

Newsletter 6
10th December 2019

Christmas Fair

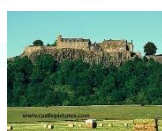
My first Falla Hill Christmas Fair, what a fantastic turnout, the children had made some brilliant products to sell, the demonstration of belonging from all was lovely to see. P7 ran their stall as an enterprise experience linked to developing the young workforce – see later in the newsletter for more on that. Their stalls contributed a fantastic £115 to the £871 total that we raised. The money raised is invaluable in providing those extra enriching experiences at Falla Hill and once again **We thank you for your continued support.**

In and Around the Classroom

Over the last two weeks I have seen P7 working on their enterprise skills and demonstrating teamwork in PE, P5 working on a balanced diet, some excellent rounding activities engaging the P4s. Our infants have been working on their listening & talking skills, their musical skills and of course their performing skills in Nativity rehearsals; as well as working on their other learning too. P6 have been completing different assessments linked to reading and mathematics.

Falla Hill Pupil Leadership

Key things we have been discussing are the introduction of the 'House' system – the children have decided upon three house, red, yellow and blue – there will be a vote next week on which names to use for the 'Houses'. The upper school decided upon Scottish Landmarks and the whole school will now be presented with a choice of six. The Kelpies, Edinburgh Castle, Wallace Monument, Stirling Castle, Bannockburn and Forth Bridges.



The pupil leadership group have also decided that they would like the reflection room to be re-introduced for children who are staying in at break and lunch to reflect on the choices they have made.

We have also discussed the introduction of whole class rewards for the children being responsible in the lunch hall and in their classrooms around tidiness, cleanliness and positive behaviour.

Fantastic @ Falla Hill

Reaching for the Stars

Reaching for the Stars is where children demonstrate being a responsible citizen, effective contributor, confident individual or a successful learner – which are the four contexts for learning in the Curriculum for Excellence.

<u>Responsible Citizens</u>	<u>Effective Contributors</u>	<u>Confident Individuals</u>	<u>Successful Learners</u>
Jack p1	Daniel P1	Jakob P1a Elissa P6	Lily P4 Sophie P3 Cameron P4 Lexie P1a Alfie P4 Sophie P1a Kaiden P3 Lannah P2

Caught Being Good

Caught Being Good this term so far:

		RRS Article
Oliver F	being kind, considerate and regularly sharing equipment with others	31
Kai & Ruby	waiting patiently for their classmate when getting ready to take the register	31
Aaron & Finlay	Sharing in the playground	31
Litsa	Taking turns and playing games	31
Dana	Taking turns and playing games	31
Aureja	Good manners	36
Cameron P2	Good manners	36
Maci P7	Kindness	36
Kayla P5	Telling someone they are good at something	29

Our Caught Being Good awards are given to the children based on the articles contained with Rights Respecting Schools. If you would like to know more about Rights Respecting Schools please visit

<https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/>

PARENT PORTAL

Parentsportal.scot - if you haven't already signed up please click on the link <https://parentsportal.scot/home/>. Services available include Annual Data Check, View Attendance, View Timetable (secondary) & access to iPayimpact. Next service due for release will be Permission Slips/Consent Forms for trips etc. Further information can be found

at <https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/44151/parentsportal-scot>

Parent helpers

We have a few parent helpers in school at the moment but we would always value and welcome more. Volunteering an hour or two; a morning or an afternoon would be a great way to support us in getting it right for every child and give you an insight into how school is during the day.

What might you be asked to do?

Listen to children read, not to assess them but to give them greater confidence in reading aloud and discussing what they have read.

Preparing resources for children to use in lessons

Preparing and putting up displays that show our values or the children's learning

Working with children in small groups to facilitate and encourage their learning.

If this has grabbed your attention and you think you might be interested please contact Mrs Gunning, Principal Teacher via the school email or phone.

Parent Council

We have some parent council events coming up soon, if any parents are PVG checked, or would like to be PVG checked please do let the parent council know. You can email direct to ruthgallowayblair@hotmail.com or to malcmclean@sky.com – your support will be greatly appreciated.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 7th January at 6pm and your presence will be very welcome. It is important that we develop the communication and relationship between school and home and your views are always appreciated.

A Focus on Primary Seven

Over the past few weeks P7 have been taking part in an enterprise project for the Christmas Fair. As their current Science topic is "Inventions and Discoveries", they were set the challenge to invent a game or Christmas themed decoration. The aim was to sell this at the fair in order to make as much of a profit as they could!

After being placed into groups of 5, each group was given £5 to spend on the creation of their invention. P7 did outstandingly well and, combined, the groups made a total profit of £115.

Well done P7!

