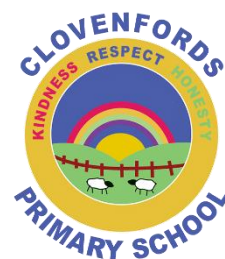


Clovenfords Primary School

Kindness Respect Honesty

Weekly Update – Friday 8th December 2023



Head Teacher's Update

Dear all,

Christmas is in full swing in school. There is tinsel draped all around, the trees are up and Julie is planning the whole school Christmas lunch. The children are practising hard for their concerts and shows, and we very much enjoyed seeing lots of the children in their Christmas Jumpers yesterday!

We hope to see many of you in school over the next two weeks for your child's Christmas shows. Please do also check the dates below for your child's class party. The children in P1-P7 are welcome to bring a party outfit into school to get changed into after lunch, or if your child is in ELC, to come dressed to party in the morning.



Julie, our school cook is very kindly donating three home made gingerbread houses, one for each of the three shows – ELC, P1/2 Nativity and the P3-P7 concert. Whether you come to a dress rehearsal or an evening event, please bring a donation (suggested £2.00) if you would like to enter the draw and we will pop your name in Santa's hat. The three lucky winners will be notified after each show.

In the meantime, wishing you a safe, cosy and peaceful weekend.

Mrs Saxon

Dates for the Diary

Monday 11th December	P2/3 Class Christmas Party – 2.00pm
Tuesday 12th December	P3/4 Class Christmas Party – 2.00pm
Wednesday 13th December	ELC Christmas Show – 2.15pm TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
Thursday 14th December	P1 and P2 pupils Christmas Nativity – Dress Rehearsal - 2.15pm and Evening Performance – 6.00pm TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
Friday 15th December	ELC Christmas Party – come dressed to dance!
Monday 18th December	P5/6 Class Christmas Party – 2.00pm
Tuesday 19th December	Whole School Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 19th December	P6/7 Class Christmas Party – 2.00pm
Wednesday 20th December	P3-P7 Christmas by Candlelight Concert – Dress Rehearsal - 2.15pm and Evening Performance – 6.30pm TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
Thursday 21st December	P1/2 Class Christmas Party – 2.00pm
Thursday 21st December	LAST DAY OF TERM
Friday 22nd December	Holiday
Monday 8th January 2024	New term begins – all resume

Staffing Update

Following a successful interview we are delighted that **Mrs Gemma Crawshaw** will be taking up the post of our P1/2 teacher to cover Miss Hayes whilst she is on maternity leave. Mrs Crawshaw has got her sleeves rolled up

already and has begun to work with the P1/2 class. We are pleased that she is in post as this will allow the children to get to know her even better before we break for the Christmas holidays.

We are currently advertising for a class teacher for P3/4 as **Miss Crosby** has made the decision to take her career in a different direction. Miss Crosby will finish with us on January 12th. We are so sorry to see Miss Crosby go as she has been with the school for a number of years, and many of the children have fond memories of her – particularly when she was teaching them science! – however we wish her well and look forward to hearing all her news in the future.

We are also hugely sorry to be saying cheerio to **Miss Dodds** who has accepted a job working with the Selkirk Sheriff Court. Miss Dodds has a wealth of transferable skills and experience so we are not surprised she has been snapped up elsewhere. Having worked at Clovenfords Primary School for twelve years she has supported and looked after a huge number of families and their children. She will be missed.

As a result of Miss Dodd's resignation, alongside the successful appointment of Mrs Crawshaw as class teacher, we are currently in the process of recruiting two new **Additional Needs Assistants**.

We will keep you up to date with all staffing arrangements in a timely manner.

Christmas Fair

Thank you to all who supported our Christmas Fair last Friday. The children's stalls alone have raised £499.85 for our school funds and I know that the Parent Council were also busy supporting the fair too and have raised some much needed funds.

We are finalising details to enhance outdoor learning across the school with this money, including sheds, loose parts and trolleys.

Paddington Bear Winner

Congratulations to Mrs Lowrie who was the winner of the crocheted Paddington Bear from the Christmas Fair. The competition was to guess the number of hours it took Mrs Dodds (Miss Dodd's talented mum!) to make. The correct answer was 21 hours and 27 minutes and Mrs Lowrie's guess was 20 hours!

Parent Council Update



  Calendar Orders Are Open  

After a couple of years out, the much anticipated School Calendar is back! This year we are offering you the '**Kindness Calendar 2024**'. Many of you will have seen a sneak preview of the calendar at last week's Christmas Fair. Images are of your children's artwork and children in their class groups. The calendar will also include many of the important dates you need to remember!

Calendars are priced at £4 each or 3 for £10, and orders can be placed through ParentPay only. To ensure delivery before Christmas, the deadline for ordering is **Monday 11th December**.

