

Educational Services

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Our Ref: RH/



Date: 21 December 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year Newsletter Update – December 2017

December is always a very busy month and some of the highlights include:

- The Primary 1, 2 and 3 performed this year's Christmas Nativity, "A Midwife Crisis" to packed audiences. They thoroughly enjoyed being on stage demonstrating their growing confidence through acting and singing.
- The Glee Club have performed to the school and at community events. The residents at Bellevue Nursing home particularly enjoyed joining in with the songs.
- We are very proud of our P3 and P4 Dance Club for coming second in the South Ayrshire Dance Competition.
- The Primary 7s enjoyed making some new friends at the Belmont P7 Transition Christmas Party.
- PC Gilmour visited the P5, 6 and 7 classes to talk about the importance of internet safety and this will continue to be a focus for all our pupils especially in February for Internet Safety Day.
- The whole school enjoyed going to see "Cinderella" at the Gaiety Theatre and I would like to thank the Parent Voice for subsidising this event in partnership with the school to keep costs down.
- All the classes had a Christmas Party with the P1-P3 having a special visitor coming to say, "HO HO HO!" Santa left books for all the pupils in the school this year. Once again, thanks go to the Parent Voice for purchasing these.
- Our Winter Wonderland was a highlight of December. All the pupils were involved in planning and organising this event. The focus was on developing creativity skills including: asking good questions; researching information; listening to others; thinking differently about ideas: inventing; solving problems; persistence and co-operation. All the classes visited the event and tried out all the games and experiences. They also had the opportunity of purchasing Christmas ornaments made by the children.
- Our Winter Service led by Primary 4 was made even more special as this was a joint service with Southcraig Campus. All the young adults and children shared their learning with contributions from the Dance and Glee Club along with the violinists. Douglas Hutchinson, the Head of Education, was also able to attend for part of the service. Thanks, as always, go to Mr. Gemmell for letting us use the Auld Kirk.

Photographs from many of these events can be found on the school website along with an updated version of the school handbook, parental information and school newsletters.

After the break, P4 – P7 will be preparing a school show for the end of the Spring Term and we also have tickets for the whole school to visit a *Celtic Connections* concert at the Glasgow Concert Hall. P4 – P7 will be going on January 18th and P1-P3 will be going on 25th January. Further details will follow in the New Year and we will be asking for a contribution towards the cost of the coaches. We will also be hosting our annual Burns Competition at the end of January and launching a Walk Once a Week Campaign to

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encourage active travel to school. It will be a busy start to the New Year with some exciting learning experiences. We hope to see everyone safely back with us on January 8th 2018.

All of us at Holmston wish all our families and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely

Richard Hardy
Head Teacher

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