



Mid Calder Primary Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer,

November 2015

Our pupils are beginning to rehearse for the nursery and the school nativity and I am sure that you will enjoy both the performances as our children showcase their talents. Following feedback from last year we will be issuing a letter on Monday 23rd November setting out the procedures for purchasing tickets. Please note that there will be no additional performances this year and it is the responsibility of each parent/carer to purchase tickets within the set timescales. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Nicola Thompson
Head Teacher

Staffing

I am delighted to let you know that the school has appointed a new principal teacher. Mrs P Ross will be joining the school team on Monday 30th November. Her initial remit will be teaching Reduced Class Conduct Time across the school as well targeted support.

Mrs Mackie will be returning to work on Monday 16th November after a short illness. Thank you to Mrs T Ross and Mrs Redmond for covering P4 during Mrs Mackie's absence.

Remembrance Sunday

Thank you to P7/6 for presenting their Remembrance Sunday assembly to the whole school. They shared in an informative and confident manner the reasons why we wear a poppy and why we have Remembrance Sunday. Thank you to Charly and Abby in Primary 7 for representing the school at the Kirk of Calder Remembrance Sunday service and laying the poppy wreath on behalf of the school.



Road Safety

Now as the dark evenings draw in please can you remind your children about the importance of staying safe when they are outdoors.

We have had a number of Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils who are jeopardising their safety and the safety of others by walking through the car park at the start and end of the school day.

Achievements

Congratulations to our Achievement Award winners and Star Writers who all received an award at our first Achievement Assembly of the school session.

Congratulations to Linhouse who are the winning house for last term, the vice and house captain are organising a Hollywood themed party to celebrate their achievement.

Congratulations to our Primary 7 pupils who recently won the Cluster Sportshall Festival. They will be invited to the regional finals in the New Year.

School Blog

As part of our continued plan to improve communication between home and school, classes create a blog post every fortnight. You can support this by leaving comments on the blog.

You can find our school blog on:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/wl/mcps/>

Healthy Snacks

We are a health promoting school – please consider the type of snack that you are giving to your child for mid-day snack.

A high number of our upper school pupils are bringing large share packs of crisps and fizzy sweets.

We encourage children to drink water during the school day. Please can you ensure that your child is bringing water in their water bottle. Many thanks in advance for your support.



Cinema Trip

As part of the Into Film Festival Primary 4-7 visited the cinema earlier this week. They will follow up their visit by writing a review of the film. Some staff are also following up this visit by partaking in a film making course.

Thank you to the parent helpers who accompanied us on these cinema visits.



PSA

Thank you to the PSA, parents and staff that supported our recent Halloween Discos. They were great fun and were enjoyed by everyone.

The next PSA event is a movie night on Thursday 19th November. Your child has received a flyer – please check their school bag.

Morning Blether

As part of the school's commitment to working in partnership with you we have organised a series of 'Morning Blethers' throughout the school term. This is your opportunity to come along and work with us as we develop aspects of our school. We will be having a blether on Friday 13th November at 9.15am and it will last no longer than forty-five minutes. Our focus on Friday will be 'Working in partnership to continue to raise attainment in literacy and maths.'

School Uniform

A reminder that as part of the school uniform policy it was agreed by parents and pupils, that children should not be wearing make-up or nail varnish and children should only wear a watch and stud earrings.

Junior Leadership Teams

This session all our pupils are part of a Junior Leadership Team which meets every two weeks to drive forward school improvements. The teams are:

- Fairtrade group
- Eco Committee
- Garden Groomers
 - Book Worms
- Community Crusaders
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths)
 - Technical Troopers
 - Global Citizenship
 - Healthy Heroes
 - Press Gang
 - Pupil Council

You will hear from each group throughout the year.

Toys in School

Please can pupils refrain from bringing toys – cuddly toys/Shopkins/cards etc into school as these are causing disruption both in the playground and in the classroom which is having an impact on teaching time. The PSA have provided funds in the past for a wide variety of playground games which children can access every playtime and lunchtime. Thank you in advance for your support.

Dates for your diary

- Thursday 12th November – Linhouse winner party – Linhouse to bring in party clothes to change into after lunch
- Friday 13th November – Morning Blether at 9.15am; last day for photograph orders
- W/B 16th November – P7 art project and technology project begins with West Calder High School staff for six weeks
- Monday 16th November – P2 pupils visit to Linlithgow
- Wednesday 18th November – Blood transfusion service in school from 4pm
- Wednesday 18th November – Shoe Box appeal finishes
- Thursday 19th November – P1 Bookbug afternoon session at 2pm; PSA Movie Night
- Friday 20th November – P6 assembly at 11.10am (Parents/carers invited)
- Monday 23rd November – Primary 3/2 and Primary 3 visit to Linlithgow
- Monday 30th November – Nursery nativity dress rehearsal
- Wednesday 2nd December – Christmas lunch (order forms out on 16th November)
- Thursday 3rd December – Nursery Nativity – Morning session at 10am and afternoon session at 2pm
- Friday 4th December – 6pm-8pm PSA Christmas Fair
- Saturday 6th December – Gala Torchlight Procession: P1-3 pupils singing in the Kirk of Calder at 6pm
- Monday 7th December – School nativity dress rehearsal
- Tuesday 8th December – P7 Christmas party at 1.30pm (bring party clothes to change at lunchtime)
- Wednesday 9th December – P6 Christmas party at 1.30pm (bring party clothes to change at lunchtime)
- Thursday 10th December – School nativity performances at 9.30am & 1.30pm
- Friday 11th December - School nativity performances at 9.30am
- Monday 14th December – P5 Christmas party at 1.30pm (bring party clothes to change at lunchtime)
- Tuesday 15th December – P4 Christmas party at 9.30am (wear party clothes to school and bring school uniform to change after party)
- Tuesday 15th December – P3 Christmas party at 1.30pm (bring party clothes to change at lunchtime)
- Wednesday 16th December – P2 Christmas party at 1.30pm (bring party clothes to change at lunchtime)
- Thursday 17th December – Nursery Christmas parties with a special visitor – Morning parents/carers invited to hall at 10.45am; Afternoon parent/carers invited to the hall at 2.45pm
- Thursday 17th December - 1.30pm – Church Service for primary pupils and parents/carers
- Friday 18th December – P1 Christmas party at 9.30am (wear party clothes to school); last day of term
- Wednesday 6th January – New term begins for all pupils

