



Education Resources
 Executive Director Carole McKenzie
 Woodside Primary
 Head Teacher: Elaine Renwick

Woodie News December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

The countdown to Christmas has started!



We are all buzzing for our **'Festive Funday'** on **Wednesday 20th December**. Please remember that this is a non school uniform day and **there is no cost**. Anything goes..... Christmas jumpers, party clothes or just casual gear. Its going to be a packed day with P1-3 parties, obstacle adventures, crafts and movies. It's still a few weeks away so it will be a challenge containing all our excitement until then! On Friday 15th December our Christmas Service will take place in St John's Church at 10am. Our Primary 1 children are currently rehearsing the Nativity. A big 'thank you' to 'Mrs Aitcheson and Team Primary 1 for leading this. Primary 6, our musicians and Big Singing Group will join Primary 1 in the Church building. All other classes will remain in school and beam into the service live. Families and friends are welcome to join us in St Johns Church.

Thank you to all who joined us for our 'Open Morning' today. This is another way of reporting our children's progress to our parents. I hope you found this to be informative and it gave you a chance to see how your child is learning. Our focus was on being 'Successful Learners' and we wanted to give you a brief snapshot of a selection of activities your child may do in class. I hope you enjoyed seeing your child in their learning environment.

Our 'Maths Masters' Pupil Voice group are currently running a 'Sumdog' competition across the school encouraging everyone to get online in school and at home to play 'Sumdog'. It's such a fun and engaging way to revise key numeracy skills. The competition closes on the 8th of December and everyone who has participated has a chance to win a prize. Our 'Charity Champions' have organised a Christmas Foodbank collection. I hope you received your letter highlighting your stage donation.

Finally, whatever you and your family have planned over the next few weeks I'd like to wish you lots of festive fun. We are very grateful for your support in all we do.

Best wishes,
 Elaine Renwick
 Head Teacher

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Dates For Your Diary

5th Dec	Childsmile for P1-4
13th Dec	Christmas Lunch
15th Dec	Christmas Service at St Johns Church at 10am
20th Dec	Festive Funday Dress down and be ready for fun.
22nd Dec	School closes at 2.30pm
8th Jan 2024	School reopens Enrolment week for new Primary 1 children
12th Jan	Newsletter online
15th Jan	Class Newsletters out this week
18th Jan	Parent Council meeting at 7pm. All welcome
19th Jan	Panto in school Cinderella

Panto Time

Something to look forward to in the New Year. On **Friday 19th January** the children will all watch Cinderella performed by Hopscotch theatre group. All money raised at our recent dress down day will help with the cost of this. Thank You!



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Pupil Voice Groups Last week at Assembly we received an update from our P7 Leaders on the work of all our Pupil Voice groups. Every child in the school is in a group and they meet about every 5 weeks. We have Maths Masters, Rights Reinforcers, Healthy Heroes, Reading Rockets, Playground Pals, Sustainability Superheroes and Charity Champions. Ask your child which group they belong to.

Our Charity Champions launched their Christmas Foodbank Appeal this week. This is a fabulous way for our school to show our local community that we care.

As a staff we made a donation of toiletries and dropped these off to the foodbank last week. Please don't feel the need to send in staff gifts this Christmas as we would much prefer you to spend on your special wee people instead.



Maths Circles

In the week beginning 6th November our P4 - 7 children had the chance to participate in 'Maths Circles'. These gave our children the opportunity to work in small groups and tackle a range of mathematical challenges. The activities develop a range of skills which include discussion, cooperation, reasoning and explaining. We saw a lot of



determination too! Our children enjoyed the hands on activities and had great fun. When asked, almost all of the children said they enjoyed the practical session and would like to do it again.



JRSO

Our new Junior Road Safety Officers, Katie, Harris and Marion from Primary 6 joined Marion from SLC to discuss the numerous issues we have outside our school. They will be carrying out a brief speed monitoring exercise soon.



They have lots of ideas to launch in January



Pokemon cards seem to be back in fashion and there is a lot of trading going on in the playground which often ends up in tears.

Some things are best left at home.

Celebrating Success Well done to Annabelle in Primary 4 who received a runners up certificate from Angela Crawley MP after she entered her Christmas card competition.



We have a few budding stars performing in panto and shows this season. Good luck to Alexis in P6 and Georgia in P5. Well done to Fergus P6 as he was away playing for Accies in Spain.

We have many pupils who received Highly Commended certificates from the SLC Road Safety calendar competition. Well done to Ava in P1, Jamie in P2, Jennifer in P3, Lauren in P5, Millie and Julie in P6, Jacob, Mia and Sarah in P7.

Finally as a school we have been awarded our bronze 'Emotion Works' award. Thanks to Mrs Lawson for pulling all our evidence together.





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Absence rates We always monitor our absences across the school and will get in touch with you by letter if your **child's rate drops** or if they are **often late** for school. We will be sending out letters before the holidays. Evelyn McGonagle, our Youth, Family and Community Learning Officer can support families to improve attendance rates. The table below highlights the importance of being in school.

100%	0 days missed	Best possible chance of success and reaching full potential
95%	9 Days of Absence 1 week and 4 days learning missed	Is likely to make it harder to achieve full potential and secure the best possible outcomes
90%	19 days of Absence 3 weeks and 4 days of learning missed	
85%	27 Days of Absence 5 weeks and 3 days of Learning Missed Almost half a term missed	Is likely to impact significantly on learning and progress which can lead to poorer outcomes in achievement, wellbeing and social and emotional development
80%	36 days of Absence 7 weeks and 3 days of learning missed Half of a term missed	

After School Clubs

At Parent's night in May, we asked you to complete a questionnaire and in your feedback you asked for more extra-curricular activities. You asked, so we did!

Currently we have 10 after school clubs running this term.

A big 'thanks' to all the teachers who are leading these.

Club	Stage	Day of the week
Art club	P2	Monday
Spanish	P3 and 4	Monday
Art n craft	P4	Thursday
Music	P5	Thursday
STEM	P3	Thursday
Dance	P6	Monday
Art	P3	Thursday
Clay Modelling	P2	Thursday
Big Singing	P5, P6 and P7	Monday
Drama	P5	Wednesday



There will be P1 after school Fun Games clubs on offer in the new year. Hopefully, if funding allows there will be other after school opportunities coming too.



Mrs Aitcheson has organised and supported our senior pupils to run eight different playtime clubs for P1 and P2 children. These are football, arts & crafts, music, tennis, board games, drama, dance and calm club. All but two children in P1 & P2 have attended a club. Thanks for all your hard work P7 leaders and Mrs Aitcheson.

