Castlehill

 Newsletter

November 2024

**Dear Parents /Carers,**

Welcome to our November Newsletter. An updated ‘Diary Dates’ for the year has recently been issued. We will keep communicating via Groupcall about changes to dates and about new activities and events as they are arranged.

You can contact the school or myself about any matter or if you need any further information. If you would like to contact your child’s class teacher, please do so through the school or myself.

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Richard Long, Head Teacher

**MacMillan Coffee Morning**

Thank you very much to our Primary 5/4 class and Mrs Hardman for organising and running a very successful school coffee morning for MacMillan Cancer Support at the end of September. They made posters to advertise, spoke confidently to classes about their event, researched favourite biscuits, wrote letters to local businesses and learned about the roles involved in a coffee morning and basic food handling. The final amount raised was fantastic £254.50! Very well done! Thank you also to Tesco Campbeltown for the generous donation of diluting juice, milk and biscuits.

**Careers Week**

Primary 5, 6 and 7 were all involved in learning linked to Careers Week Scotland in November. As part of their Enterprise topic, Primary 5 and 6 discussed local businesses and services and chose some that they would like to invite in to be interviewed. They were visited by; Fetcha Chocolates, Watt Whisky, Argyll Bakeries, Wright Hair, Right Now, the Ambulance Service and Tesco. Through interviewing the representatives for each business/service, the children gained a wealth of advice and information for their topic. Mairi McLean from Virgin Bank has subsequently visited Primay 5 and 6 to launch their Virgin Bank ‘Make £5 Grow’ scheme. For the next part of their Enterprise / ‘Make £5 Grow’ topic P5 and P6 are working in business groups to produce items that they are then planning to sell at a Winterfest sale for all pupils in the school and for the parents of P5 and 6 pupils during the afternoon on Tuesday 17th December.

Primary 7 were also lucky to be visited by Stuart Crossan and Mrs McCallum who were able to give information about the skills required in sports careers and craft-making respectively.

Thank you very much to all of the visitors for giving up their precious time to visit the classes.

**Into Film**

All of our classes enjoyed a ‘cinema experience’ in November, thanks to Campbeltown Picture House hosting the Into Film Festival showings of Kung Fu Panda and Harold and the Purple Crayon for our P3-7 classes. Both films were a huge hit! Mrs McSporran and Mrs McShannon made sure that our P1s and P2s didn’t feel left out by creating a cinema experience in their classrooms.

**Children in Need**

Primary 7 led our Children in Need fundraising around the SPOTacular theme! A huge well done to them for their very successful Pudsey Drive on the Thursday. They were excellent leaders for all the classes, being encouraging and helpful throughout and raising a fantastic £50 towards our final total!

On the Friday Primary 7 were excellent leaders again, organising a pyjama fun run and a bring and buy sale with lots of fun stalls! An amazing total of £830 was raised. Thank you very much to all of our families who supported the events in lots of different ways.

**Remembrance Serivce**

Well done to members of our Pupil Leadership Groups who represented us along with Mrs Cairns in paying respects at a short remembrance service at the war memorial along with a group of Dalintober pupils and members of the local community.

**Glasgow Science Centre**

Back in October all classes were fortunate to be involved in the visit to the school by the Glasgow Science Centre Leaning Lab which provided a wealth of information about the air we breathe and about how the body works.

**Quiz Night**

Thank you very much to the Friends of Castlehill and Mrs Cairns for organising our Family Quiz Night and to John Armour for giving up his time to be the quiz master on the night. There was lots of fun for the families and the evening raised an excellent £352.

**Scholastic and Preloved Bookfair**

The Friends of Castlehill and the school have arranged this year for preloved books to be available to buy alongside the books from Scholastic. All classes visited the bookfair on Friday, with the fair also being open on our Parent/Teacher Appointment evenings.

**Christmas Craft Fayre, Concert and Nativity**

Classes are busy making crafts to sell at our Craft Fayre that will take place alongside our Christmas Concert for P3 to P7 classes on Monday 9th December (starting at 1.00 pm) and our P1 and P2 Nativity on Friday 13th December (starting at 1.30 pm).

The P3 to P7 concert will involve each class singing a Christmas song, with P7 closing the show with two songs, and performances by music tuition groups, our choir and our ceilidh club.

The Friends of Castlehill are organising the raffle at both events. Any donations for this would be really appreciated and can be left in the school office. If you are able to donate, please leave them in by Wednesday 4th December.

**Parent Information Evening**

We will be holding an information evening to provide information about our Vision, Values and Aims, our Curriculum and our Relationships and Anti-bullying Policies. Please come along to find out more and to ask any questions you may have about these aspects. **This was originally scheduled for Tuesday 10th December but will now take place on Tuesday 14th January at 6.00 pm.**

**Santa Dash**

We will be holding our annual Sponsored Santa Dash again this year for all the children to take part in. The 'Dash' will take place in school on Wednesday 11th December. The children will be able to wear Santa suits, reindeer ears, elf outfits, Santa hats or Christmas jumpers or something red to help create a Christmas atmosphere. Pupils will be able to choose to walk, jog or run for the 'Dash'. A sponsor sheet will be issued shortly. We are very grateful for any donations that we receive. All of the funds raised will go towards equipment and activities that benefit the children in school.

**Christmas Lunch**

Christmas Lunch is on Thursday 12th December. Information about this is being issued separately.

**Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day**

Thursday 12th December is also Save the Children’s Christmas Jumper Day. Pupils can wear Christmas Jumpers (or non-uniform jumpers) on the day. Donations for Save the Children will be gratefully received.

The Friends of Castlehill and the school are planning to arrange a Preloved Christmas Jumper Swap, which we will give you more details about.

**P6-7 Christmas Disco**

The Friends of Castlehill are organising a disco for P6 and P7 which will take place on Wednesday 18th December from 6.30 to 8.00 pm.

**Christmas Parties**

Class Christmas parties will take place in the final week of term. Teachers will let you know in advance of the day of their class’s party.

**Last Day of Term**

There will be an end of term joint church service with Dalintober and Drumlemble on Friday 20th December at 1.15 pm at the Campbeltown Parish Church. All parents/carers are welcome to attend. Pupils will return to school with their classes after the service.

School will then close at the earlier end of day time of 2.30 pm. As usual we understand that the buses will run at their normal times from 3.15 pm. If you require your child to wait in school until 3.15 pm for their bus, please contact the school to let us know.

School will re-open for the Spring Term on Monday 6th January.

