



Dear Parents/Carers Children in Need

What a fantastic effort we are planning to make Children in Need such a big success -

Pupil Councillors are so very well organised and will be working very hard throughout the morning. Judging of the "Pudseys" will be carried out this week and winners awarded prizes. Well done in anticipation to everyone for the donations and hard work! A special thank you to Leeann and her team at OSCARS for all their help for the Bake sale.

Cinema Trip

On Thursday 15th December everyone will go to the Dominion Cinema to see a special screening of a film- yet to be decided. A big thank-you to the Parent Council who very kindly are funding the transport costs of this outing and supporting those families in receipt of benefits. Their generosity is greatly appreciated. Thanks also to all parents who support us so well throughout the year.



Class News

P4 have a focus on Castles and on Monday 21st November will visit Edinburgh Castle
P7 Achievement assemblies will be over the course of this week and last week
The P2 assembly for parents will be on Friday 25th November at 9.15am.
P2 and P3 will have Library visits during Book Week Scotland

We will also have a visit from the SPCA on Friday 25th November at 11am .

Portobello Area Concert

The annual concert will take place in the New Portobello High School and 17 of our Violinists and P7 Cellists will participate. The concert is on Wednesday 14th December at 5pm in Portobello High School.



P3/4 Sacramental Programme- Message from Arlene Lauder.....

Sunday 20th November 2016

P4 Do this in Memory Mass

St John's Church @ 9.30 am

Sunday 20th November 2016

P3 children's mass

St Mary Magdalene's Church @ 11.15 am

(The P3 children will receive their blessed crosses.)

Children's Liturgy Group

'We would love to have some new helpers for our children's liturgy groups at both St John's and St Mary Magdalene's. You would not be expected to lead a group! Just to sit in as an extra pair of hands – a wingman for the adult taking the group. It doesn't matter what age you are and whether you have any experience with children – this may suit a teenager, a parent, grandparent, or anyone who feels they'd like to see what goes on in our children's groups. There would be absolutely no preparation required and even if you can only help very occasionally, that would still be great. If interested, please contact (St John's) Julie Harris 07919 5252

P4/5 work with Holy Rood pupils and staff

Over the past 2 weeks, Expressive Arts teachers from Holy Rood have visited P4/5 classes in St John's to introduce the first story in a series of interactive books, "Bessy Bass visits Europe". This resource promotes literacy, art, the expressive arts, geography and modern languages and introduces some of the less popular musical instruments to our young learners. On Mon 7 Nov and Thurs 10 Nov, Art teachers and S5/6 pupils from Holy Rood helped P4/5 pupils to design posters and tickets advertising the Christmas Drama Production of Bessy Bass which will be performed at St John's on Friday 2nd December at 11am for P4/5 parents and carers.

Public Consultation on the New Treverlen Park Thursday 1st December 3.30pm - 7pm in our ICT suite. Please come along



Visit from Scott Quin,
We had a wonderful morning last Friday with Scott, Paralympian swimmer, showing his medals to the school. He was a truly inspirational speaker, reminding the pupils to “never give up”. Thanks to Mrs Moscrop and Ella Lockett’s Mum for arranging this visit to our assembly.

Website

We continue to update our website regularly so please keep checking it for information. There is a lot of information which I hope you will find informative and useful.....



St Andrew’s Day Mass

All pupils will attend the 10 a.m. Feast Day Mass in St

John’s Parish on Wednesday 30th November. The Mass will be prepared by the P6 pupils. School staff will walk with the children to and from the church. We would be grateful of offers of help from parents to support us with the younger pupils.



Winter viruses... A reminder to parents that in recent years the City of Edinburgh Council has experienced many cases of Norovirus within its schools. There are preventative

measures which parents can support us with, thorough hand washing is the simplest and most important infection control measure. Also, if your child is unwell please do not send them to school. Should your child have an attack of vomiting/diarrhoea they should not return to school for 48 hours after the last bout. In the most extreme cases, schools have had to be closed and major events cancelled. Please help us with hygiene in our school.

Governance Review

The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills has launched ‘Empowering teachers, parents and communities to achieve Excellence and Equity – A governance review’. Please find attached the link to the review on the Scottish Government website:

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/empowering-schools/a-governance-review>

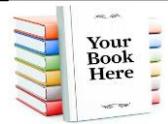
The review will run until 6 January 2017.

The review is an opportunity for children and young people, parents, teachers, practitioners and the wider community to share their views on how schools in Scotland are run. We want to hear from as many people as possible. People are encouraged to respond to the review in writing or attend one of several engagement events to be held across Scotland. For more information about planned events, or to find out how to submit your views, visit:

www.gov.scot/education/governancereview

Mr Swinney’s full speech to the Scottish Parliament will be made available at:

<http://news.scotland.gov.uk/content/default.aspx?NewsAreaId=139>



Book Week Scotland

Book Week Scotland is a week-long celebration of books taking place this year from Monday 21-Sunday 27 November. Book Week Scotland is run by the Scottish Book Trust. During **Book Week Scotland**, people of all ages and walks of life will come together in libraries, schools, community venues and workplaces to share and enjoy books and reading. They will be joined in this celebration by Scotland’s authors, poets, playwrights, storytellers and illustrators to bring a packed programme of events and projects to life; you can find out about events taking place here:

<http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/book-week-scotland>

We would like to organise a book swap, these have been very successful in the past and are easy to organise with no cost attached! We invite every pupil to bring in a book they have read and swap it for another one. The idea is that every pupil receives a 'recycled' book to take home and enjoy. Please can you send in a book to your child's class teacher, the House and Vice Captains from P7 will organise the collection of books from classes.

Thank you for your continued support and co-operation.

Ms. Barbara A Service Head Teacher