Pleasing to see an understanding of profit, the collaboration and co-operative learning needed and customer service throughout the project.

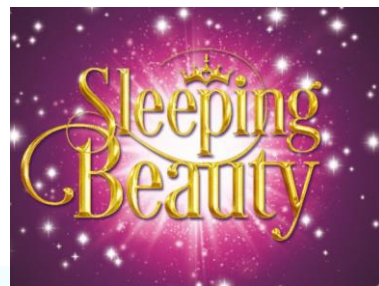
Head Lice

*An information leaflet for parents and carers is on Ipay Impact.
If you would like a paper copy please contact the school office.*

Please be vigilant in checking your child's hair. Thank you for supporting us with this.

It's PANTO Time

A reminder that we have been able to secure a M&M theatrical production of on Thursday 12th December. The Pantomime will begin at 9:30am so please don't be late!



Letters, Newsletters and other Correspondence

Don't be put off by the title this is a really interesting paragraph. Well, no, it isn't but it is important.

We would like to send a copy of all newsletters, letters and other correspondence to you as parents via email. If you haven't provided us with an email address or need to update to the one you are currently using could you please contact the school office.

Messages are also sent out on the School App and letters etc can be downloaded from there.

Parents and carers are being urged to be Winter Ready

West Lothian's 31,000 pupils, their parents and carers can be one of the most affected groups during bouts of severe winter weather, particularly if there is a need to close a school.

Head of Education Jim Cameron said: "During periods of winter weather, the school closures page is the most viewed page on the council's website, so we know it's an important issue.

"One of the most important actions for parents and carers to do is check that their child's school has up-to-date contact details so that messages via GroupCall can be communicated effectively. GroupCall is the first method of communication in the event of a closure or school disruption, so it's very important that the school has the most up-to-date contact details.

"Whilst the message will also go out via websites, Apps and social media, GroupCall is the main method for schools. If there's no GroupCall message, then there is no major disruption at the school."

He added: "Parents/carers should also note that it's their responsibility to decide on whether their child/children should travel to school during winter weather. It's not for the school staff to tell parents whether their child should come to school unless, of course, the decision has been taken to close the school due to weather conditions."

"The school can only make a judgement based on the condition of the school building and immediate area outside a building. They can't make a judgement based on individual streets, roads and paths for every child.

"In extreme weather conditions such as snow, parents/carers should carry out an assessment as to whether they consider it safe for their child to travel or walk to school. Parents/carers should then inform the school of their decision at the earliest opportunity."

For information on the impact of winter weather on local facilities, and tips on how to keep safe ,visit:
www.westlothian.gov.uk/winter

If at any point during extreme weather conditions, such as snow, you feel the route to your child's usual entrance is unsafe then please access the building via the front door.

Dates for your diary

DATES FOR OTHER SCHOOL EVENTS WILL BE ADDED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, PLEASE CHECK THE NEWSLETTER EACH MONTH.

P3-5 Christmas Parties	Wednesday 11th December
PANTO – Sleeping Beauty	Thursday 12th December (morning)
P1-2 Christmas Party	Thursday 12th December (afternoon)
P6&7 Christmas Party	Thursday 12th December
Nursery Christmas Parties	Friday 13th December
Infant nativity rehearsal	Monday 16 th December
Nursery nativities	Tuesday 17th December
School Choir to Crofthead Nursing Home	Tuesday 17th December
Infant nativity evening P1-3	Tuesday 17th December
Carol Concert P4-7 - afternoon	Wednesday 18th December
Infant nativity afternoon P1-3	Thursday 19th December
Carol Concert P4-7 - evening	Thursday 19th December
End of term and Christmas service in the church.	Friday 20 th December Church service: 9.30am
All resume	Tuesday 7 th January 2020
P7 Transition	Monday 2 nd and Tuesday 3 rd of March
Health week	Monday 30 th March - Friday 3 rd April
Parents' consultations	Wednesday 1 st April - Late
Parents' consultations	Thursday 2 nd April - Early
End of term and Easter service in the church	Friday 3 rd April. Church service: 9.30am
All resume	Monday 20 th April
HOLIDAY	Monday 4 th May
All resume	Wednesday 6 th May
P7 camp at Kingswood – change of date from previous newsletter	Monday 25 th to Friday 29 th May
P5 Camp	Wednesday 3 rd to Friday 5 th June
Reports to parents	Friday 12 th June
P7 leavers' assembly	Friday 19 th June 9am
End of term	Friday 28 th June

Comment slip (this can be anonymous if you prefer)

Pupil's name: _____

Class: _____

Please feel free to comment on any item in the newsletter or anything else regarding the school. We always value your feedback on how we can improve.

wfallahill-ps@westlothian.org.uk

Comments: