FALLA HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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| Newsletter 4  18th November 2019  Christmas Fair 6th December  Ladies and Gentlemen, if you have any donations for our Tombola stall at the Christmas Fair these would be gratefully received. If they could be with us by Friday 29th Nov, it would be greatly appreciated.  We have had to shuffle round a few of the Christmas dates – please see the list of dates below, changes are in bold.  We thank you for your continued support | | | |
| In and Around the Classroom  On Tuesday (12th) we were privileged to have our Education Officer (Jackie Speirs) and the Quality Improvement Officer (Greg Welsh), from West Lothian Council, come to Falla Hill and partner our school leadership team in observing learning and teaching across the school.  We observed Phonics in P1, Number work in P2, life skills in topic in P3. We saw personal development and social skills in Nursery. In the upper school; P4 maths, P5, P6 and P7 literacy – it was a very enjoyable day for us and the children (not sure the teachers enjoyed it the same way!) | | | |
| **PUDSEY BEAR and Children in Need**  By just collecting small amounts of change we raised over £230 to support Children in Need  **C:\Users\martin.mccusker\Downloads\IMG_3761.jpgC:\Users\martin.mccusker\Downloads\IMG_3760.jpgBefore After Pugsey**  **C:\Users\martin.mccusker\Downloads\IMG_3758.jpg** | | | |
| **Fantastic @ Falla Hill**  Reaching for the Stars  Reaching for the Stars is where children demonstrate being a responsible citizen, effective contributor, confident individual or a successful learner – which are the four contexts for learning in the Curriculum for Excellence. | | | |
| **Responsible Citizens**  Chantelle P2  Kayla P5  Sophie P1 | **Effective Contributors**  Chantelle P2  Rhys P2  Jake P2  Max P5  Kyle P6  Elise P1 | **Confident Individuals**  Ruby P1  Jack P6 | **Successful Learners**  Calvin P5  Lewis P5  Caleb P1H  Ava P1  Lucy P2  Finlay P3  Lola P3  Evie P1  Ruby P1 |
| **Caught Being Good**  Caught Being Good this term so far:   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  |  | RRS Article | | Oliver F | being kind, considerate and regularly sharing equipment with others | 31 | | Kai & Ruby | waiting patiently for their classmate when getting ready to take the register | 31 | | Aaron & Finlay | Sharing in the playground | 31 | | Litsa | Taking turns and playing games | 31 | | Dana | Taking turns and playing games | 31 | | Aureja | Good manners | 36 | | Cameron P2 | Good manners | 36 | |  |  |  | |  |  |  |   Our Caught Being Good awards are given to the children based on the articles contained with Rights Respecting Schools. If you would like to know more about Rights Respecting Schools please visit  <https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/> | | | |
| **A Huge Well Done**  One of our P5 pupils, Max, raised over £260 for Poppy Scotland. He did this through his own efforts, making and selling his own Poppy creations and donating all proceeds to Poppy Scotland, what an effective contributor and responsible citizen Max. | | | |

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| Parent helpers  We have a few parent helpers in school at the moment but we would always value and welcome more. Volunteering an hour or two; a morning or an afternoon would be a great way to support us in getting it right for every child and give you an insight into how school is during the day.  What might you be asked to do?  Listen to children read, not to assess them but to give them greater confidence in reading aloud and discussing what they have read.  Preparing resources for children to use in lessons  Preparing and putting up displays that show our values or the children’s learning  Working with children in small groups to facilitate and encourage their learning.  If this has grabbed your attention and you think you might be interested please contact Mrs Gunning, Principal Teacher via the school email or phone. | |
| Parent Council  We have some parent council events coming up soon, if any parents are PVG checked, or would like to be PVG checked please do let the parent council know. You can email direct to [ruthgallowayblair@hotmail.com](mailto:ruthgallowayblair@hotmail.com) or to [malcmclean@sky.com](mailto:malcmclean@sky.com) – your support will be greatly appreciated. | The next meeting is on Tuesday 26th November at 6pm and your presence will be very welcome. It is important that we develop the communication and relationship between school and home and your views are always appreciated. |
| **Scouting is coming to Fauldhouse!**    West Lothian Districts Scouts and Scouts Scotland are working together to bring Scouting to Fauldhouse in early 2020. We are aiming to start Fauldhouse Scout Group including Beavers (aged 6-8), Cubs (aged 8-10 ½) and Scouts (aged 10 ½-14), with all sections open to both boys and girls. The Group will be based in St Andrew Parish Church Hall on either a Tuesday or Friday night. Exact details of times and days are to follow and we will be holding a taster session and parents information evening before Christmas.  Scouting offers an amazing range of adventures that you won’t get anywhere else. From climbing to kayaking, snowboarding to stage performances, or from camping to coding, challenging young people to learn and achieve things they never thought possible. Giving those opportunities to find their independence and develop the social, leadership and team work skills that help build a positive future. Whatever their background, they’ll be made to feel welcome in Scouts and supported to be the very best they can be.    To make this happen, we need both young people and adult volunteers! If you or your children would be interested in being involved and to keep up with the latest news about the Scout Group find us on Facebook at ‘Fauldhouse Scout Group’ or email Colin Thorpe (Deputy District Commissioner) on [ddc@wlscouts.org.uk](mailto:ddc@wlscouts.org.uk). | |
| ***Head Lice***  *An information leaflet for parents and carers is on Ipay Impact.*  *If you would like a paper copy please contact the school office.*  *Please be vigilant in checking your child’s hair. Thank you for supporting us with this.* | |

