staff

May

Thursday 2 May	7pm	P7 receive the Sacrament of Confirmation In St Mirin's Cathedral
Monday 6 May		HOLIDAY
Tuesday 7 May		In Service Day (staff only, pupils do not Attend)
Wednesday 8 May	9am	Pupils return to school
Thursday 16 May	1.30pm	P1 Induction (for pupils starting school in August 2019, & Parents/Carers)
Thursday 23 May	1.30pm	P1 Induction (for pupils starting school in August 2019, & Parents/Carers)
Friday 24 May		HOLIDAY
Monday 27 May		HOLIDAY
Tuesday 28 May	9am	School reopens to pupils & staff
Thursday 30 May	10am	Whole school attending Mass in St Peter's Church. Ascension Thursday.

June

Friday 7 June		Pupil Progress reports to Parents/Carers Today
Thursday 13 June	7pm	Primary 7 Awards Ceremony
Monday 17 June		HEALTH WEEK
Wednesday 19 June		SPORTS DAY
Friday 21 June		Whole School Summer Outing
Tuesday 25 June	1.30	Achievement Lunch
Friday 28 June	1pm	School closes for Summer Holiday's