



**St. Peter's Primary School**

**Parental Newsletter**

**December 2021**



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are now enjoying the season of Advent and there is so much joy to be had! It has been lovely for staff to engage with your children through this time of preparation and we can really feel the excitement starting to build. All staff are striving to ensure that everyone enjoys the festivities. We are having lots of fun while spending time focusing on the true meaning of Christmas. I hope you are all having a lovely time at home preparing together as a family.



## Christmas Celebrations

### Christmas Lunch

08 December 2021

I would like to offer huge thanks to Elizabeth Haye and her team for a magnificent Christmas lunch! Both staff and children had a wonderful time and were raving about the beautiful meals. This was not an easy task and our catering team really did themselves proud. We are extremely lucky to have an excellent team of people working hard to provide healthy, nutritious and delicious food. The dining hall was decorated beautifully and there was plenty of Christmas cheer with some festive music.



### Christmas Jumper Day

10 December 2021

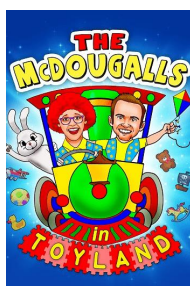
It was lovely to see everyone participate in the fun of the day. There were some creative jumpers and they certainly put a smile on our faces. You can't beat a bit of festive fashion. Our parent council were very grateful for all the extremely generous donations. Thank you!



### Christmas Panto

Week beginning 13 December 2021

All children will be able to participate virtually in the McDougall's Christmas show, "Toyland" while in class throughout the week. I know the children (little and large) all really enjoy the McDougall's shows and I'm sure this one won't disappoint. Enjoy, everyone!



## Christmas Concert

Thursday 16 December 2021

I would like to thank all staff who have been working hard to produce recordings of each class singing their christmas carol and song. I thoroughly enjoyed hearing all the preparations as I walked around the school. I am sure you will all be beaming with pride while watching the production available online from Thursday 17 December. Thank you to Mrs Caitlin Maclean and Mrs Catherine McLean who have been working hard to produce this and to share digitally in order to celebrate with you. We will take every opportunity to showcase our fabulous children.



## Christmas Movie Afternoon

Friday 17 December 2021

Our Parent Council have organised a Christmas Movie Afternoon on Friday. Pupils can come to school dressed in casual clothes for this and can wear something Christmas themed if they wish. I am sure this will be an extremely enjoyable afternoon for everyone.

## Christmas Festival

Monday 20 December 2021

A group of primary 7 pupils have arranged this day to raise funds – 50% to go towards school funds and 50% towards Cancer Research. The classes are grouped as follows:

P1, P2 and P2/3

P3/4, P4/5 and P5

P5, P7a and P7b

Each class will have a table outside of their room and one class at a time can visit the corridor outside the other two classes to purchase items (toys, books/DVDs or individually wrapped cakes, sweets or biscuits). The group of primary 7 children have been responsible for communicating this with other children, staff and parents and have developed many enterprising and leadership skills as a result. Thank you so much for supporting their venture.



## Christmas Parties

Tuesday 21 December 2021

All parties should take place in class with games which encourage physical distancing. Party clothes may be worn to school on the day. Please be mindful of the weather and encourage children to dress appropriately. No high heels please. Children can participate in Christmas themed curricular activities in the morning with party games taking place in the afternoon. Children will be provided with a chocolate treat, packet of sweets, crisps and a bottle of water. I hope they will come home with lots of fun stories to tell. I believe we may have a special visitor in our playground on the day.



## Christmas Mass

Wednesday 22 December 2021



Mrs Lawson has arranged with Fr Andrew to have a mass recorded in St. Peter's Church while one class attends. The recording will then be viewed by everyone at 11.10am on the last day of term. It is so important to remember the true meaning of Christmas and encourage our children to pray together as we celebrate the birth of the baby Jesus.

## **Covid Update**

We have had 26 cases of children testing positive since August 2021 and 8 staff cases. Staff are extremely vigilant when spotting signs where children could potentially be displaying symptoms. On these occasions, you will be contacted to collect your child and their siblings from school. Thank you for your speedy response and for being so cooperative when this has occurred. You are helping to keep our community safe and well.



## Covid - New Omicron Variant

There has been heightened concern surrounding the new variant of Omicron. This is because there is little information known about it at present, however, I am certain that scientists will be able to provide us with more detailed data shortly. Until then, we must follow all of the advice given to us by health professionals and our Scottish Government.



### What should I do if my child has COVID symptoms?

It is extremely important that you continue to look out for symptoms of the virus amongst your own family. The most common symptoms are:

- new, continuous cough
- fever/high temperature (37.8C or greater)
- loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

**If your child has symptoms, they should not attend school and you should book them a test straightaway. They should remain at home and everyone in the household should self-isolate until they receive their test results.**

More information can be found on the parentclub website by clicking [HERE](#).

If you do not have symptoms, you can order rapid lateral flow tests for regular testing at home.

The Scottish Government are encouraging everyone to take regular tests, particularly if you're socialising or mixing with other households.

Find out how to book LFD and PCR tests by clicking [HERE](#).