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| **Parents and carers are being urged to be Winter Ready**    West Lothian’s 31,000 pupils, their parents and carers can be one of the most affected groups during bouts of severe winter weather, particularly if there is a need to close a school.    Head of Education Jim Cameron said: “During periods of winter weather, the school closures page is the most viewed page on the council’s website, so we know it’s an important issue.    “One of the most important actions for parents and carers to do is check that their child’s school has up-to-date contact details so that messages via GroupCall can be communicated effectively. GroupCall is the first method of communication in the event of a closure or school disruption, so it’s very important that the school has the most up-to-date contact details.    “Whilst the message will also go out via websites, Apps and social media, GroupCall is the main method for schools. If there’s no GroupCall message, then there is no major disruption at the school.”    He added:   “Parents/carers should also note that it’s their responsibility to decide on whether their child/children should travel to school during winter weather. It’s not for the school staff to tell parents whether their child should come to school unless, of course, the decision has been taken to close the school due to weather conditions.”    “The school can only make a judgement based on the condition of the school building and immediate area outside a building. They can’t make a judgement based on individual streets, roads and paths for every child.    “In extreme weather conditions such as snow, parents/carers should carry out an assessment as to whether they consider it safe for their child to travel or walk to school. Parents/carers should then inform the school of their decision at the earliest opportunity.”    For information on the impact of winter weather on local facilities, and tips on how to keep safe ,visit: www.westlothian.gov.uk/winter  **If at any point during extreme weather conditions, such as snow, you feel the route to your child’s usual entrance is unsafe then please access the building via the front door.** |

***Dates for your diary***

**DATES FOR OTHER SCHOOL EVENTS WILL BE ADDED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, PLEASE CHECK THE NEWSLETTER EACH MONTH.**

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| P6 Active Schools Athletics; Whitburn Ac | Thursday 21st November |
| Christmas fair | Friday 6th December 9am-10:15am |
| **P3-5 Christmas Parties** | **Wednesday 11th December** |
| **P1-2 Christmas Party** | **Thursday 12th December** |
| **P6&7 Christmas Party** | **Thursday 12th December** |
| **Nursery Christmas Parties** | **Friday 13th December** |
| Infant nativity rehearsal | Monday 16th December |
| **Nursery nativities** | **Tuesday 17th December** |
| **Carol Concert P4-7 - afternoon** | **Wednesday 18th December** |
| **Infant nativity evening P1-3** | **Wednesday 18th December** |
| **Infant nativity afternoon P1-3** | **Thursday 19th December** |
| **Carol Concert P4-7 - evening** | **Thursday 19th December** |
| End of term and Christmas service in the church. | Friday 20th December  Church service: 9.30am |
| All resume | Tuesday 7th January 2020 |
| P7 Transition | Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd of March |
| Health week | Monday 30th March - Friday 3rd April |
| Parents’ consultations | Wednesday 1st April - Late |
| Parents’ consultations | Thursday 2nd April - Early |
| End of term and Easter service in the church | Friday 3rd April.  Church service: 9.30am |
| All resume | Monday 20th April |
| HOLIDAY | Monday 4th May |
| All resume | Wednesday 6th May |
| P7 camp at Kingswood – change of date from previous newsletter | Monday 25th to Friday 29th May |
| P5 Camp | Wednesday 3rd to Friday 5th June |
| Reports to parents | Friday 12th June |
| P7 leavers’ assembly | Friday 19th June 9am |
| End of term | Friday 28th June |

Comment slip (this can be anonymous if you prefer)

Pupil’s name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please feel free to comment on any item in the newsletter or anything else regarding the school. We always value your feedback on how we can improve.

[*wlfallahill-ps@westlothian.org.uk*](mailto:wlfallahill-ps@westlothian.org.uk)

Comments: