



Wemyss Bay Primary School and Nursery Class

Head Teacher's Newsletter

December 2016



Dear Parent/Carer,

The purpose of this newsletter is to give you information, update you on recent events in school and to inform you about things which will be happening in the near future. This newsletter is also published on our school website. Address – <http://wemyssbay.inverclyde.sch.uk>

It is difficult to believe that it is December already and that Christmas is almost upon us! The school is a whirl of carols, decorations, gift making, advent calendars, nativity characters and most importantly the happy faces of our pupils as they learn within a context that is magical for them.

Children in Need

Thanks to the generosity of our families and the organisational skills of Mrs Miller and our school Charities Group, we were able to donate £284.45 to this worthy cause. In the run up to Christmas our Charities Group have decided to support the Inverclyde Foodbank and request food items rather than monetary donations.

Parent/Carer Pupil Update Evenings

We were delighted to have 99% attendance at these evenings as it is well proven that teachers and parents working together to support children's learning gives them the best chance of success. We hope that you found the information shared about your child's learning useful.

Nursery Induction Afternoon

There will be an information session for parents of children due to start nursery in January or March on the afternoon of Friday 9th December from 2.00-3.00pm.

Christmas Events

We are looking forward to families joining us at some of these events and thank you all for supporting the school so generously with your attendance. The proceeds will all go towards enhancing your children's education and school life and we are very grateful for your support.

Christmas Cracker

A reminder that this popular event will take place on Friday 2nd December 2016 and families are very welcome to attend. The class attendance times at the stalls and the tearoom will be as follows:

Morning	
9.30-10.00am	Primary 7
10.00-10.30am	Primary 6
10.30-11.00am	Primary 5
11.00-11.30am	Primary 4
Afternoon	
1.30-2.00pm	Primary 3
2.00-2.30pm	Primary 2
2.30-3.00pm	Primary 1

There will be a 'gift' stall, Fairtrade stall, a home-baking stall and a raffle run by the Parent Council. Entry to the tearoom will be £1 for adults (children free) to include tea, coffee or juice and shortbread or a mince pie.

Parents/ carers with more than one child in school can attend during the session for any one of their children that suits best and request that the others attend then too. Just ask the senior pupils/ staff at the door!

Any donations to the school office as soon as possible please.

Christmas Lights Switch On

Our P6, P7 and Senior Choir pupils will be singing at the Christmas Lights Switch On at the Community Centre on Friday 2nd December at 7.00pm and families are all welcome to attend this community event.

Nativity

Next week our Nursery and P1 & P2 pupils will put on two performances of their Nativity 'Hey Ewe!' for their families and friends to attend (Tuesday 6th - 9.30am & Thursday 8th - 2.00pm). They will also perform for the school community on the Wednesday in between which will ensure that older siblings get to see their little brothers, sisters, cousins and friends perform. The proceeds from the tickets will cover costs, help to ensure that Santa's sack is full for the Nursery and P1 & P2 Christmas parties and go towards purchasing/updating performance equipment for the future.

Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 7th is the school Christmas lunch – if you have not already done so please make sure that you have let us know your child's arrangements and, if appropriate, choices for this school event.

Music Service Christmas Concert

Some of our pupils who have instrumental and/or singing tuition in school are also involved in the Inverclyde Schools' Christmas Spectacular on Thursday 8th December in the Town Hall, Greenock – good luck to all of them!

PTA Christmas Discos

Friday 9th is the date for the PTA school discos which I am sure will be a lot of fun for our pupils from P1-P7 – thank you once again to the PTA !

Christmas Parties

Day/Date	Time	Classes	Notes
Monday 12 th December	1.15pm	P1 & P2	Pupils may come to school in party clothes, bring clothes to change at lunchtime or go home at lunchtime to change
Tuesday 13 th December	1.15pm	P3 & P4	
Wednesday 14 th December	During am and pm sessions as appropriate	Nursery	
Monday 19 th December	1.15pm	P5, P6 & P7	

If he is not too busy Santa will be making a visit to both the Nursery and P1/P2 parties!

Christmas Services

This year we will run our Christmas closing service twice to allow as many families as possible to attend and to provide an opportunity for our whole school community to come together in a celebration of Christmas.

The first service will be on the afternoon of Thursday 15th December at 2.00pm and the second that evening at 6.00pm. The service will last approximately one hour.

As each class is contributing to the service we need as many children as possible to attend in the evening and would greatly appreciate your support in achieving this.

To comply with fire regulations this requires to be a ticketed event but there will be no associated charge; instead we would welcome donations for the Inverclyde Foodbank – please see separate letter for details of how to obtain your tickets.

Christmas Jumper/Casual Clothes Day

On Friday 16th December the children can wear Christmas jumpers, other festive clothing or casual clothes. As we are very conscious of all the additional expense that this time of year brings to families there will be no charge for this but again a donation of a non- perishable food item for Inverclyde Foodbank would be appreciated instead.

Holiday

Tuesday 20th December will be our last school day of 2016 and the school and nursery will close at 2.30pm. Staff and children return to school on Thursday 5th January 2016 at 9.00am.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of all of the school staff to thank you all for your support of the school during 2016 and to wish you and your families a very merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Elaine Montgomery
Head Teacher

November 2016 Head Teacher Award Winners		
Tom Cairns	P7	For being polite, helpful and showing a very positive attitude towards school.
Jonathan Devlin	P7	For consistently helping out around the school providing an excellent role model to others.
Jack McLaughlin	P7	For his confident and positive attitude towards new experiences in P7.
Olivia Walker	P7	For being consistently polite, helpful and showing a very positive attitude towards school.
Class Awards		
Austin Rice	Nursery	Responsible Citizen for showing respect towards others
Max Rafferty	Nursery	Confident Individual for becoming confident in using mathematical language.
Meadow Shields	P1	Responsible Citizen for displaying excellent manners and encouraging others too.
Alfie Paton	P1	Responsible Citizen for his outstanding behaviour and being a wonderful role model.
Kenzie McIntyre	P2	Successful Learner for always trying his best in all he is asked to do.
Blake Herdman	P2	Responsible Citizen for being very helpful to both staff and children.
Jenna McGhee	P3	Responsible Citizen for always working hard, being kind and helping others.
Alexander Dolan	P3	Successful Learner for working well in numeracy, learning about addition with carrying.
Hannah Zielke	P4	Responsible Citizen for always being kind and helpful to both staff and other pupils.
Cameron McKechnie	P5	Effective Contributor for showing enthusiasm in class & group activities during reading.
Saul Rankin	P5	Successful Learner for his descriptive and imaginative poetry writing this term.
Ian Lin	P6	Successful Learner for making excellent progress in swimming lessons.
Catriona McPherson	P7	Successful Learner for producing an excellent and detailed business plan.
Alastair McNeill	P7	Successful Learner for producing an excellent and detailed business plan.

Please remember that every class has an achievement wall where children's successes outside of school are celebrated – please send in those awards, certificates, medals and/or photographs!

Dates for your Diary:

December			
Friday 2 nd	Christmas Cracker	9.30-11.30am & 1.30-3.00pm	Please see main letter for class attendance times
	Christmas Lights Switch On	7.00 pm	Community Centre
Tuesday 6 th	Nursery - P2 Nativity Pattern 1 & 3 nursery pupils	9.30-10.30am	Ticket proceeds to nursery/school funds
Wednesday 7 th	Christmas lunch	12.15-1.15pm	Open to all P1-P7 pupils
Thursday 8 th	Nursery - P2 Nativity Pattern 2 & 4 nursery pupils	2.00-3.00pm	Ticket proceeds to nursery/school funds
Friday 9 th	PTA Christmas Discos P1-3 P4-7	6.15 – 7.15pm 7.30 - 8.30pm	School Hall
Monday 12 th	P1- P2 Christmas Party	Afternoon	Pupils may: come to school in party clothes, bring clothes to change at lunchtime or go home at lunchtime to change
Tuesday 13 th	P3- P4 Christmas Party	Afternoon	
Wednesday 14 th	Nursery (Patterns 1 & 3) Party	Morning	
	Nursery (Patterns 2 & 4) Party	Afternoon	
Thursday 15 th	Christmas Service (afternoon)	2.00-3.00pm	Parents/Carers welcome at either – tickets required
	Christmas Service (evening)	6.00-7.00pm	
Friday 16 th	Christmas Jumper/Casual Clothes Day	All Day	Donation of non-perishable food item for Foodbank
Monday 19 th	P5- P7 Christmas Party	Afternoon	As above
Tuesday 20 th	School closes	2.30pm	Happy holidays everyone!

January			
Thursday 5 th	Pupils return to school	9.00am	Happy New Year!
Wednesday 18 th	P4 Class Assembly	9.30-10.00am	Parents/Carers/Family of P4 pupils welcome to attend
	Fairtrade Coffee Morning	10.00 -10.30am	
Wednesday 25 th	P5 Curriculum Event	9.30-10.30am	P5 Parent/Carers event