Mission Christmas Cash for Kids Update

Thank you to all of you who have donated gifts to Mission Christmas this year! Our donation box is filling up, however if you have any gifts still to drop off, please do so by **Friday 15th December**. This will be the last day for dropping off gifts at the school. The Mission Christmas box is in the school foyer, please ask at Reception.

Citizenship Gathering Meigle Parents

Citizenship Gathering - Literacy -
Dec 23



Thank you to the parents who came along to our Citizenship Gathering on Wednesday to hear more about their child's literacy learning. We had a focus on handwriting and then asked the parents to take a few minutes to think about their child's reading experiences through a short online questionnaire. These responses really do help us to shape the children's learning offers and to think of ways to work in partnership with you. Please use the link below or scan the QR Code to add your voice to this important discussion. Following the gathering pupils came together in small focus groups to tell us more about their reading in school.

Wider Achievements



Our **Christmas Jumper Day** on Thursday in aid of **Mary's Meals** raised **£100.20!** Together with the super efforts of the **Cloven Crunchy Crew** – Emily, Amelie and Harry P who had previously together raised £62.40, the grand total that we will be able to send off to this worthwhile charity is £162.60!

We are so proud of these three pupils' thought, care and effort on behalf of those less well off. This money will feed at least eight children in school for a year.

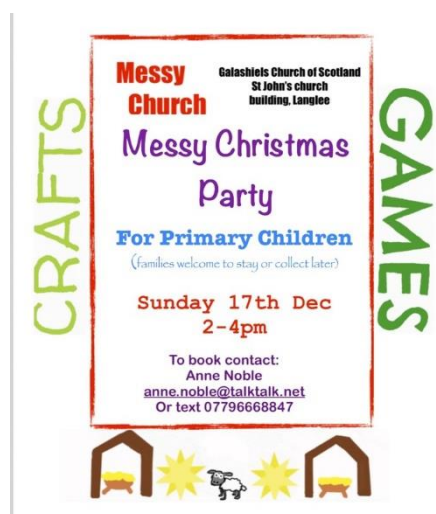
Thank you for supporting your child with this. At our assembly yesterday we spoke about the kindness of the wider community – this is you – and the support, the pound coins, the Christmas jumpers or sparkly tinsel you provided for your child, to not only be part of something in their school but to help them to help others matters.

Galashiels Netball Tournament

Congratulations to our netball teams for their successful participation in the recent netball tournament. We were delighted to hear that the Cloven 1 Team came third. Mr Lindores from Active Schools came in to present the children with their medals earlier this week. Thank you to Miss Fairbairn for supporting and coaching the children for this tournament and to the parents who came in to play some 'friendlies' with the children prior to the competition.



Messy Church Messy Christmas Party



Messy Church Galashiels Church of Scotland
St John's church building, Langlee

Messy Christmas Party

For Primary Children
(Families welcome to stay or collect later)

Sunday 17th Dec
2-4pm

To book contact:
Anne Noble
anne.noble@talktalk.net
Or text 07796668847

Sharing Assembly Be Kind to Others

Building Resilience

Be Kind to Others

"Never look down on anybody unless you're helping them up."

(Jesse Jackson)



Promoting Emotional Health & Well-being

We enjoyed listening to and sharing in all the learning that has been taking place across the school and at home around the theme of kindness.

We had 'bucket fillers', drawings and quotes, as well as a Kindness Advent Calendar Lucky Dip. The children all show understanding of the importance of kindness and as one of our school values, is something that we continue to reinforce and celebrate with the children.

Congratulations to the following Star Achievers for showing our school values in action, for using their learning powers effectively to support their progress, and for showing their ongoing understanding of our school aims:

ELC	Fergus and Penelope
P1/2	Molly
P2/3	Harry F
P3/4	Sean
P5/6	Cara
P6/7	Haley



The children were super excited to tuck into their star biscuit and tell us how proud they were of themselves.



School's Out Clovenfords

A reminder you can contact School's Out at: admin@schoolsoutclovenfords



Clothingfords

Clothingfords is available for you to come and browse at any time across the school day as well as during after school and evening events. Please do not be shy about coming in to use this great facility! There is a great mixture of good quality, used items, including clothes embroidered with the school badge; as well as brand new uniform kindly donated by Asda. Small donations are gratefully appreciated but not expected. Our goal is to provide you with good quality school uniforms free of charge. Please pop along when you can to use this great facility.

WANTED!

If you have any children's wellies that no longer fit and are in good condition we would love to have them for our hub. Thank you for the donations so far – keep them coming!

Communication

If your child will not be in school, it is important that you inform the school office by 9.00am. You can report absence by phone or email.

School office phone number: 01896 662755 **School office email:** clovenfordsps@scotborders.gov.uk

School Twitter (X) : @Clovenfords_ps

School website: [Clovenfords Primary School – Kindness, Respect, Honesty \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](http://Clovenfords Primary School – Kindness, Respect, Honesty (glowscotland.org.uk))