

Torphichen Primary Newsletter December 2016



Torphichen Primary School would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful and Happy New Year.

Christmas Concert

A big "thank you" to everyone who attended our Christmas Concert on Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th December. The children performed with such enthusiasm and were thrilled to have such responsive and encouraging audiences. Thank you too to all of our parents for their support in learning lines, practicing song words and providing costumes. As always, your support is very much appreciated.



Please check the blog for more information about West Lothian Council's Winter Ready Campaign for 2016/2017.

Christmas Service

On Tuesday, 20th December, Torphichen Primary School will be having a Christmas Service in the Church, led by Rev. Alan Greig. The pupils in Primary 1/2 will be performing two of their songs from "The McTivity", some pupils from Primary 3 – 7 will be retelling the Christmas Story and we will be treated to performances from our Choir and from our String Instrumentalists. All parents, carers and visitors are more than welcome to join us at the Church at 1.30pm. We'd love to see you there.

Harvest Donations

Thank you very much for the kind donations of food that were handed in for our Harvest Assembly. We were able to hand out a number of bags of goods to people in our local community and gift 3 big boxes of food to the West Lothian Foodbank.

Breakfast Club

Every morning at 8am, Mrs Dunsmore opens the doors to Breakfast Club. This is open to all children in the school and everyone is welcome to come along.



Skiing Update

There are currently 30 children attending after school ski lessons at Polmonhill Ski Centre and it looks as if all wish to continue with their lessons after the Christmas holidays. There is also a short waiting list of children who would like to learn to ski and we are therefore looking to start another 1 or 2 beginners classes in January. If you have children that would like to participate in these classes - either beginners or improvers - then please do get in touch stating which days below would suit best and also whether you can provide a lift.

Beginners: Tuesdays 4-5 pm, Wednesdays 5-6 pm and Fridays 4-5 pm

- it already looks as if the Friday class will be going ahead and there are a few children interested in the Tuesday class but they all require transport to the Ski Centre (some parents finish work in time to collect them at the end of the class)

Improvers (level 3 or higher): Wednesdays 4-5 pm, Fridays 2-3 pm

Improvers (level 5 or higher): Fridays 3-4 pm

The price per lesson is £5.63 (based on the optimum number of 8 or 12 in a class) and includes hire of all ski equipment. We are hoping to keep class sizes to a maximum of 8 to allow for more focused coaching and this may mean that there will be 2 classes running at the same time (in this instance the coaches will split children into age/ability). A smaller class size is possible but this would mean a higher weekly cost though its likely that this would still work out cheaper than the 'normal' lessons.

Following a team from Torphichen Primary School qualifying for the finals of the Scottish Schools Snowsports Association Autumn Dual Slalom Series, it's our intention to enter 1 or more teams in the Alpine Race Series in February 2017. All very exciting for the children.

Julia Miller (mum to Marcus and Martin in P2): I can be contacted via the Torphichen Parents Facebook page, on 01506 633995 or see me at the school gates most days at drop off/pick up.

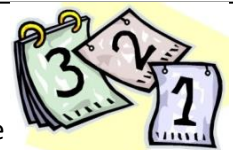
Parent Council

The Parent Council would like to thank everyone who kindly donated items for the hampers which were raffled at the Christmas Concert. Thanks to the generosity of the audience, they raised a fantastic £425!

A reminder that the Parent Council Disco is on Tuesday 20th December from 6.30pm to 8.30pm in the Community Centre and is £2 per child.

On Wednesday 21st December, the final day of term, we would like to invite children to dress down and bring a donation of £1 for the Parent Council. Children are welcome to wear Christmas jumpers or they can wear "normal" clothes if they would rather.

Diary Dates



Tuesday 20th December at 1.30pm

Tuesday 20th December at 6.30pm

Wednesday 21st December

Wednesday 21st December

Wednesday 4th January 2017 at 9am

Christmas Service at Torphichen Church – all welcome

Parent Council Disco at Community Centre

Dress down day (£1 donation for Parent Council)

School finishes for Christmas holiday at 3.20pm

All resume for new term

If you have any comments or suggestions to make about anything you have read in this newsletter or about Torphichen Primary in general I am always keen to hear them. Please do not hesitate to contact us. Our school email address is wltorphichen-ps@westlothian.org.uk

Complaints Procedure

Schools in West Lothian have been advised of changes which have been made to the West Lothian Complaints Procedure. To make a complaint to Customer Care in West Lothian in writing it should be addressed to: Customer Care (Education Services), West Lothian Council, Civic Centre, Howden Road South, Livingston EH54 6FF. Tel:0800 328 5143