Castlehill

 Newsletter

February 2025

**Dear Parents /Carers,**

Welcome to our February Newsletter and ‘Diary Dates’.

The first half of this term has gone by very quickly with lots of positive learning taking place across the school.

**Thank You**

A very big thank you to all of staff for the organisation of the activities leading up to Christmas, to the Friends of Castlehill for their help and to you for supporting the school and for your generous donations towards our fundraising.

The following fantastic amounts were raised:

Our Christmas Craft Fayre, P3-7 Concert and P1-2 Nativity raised £1040 from the sale of crafts and silver collections, and the Santa Dash raised £1728, all of which will go towards School Funds from which we can provide additional activities and equipment for the children.

Christmas Jumper Day raised £78 for Save the Children.

**Winterfest**

Mrs McIntosh and Miss Barbour led their P6 and P5 classes in a very successful enterprise topic before Christmas. The topic involved groups of children coming with ideas for making and selling products or setting up activities with a starting budget of £5 per group. All the pupils in the school were invited to their Winterfest together with the parents of the pupils in the two classes. The two classes raised an amazing £500 altogether. Each class is donating £50 to charities of their choice and then planning to spend the remainder on resources that the children are choosing for their class.

**Vision, Values and Aims, Curriculum and Relationships**

Thank you to the parents who were able to come to our information evening in January about our Vision, Values and Aims, Curriculum Curriculum and our Relationships and Anti-bullying Policies. If you couldn’t come along but do want any more information about any of these areas or any other school matter, please don’t hesitate to contact me at school.

**Clubs**

A number of clubs have been taking place and been very well attended:

* Football Club for P5-7 has very high numbers and has been made possible by Mrs Cairns and a number of parent volunteers to whom we are very grateful.
* Mrs Cairns’ Drama Club for P6-7 are now very busy preparing their performance at the Drama Festival at the Victoria Hall on Friday 28th February. We wish them good luck for their performance!
* P5-6 STEM Club, led by Mrs McShannon, took place before Christmas and will be followed by the P3-4 Club in February and March.
* Mrs McIntosh has been running a lunchtime P6 Euroquiz Club.
* P5-7 Ceilidh Club ran very successfully before Christmas, thanks to Mrs MacKay and Miss Barbour.
* Mrs McSporran liaises with Lindsay Ramsay regarding Active Schools. Virtual Games club for P6-7 ran in the period before Christmas and will involve other year groups across the rest of the year.

**Into Film and The Picture House**

In the last week before Christmas P1 and P2 were able to enjoy a screening of CBeebies Panto, Beauty and the Beast.

We are planning for all of the classes to see the Into Film screening of Despicable Me 4 on 27th March.

Where screenings fit in with class topics, classes may get to see other films at the Picture House. P6 will have the opportunity to see the Wilding on 13th March in connection with their ecosystems topic.

**Street Drumming**

P5 will have the opportunity to take part in a series of Street Drumming sessions led by Andrew Black from Wednesday 5th March.

**Parent / Teacher Appointment**

Parent / Teacher appointments will take place on **Tuesday 4th March from 6.00 pm and Tuesday 11th March from 3.30 pm.** Please note these timings are different to the ones shown in our last Diary Dates. More details about booking appointments will follow.

We are hoping to have an Usborne Book Fair available for the two appointment sessions.

**Comic Relief Red Nose Day**

Information about our events for Red Nose Day on Friday 21st March has been issued separately. Thanks to Mrs McIntosh and P6 for organising the day.

**Spring Concert**

Our Spring Concert will be taking place on in the evenings of Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th March. All classes will be involved in performing. More details will follow separtely.

**Diary Dates**

Please find attached an updated ‘Diary Dates’ page.

**End of Summer Term**

Please note the last day of this year’s Summer Term is on Tuesday 1st July with the Summer Holiday starting on Wednesday 2nd July.

**Facebook**

Please check our Facebook page for regular updates about school news.

If you have any questions about any school matter, please do not hesitate to contact me through school or via email at Richard.Long@argyll-bute.gov.uk .

Kind Regards

Richard Long

Head Teacher