### Self Isolation for Children and Young People

Under the current guidance, unless your child or young person is a household contact, has had a sleepover or unusually prolonged contact with a case - they will not be deemed to be a close contact.

### Household Contacts

If a person (staff/child) tests positive, regardless of the variant, their whole household needs to self-isolate for 10 days – regardless of their age or vaccine status or testing negative.

### Warn and Inform Letters

Warn and inform letters will continue to be sent out to the affected class when there is a positive case.

## Parent Council

Thank you to those who attended the meeting on 13 December. A huge thanks to everyone for the support offered so far this year, especially during such a challenging time. You have done a fabulous job despite all of the restrictions. Special thanks to our chairperson, Mr Paul Doherty, who attends various meetings to keep our parent forum updated on many educational matters. I am aware that our facebook page is extremely active and all credit should be given to those who are administrators of this page. Please continue to use all avenues to keep the lines of communication open. We are building a strong community!



## Staffing

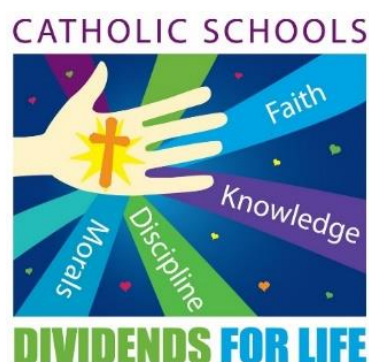
Mrs Lawson and I will be recruiting for one full time Additional Support Needs Assistant (ASNA - 25 hours) and one part-time (ASNA -12.5 hours). We hope to have this completed before the end of term. We will keep you informed once these posts have been filled.

We are delighted to have an additional member of teaching staff who has joined the team here at St. Peter's. Our plan is to raise attainment in Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing. Mrs Layna McGhee is thoroughly enjoying her time here and has already received a lovely warm welcome from our fantastic children. I am sure you will all have an opportunity to meet with Mrs McGhee in due course.

## Religious Life of the School

### Sacraments

The enrolment masses for primary 4 and 7 took place on Wednesday 1 and Thursday 2 December and were absolutely lovely. Thank you to Father Andrew for celebrating these with us and our families. Thank you, also, to staff for attending on the evening. Please continue to pray for our children as they prepare to receive the Sacraments of First Penance, First Eucharist and Confirmation.





## School Lunches

The lunch menu has been reviewed for all children across schools in Renfrewshire. New meal menus will go live in January, providing children with some of the food they say they enjoy while still keeping within the new nutritional guidelines from the Scottish Government.

Renfrewshire Council would like to thank parents and pupils for their feedback so far. As a result, some favourites returning will be:

- Chicken poppers
- Sandwich options
- Hot dogs
- Vegetarian sausage rolls

Renfrewshire Council have promised they will continue to provide medical diets as required.



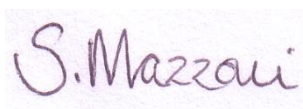
## Merry Christmas

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support and very strong partnership throughout the year so far. We are very blessed here at St. Peter's with such lovely families to work with and so many positive relationships to enjoy and build upon.

I wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas and I hope you all enjoy spending some precious time with your loved ones.



Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "S. Mazzari".

Head Teacher





### **Look ahead at week beginning 13 December 2021**

McDougall's Christmas Panto available to be shared with whole school and ELCC class this week.

Monday 13		Christmas videos to be prepared for sharing (as alternative to Christmas concert)
	6pm	Parent Council meeting via Microsoft teams – Elizabeth Moore, Assistant Facilities co-ordinator(Menu & Nutrition) attending
Thursday 16	.30pm	Christmas video to be shared via online platforms
	2pm	Elizabeth Moore here to speak to pupil council about school menus
Friday 17	1.30pm	Christmas Movie Afternoon (pupils can come to school dressed in casual clothes – optional to wear something Christmassy)

### **Look ahead at week beginning 20 December 2021**

Monday 20		Christmas festival day (organised by primary 7 pupils)
Tuesday 21		Christmas parties all day for ELCC and p1-7
		Special visitor to visit primary 1-5
		Parent Council 100 draw and raffle to be carried out
Wednesday 22	10am	whole school assembly via teams
	11.10am	Children to attend virtual Mass by watching a recording created by one class attending St. Peter's Church.
	2.30pm	School closes for Christmas holiday



**School reopens to staff and pupils on Thursday 06 January.**



Look ahead to week beginning 06 January 2021

Thursday 06                                      School reopens to staff and pupils

Friday 07                      10am                      Whole school virtual assembly

Look ahead at week beginning 10 January 2021

Monday 10                                      Pauline Watters (Early Years Support Worker) starts today (11am-2pm Mon-Fri)

Tuesday 11                                      SLT meeting

Thursday 13                      2pm                      Pupil representatives for parent council meeting to visit HT office

Friday 14                                      Non-uniform day (organised by p7 pupils)

Look ahead at week beginning 17 January 2021

Monday 17                      6pm                      Parent Council meeting

Look ahead at week beginning 24 January 2021

Monday 24

Tuesday 25                                      Robert Burns Celebrations (in class)

Thursday 27

Friday 28



