

November 2017

Marykirk Primary



Dates for the Diary

1st Dec – Aberdeen Science Centre (P6/7 only)
2nd Dec – Christmas Coffee Morning
7th Dec – Christmas Lunch
14th Dec – Whole School Panto trip
15th Dec – Christmas jumper day/Movie Night
18th Dec – Carol singing and Café @ 2pm
21st Dec – Christmas Church Service 2pm
22nd Dec – Christmas Party

Holidays

Term Ends Fri 22nd Dec
Term 3 begins Mon 8th Jan 2018
Mid term break Thurs 8th – Mon 12th Feb (Inclusive)
In-Service – Tues 13th/Wed 14th Feb
Term 3 Ends Thurs 29th March
Term 4 begins Monday 16th April
May Day holiday Mon 7th May
Term 4 Ends Friday 6th July

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Headteacher:
Mrs Fiona Thomson

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0870 054 4999

Pin No.
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Answering Machine for reporting absences:
01674 840200

Dear Parent/Carer,



Only 26 sleeps until Christmas and even less until the end of Term 2!! As you can imagine the excitement levels are rising and as always staff are planning for a busy and engaging time ahead.

We are aware that it won't be long before children are writing their Christmas Cards and although we encourage this, as an ECO friendly school, we would like to suggest that children bring in one card to share with their class. Perhaps they could design and make it themselves☺?!

This year we tried a different company to print the children's own Christmas cards. We hope you are pleased with your merchandise and would appreciate any feedback to inform our planning for next year. Please email the school and let us know what you thought.

Achievement Assembly

The following pupils received a special mention at our assemblies:-

Logan (P4) - for being conscientious and always being ready to listen and for showing confidence whilst delivering his presentation about Marykirk.

John (P6) - for his focus in maths and producing excellent results.

Ben (P4) - for being a good shoulder partner and being enthusiastic when working with them and for making fantastic progress in maths and developing his knowledge in fractions.

Harvey, Leah, Heidi, Katy, Arianna and Olivia for showing confidence when talking at assembly.

Neela (P6) - for being a super role model and for helping out in the playground/school without being asked.

Leni (P2) - for being a good listener and always getting on with tasks.

Saskia (P3) - for continuing to work well and for being a good role model to younger peers.

Olivia (P2) - for being a kind and helpful role model for younger peers.

Kayleigh (P6) - for taking part in the reading challenge and gaining an award.

Daniel (P6) - for being enthusiastic and for developing his presentation skills further.

We are trying to encourage our pupils to share and celebrate all learning experiences and opportunities. Please encourage your child to do this by bringing in any achievement awards/certificates, photographs or pictures that demonstrate learning out with the school. It may be a sports award, rainbow/brownie/beaver/cubs badge or simply a photo showing that they can tie their shoelaces. Many valuable learning experiences happen at home and we would like to know about it!

Help us raise funds for FREE when you shop online:

Start at easyfundraising.org.uk

Make a Purchase

Get a donation

It's simple!

School book bags are now available on the Tesco website.

Easyfundraising

As Christmas shopping madness is well under way, please remember to log in to 'easyfundraising' (link to the left) when ordering online. This does not cost anything extra for you but the school benefits with every purchase!

Book Fair

This year we hosted a Travelling Book Fair which earned the school £75 in new books. Thank you for those who purchased books and stationery. We hope to make this more regularly available in school.

Parents Evening/MacMillan Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who supported our MacMillan fundraiser which was being run alongside parents evening this year. We were delighted to raise £120 for this very worthwhile charity and feedback from parents on the night was very positive with suggestions that this could be repeated as it made the waiting time more relaxed and enjoyable.

In-Service Days

Members of staff attended training on a variety of aspects including Numeracy, 1+2 languages, The Learning Challenge, Higher Order Thinking, Developing the Young Workforce and Outdoor Learning during the November in-service days. These courses were organised in collaboration with other schools in the Laurencekirk cluster and feedback from staff has been very positive with good opportunities for professional dialogue and sharing of good practice.

Big School Bake Off 2017

We would like to say a huge well done to our school cook, Karen Dickson, who was a finalist in the above event at the City College of Glasgow last week. There were 1600 entries and Karen made it through to the last 8 with her delicious chocolate, beetroot and pear brownie.

Christmas Coffee Morning

Our annual coffee morning will be held on Saturday 2nd December in the Village hall. As always we would appreciate your support and attendance on the day. Without the support of our parents and community the children would not benefit from the wide range of experiences and opportunities that we can currently provide. A huge thank you to everyone who has contributed so far, I hope to see lots of our families on the day and am confident that you will enjoy the variety of stalls, activities and of course coffee and cake which will be available.

School Office

I would like to make you aware that Lorna Simpson, our school administrator, will be absent from Friday 8th December following a planned, minor operation. We wish Mrs Simpson a smooth and speedy recovery and hope she will be fit and well to return to school at the start of the new term. Over this period we would be grateful if office interruptions can be kept to a minimum and hope that you appreciate that staff may not always be able to answer the phone immediately. Where possible please email the school marykirk.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or myself Fiona.J.Thomson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk to report an absence, concern etc or if you require any assistance. Mrs Jill Simpson, Luthermuir administrator, will be offering some admin support during this time and although Lorna will be a huge miss we hope that our pupils, parents and staff do not notice too much of a disruption to normal proceedings.

MPCC NEWS

Next MPCC
meeting –
Wednesday
17th January
2018 6.30 pm
in school. All
welcome.

Save the Children - Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 15th December we would like to encourage all our pupils and staff to come wearing a Christmas jumper or festive clothing and bring £1 to support 'Save the Children'. As not everyone owns a Christmas jumper we are suggesting children could come with tinsel in their hair, red/green clothing, sparkles or Santa hats!! Let's do our bit to help children around the world this Christmas.

Save the Children works to give children a healthy start in life, the opportunity to learn and protection from harm. We do whatever it takes for children – every day and in times of crisis – transforming their lives and the future we share.

Movie Night

We will be holding a movie night on Friday 15th December from 3:15pm - 5:15pm. The chosen film is Walt Disney 'The Santa Clause' and ticket letters will be issued next week. Please be aware that this film is a **Universal** rating and by returning the slip to request tickets you are giving permission for your child to take part.

Community Café

We will be holding our final Community Café and Carol Singing on Monday 18th December @ 2pm. All family and friends welcome.

Christmas Service

We are holding a Christmas Service in the church on Thursday 21st December @ 2pm.

Christmas Party

Our Christmas party will be held on Friday 22nd December in the morning. Children should come dressed in their party clothes and may remain in these for the duration of the day.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact the school should you have any queries. Thank you for your continued support.

Fiona Thomson

Fiona Thomson
Head Teacher