

Williamsburgh Primary School & Nursery Class

Newsletter



November 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

When you start to hear the first strains of nativity songs in a primary school, you know it is November! Here are some diary dates for November and some school news. I hope you enjoy reading about what the children have been up to.

Diary Dates for November

Tuesday 3 November	Nursery open afternoon for December-March new starts Parent Council meeting 7pm. New members welcome.
Monday 9 November	Fairtrade group selling chocolate this week P7 filming with I am Me project today
Monday 16 November	P7 Transition Event – Ceilidh at Paisley Grammar – during school day
Monday 23 November	P7 Parents Meeting in Williamsburgh 6pm with Paisley Grammar Staff
Wednesday 25 November	P6 trip to Stirling Castle
Friday 27 November	Smoothie Friday – smoothies on sale from Fairtrade Group Religious Observance assembly
Monday 30 November	St Andrew's Day holiday – school and nursery closed

WILLIAMSBURGH PARENT COUNCIL

WPC

Parent Council News

Thanks to the new parents who attended the WPC meeting last month. We are busy planning our Christmas Fair which will take place on Saturday 5th December and as usual we need parent helpers. If you are able to help us set up or you can run a stall please let us know by email or on Facebook. Or you could come along to the next meeting which is on **Tuesday 3rd November at 7pm.**

SAFETY PLEA

*I hate to sound like a broken record but I am so concerned that there is going to be an accident in the car park. Parents are reminded our car park is a **STAFF only car park**. It is a very busy place and we barely have enough space for staff cars. **Please do not park in the car park or use it to drop children off.** Your cooperation is appreciated.*

Fair Trade Committee News



On Tuesday 20th October, the Fair Trade group attended an event at the Methodist Hall, as part of the 'One World Week'. The children learned about Shea butter and its journey from Ghana to Greenock. As part of the day we listened to a man called Trevor who told us about his company called Carishea. They import Shea nuts to Greenock and then prisoners and addicts learn skills to turn the Shea into different products such as soap. The money made then gets sent back to Ghana and is being used to build a school for 800 children.

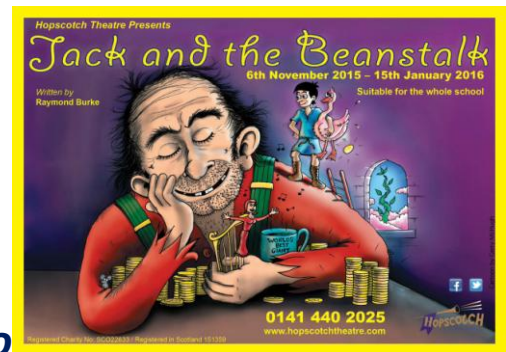


As part of the day, the children got to eat some Fair Trade goodies and worked in groups to create a Shea tree and to blog about what they learned. We had great fun learning more about Fair Trade and how it helps people throughout the world.

Please go to our blog to find out more about events such as chocolate and smoothies!

<http://williamsburghfairtrade.primaryblogger.co.uk/wp-admin/>

We have also achieved our Fair Aware award and we are on course to get our Fair Achiever award before Christmas.



Panto

We have once again booked Hopscoth Theatre Company to come in and do a panto in school. The children really enjoy this and it is a lot less costly than going out to the theatre with 432 children!

The panto this year is Jack and the Beanstalk and is on Tuesday 12 January. We are very aware of trying to keep costs down so we are asking that children pay £3 towards the cost of the panto. However, if you have 2 or more children in the school, the cost will be **£5 per family**. This should be paid by 22 December 2015 and can be brought into school at any time. If you would like to pay in instalments, that is absolutely fine.

If you have any trouble meeting the cost of the panto, or indeed of any school trip or event, please do not hesitate to contact me in confidence.

Divided City

As I type this newsletter, the songs from Divided City are still going round in my head. On Tuesday 27 October, 8 weeks of hard work came to fruition as our P7 children, along with their friends from P7 in St John Ogilvie delivered two performances of the anti-sectarian play, Divided City.

The children were outstanding and delivered the anti-sectarian message loud and strong. What talented children we have! I can honestly say that watching them was one of the proudest moments I have had since becoming Head Teacher of Williamsburgh.

I thought you might like to see some photographs of the rehearsals and some quotes from the children.

I must add a huge and heartfelt thanks to Mrs Peden and Miss McCrear as well as Mr Healey from St John Ogilvie and the staff of the Citizens Theatre for all their hard work.

I have just met Hazel, P7, in the corridor who said "I want to go back and start Divided City all over again. It was brilliant!"



Alistair, Connor and Amy make themselves into a Glasgow landmark.



Camilo and Aristide at the scene of the crime.



Celia is a singing sensation!



Jordan, Lewis and Jay get ready for the match.



Lucy, Grace, Evan, Amy and others at the match.



Angry chorus sing "You're not from around here, are you?"



Lola, Lois and Kitty reflect the seriousness of the message of the play.



Craig and Mark in full swing!



Euan and Camilo with the "Joe and Graham" from St John Ogilvie.



Daniel serves up the chips as Sergio!



The Old Firm Game.



Euan as "Super Joe Flaherty"



Cast photo – stars of the future!



Nursery News **from Mrs Vandal**

Stay & Play.

Thank you to all the parents/carers who enjoyed some time in the nursery with children and staff. This opportunity allows you to observe your child within the nursery environment and give feedback to staff through our evaluation slips. We are always trying to improve the service provided and welcome your suggestions.

Feedback and Target setting meetings

This is an opportunity for you to meet with your child's key worker to discuss progress and next steps for your child. Please speak with your child's key worker if the suggested date is not suitable. They will be happy to arrange an alternative date with you.

Tues 10 Nov	Purple group
Wed 11 Nov	Green group
Fri 13 Nov	Orange group
Tues 17 Nov	Blue group
Wed 18 Nov	Red group
Fri 20 Nov	Yellow group

Christmas Concert - Wed 16 December **10.45am and 2.00pm**

I know it is a bit early, but I just wanted to give advance notice of this date to parent/carers. Further details will be issued to you in due course.

Nursery Christmas Party – Friday 18 December

Dance

Weekly Dance sessions are offered to all children this session. This allows the development of balance, coordination and gross motor control skills as well as just having lots of fun! Your weekly donations help to meet the cost of these dance sessions.

Forest Kindergarten

Weekly visits to Barshaw Park have been extremely successful and enjoyable. These are led by Mairead and Heather. This session the opportunity to take part is being offered to all children in the nursery. Key workers are also participating which allows for much more discussion and follow-up work when they return to the nursery.

Literacy Project

Helen has been working with our Early Years Team Teacher Lynsey, to develop a Literacy Action Plan within the nursery. They are working with the staff to raise the profile of literacy within the nursery. We are also linking with '5 to Thrive' Project to encourage parental involvement. I will keep you updated with our progress.

Health & Safety

I need to request that prams remain outside the building please. Staff will happily hold little ones to enable you to assist your child at the start/end of a nursery session. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

Weekly Donation

Your donation of £3.00 is much appreciated. All the children benefit from this kind gesture. Recent donations have helped to pay for-

- Dance sessions
- Baking materials
- Snacks
- Party treats
- New waterproof suits/jackets for outdoor play
- High viz jackets for outdoor play

Liaison

Recently staff have been visiting/liasing with other establishments where children have a shared placement. It is important that we share information and set targets together. Some staff members have yet to meet and these meetings will take place soon.

I hope you have found the newsletter helpful and informative.

Nova Scott, Head Teacher

Celebrating Achievement



in Williamsburgh

Dear
Parent/Carer

Please use the space below to tell us about your child's achievement. This can be sent in to school at any time.

Child's Name..... **Class**.....



<i>Successful Learner</i>	<i>Responsible Citizen</i>	<i>Effective Contributor</i>	<i>Confident Individual</i>