

People Directorate

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Our Ref: Your Ref:

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Dear Parents and Carers

Friday has come around again really quickly! This week's round up is quite a short one in terms of news. Keep checking Twitter for updates on learning around school and EYC!

We are seeing an increase in the number of children bringing toys and items from home into school. We have just updated our Covid Risk Assessments in school in order to keep pupils and staff safe, and so just a reminder, pupils have access to their own stationery pack in school and so don't need to bring pencil cases etc. Could we ask that these items stay at home please?

It's also worth mentioning that mitigations such as face coverings in the school grounds and no access to the school car park still stand! Let's all continue to play our part to keep our community safe!



Anti Bullying Week

It's been really encouraging to talk to the children in school about their learning around Anti Bullying. They have watched video clips which prompted rich class discussions. Check out Twitter to see some of the activities!



Book Week Scotland

We hope that pupils in P1-3 are enjoying their Book bags that they brought home this week. Reading at home with your child is one of the best ways to foster a love of reading, increase vocabulary and raise attainment



Thank you to those who have had a phone call appointment with teaching staff yesterday. We hope that you felt that the calls with staff

provided you with a better understanding of your child's attainment levels and next steps in learning. We do understand that the time was short, so please continue to get in touch with us via email, group call or by phoning if you have any further questions or concerns.



Children in Need

Thank you so much to all families who supported Children in Need this year by sending in donations! Children and staff look great in bright, sparkly, Pudsey clothes, and we will give you a final figure next week!



Christmas

Here are our plans so far for Christmas in school. I will also add on our Countdown to Christmas overview for this year.

Parties – each class will have access to the main hall for a party this year. Children are welcome to come to school in party wear or non uniform on their day. We won't be able to have children go home to change or change clothes as we have in the past, and so please have children come to school dressed for the whole day. Parties will consist of games, music, dancing and refreshments. Please see the attached Countdown to Christmas for party dates.

Pantomime – sadly, we will not be going together to The Gaiety this year. Instead, we are supporting 2 local companies. We have bought a production called Winter Show Toyland for all EYC -P3 pupils. This is a live, interactive show with the children accessing it via the interactive panels in their classrooms. We have also purchased a production of Aladdin – 3 Wishes, 2 Vaccines and a Genie from The Takeaway Theatre company for all children in P1-7, and again, children will access this through the interactive panels in their classrooms.

Movie afternoons – all classes will choose a Christmas movie to watch and children will be provided with movies snacks for the afternoon. Ssshhh....we are also hoping that a special visitor might get in touch with the children at some point too!!!!

Christmas Jumper – instead of wearing a Christmas jumper for one day in December to support a charity, we have decided to make it Christmas Jumper December! Children are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper instead of their school sweatshirt from Wednesday 1st December until the end of term! Please note, this is not compulsory and some children may not want to – that is totally fine too! ☺

Christmas Lunch – Anna and the catering team are planning to have Christmas lunch. Letters are coming home about this today.

Christmas Crafts – obviously we won't be able to have our Christmas Bazaar but all classes are going to have an afternoon of Christmas craft, so look out for something wonderfully creative coming home.

Parent Council – activities are planned for children to take part in from Wednesday 1st December. These include Guessing the Polar Bear's birthday for PI-7, and Guess the Artic Fox's birthday for the EYC, guess the sweets in the jar, and an amazing raffle. More details will follow from Parent council soon.

This list is not exhaustive, and so we will keep you posted if things are added or amended.

In terms of Christmas cards, pupils are permitted to bring in Christmas cards to give to pupils in their class. All classes will have a box to store cards in, and they will ALL be distributed to pupils on Monday 20th December. Last day to bring in Christmas cards will be Friday 17th December!

Mrs Donnelly
Head Teacher