



December 2020 Newsletter

Our Lady of Peace RC Primary



Dear Parents/Carers, families and friends,

I hope my newsletter finds you well and ever hopeful as we prepare for Christmas and turn our thoughts to the Holy Family of Mary, Jesus and Joseph. As the model for all Christian families, their love for each other may help us focus on this too during Advent, when there are so many other distractions.

Staffing

P5a- Mr Elder is teaching our P5 children in Mr Quinn's absence and until Mrs Adam's return from Maternity Leave, in February.

Miss Black, DHT, is hoping to be back with us in January too.

Miss MacKay has re started work with some of our children who require English as additional language support and she is with us on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Mrs Blackburn, support for learning worker, leaves us today to return to a career in nursing. I wish to thank her for her outstanding commitment to the children at Our Lady of Peace and as a highly supportive, positive colleague. She will be sorely missed and we wish her every success and happiness!

Christmas details

Please see attached a gift flyer of the Christmas gifts which our talented children (and staff!) have been making...worthy of any High street gift shop! You will have received a December calendar outlining our Christmas plans and Miss Linning, acting Principal Teacher, has provided some further detail below:

Since we are unable to have our usual Christmas Fayre the children will be making gifts in class which they will then have the opportunity to buy on Wednesday 16th December.

The gift flyer will let you know what your child's class has made and the cost so that your child can bring the money he/she needs, on 16th December, to buy the gifts he/she has made.

The school has bought rights to watch an online Panto performance by the theatre company which normally comes to the school at Christmas. Each class will have the opportunity to watch this, socially distanced, on the big screen in the school hall.

The advent assembly is a national online assembly, produced by Cafod, which teachers and children will watch and discuss within their classes on 10th December.



Unfortunately, we are unable to put on the nativity show as normal, but each class will contribute a short performance for our Christmas Video, which will be shared online before the school shuts for the holidays.

You are in for a treat with the video!

Christmas cards and gifts

I have had some enquiries from parents about the children exchanging Christmas Cards which is a usual practice. I am afraid our Christmas Post box will be on 'holiday' this year and ask that these are not brought to school. Another question has been about gifts for teachers; again, this could be problematic but if you wish to do so, staff would quarantine presents for the recommended 72 hours.

Important Church news

Sister Patricia has asked me to share the following invite to you with regard to the Sacraments.

The parish invites any parent who would like their child to be enrolled in our

Sacramental Preparation Programme

in order to prepare for the Sacraments of **Reconciliation** (P3),

First Communion (P4) or **Confirmation** (P7) in 2021 to

contact the parish with your name, your child's name and DoB.

Please send your reply to:-

stjudeandstjohnogilvie@rcga.org.uk

or patricia.cassidy@yahoo.co.uk

or 07411 365 876

by Tuesday December 22nd



Car Park and playground

If the Car Park is deemed too dangerous for use due to snow/ice, it may be closed at short notice.

Apologies for any inconvenience that this may cause.

This may apply to the playground also at collection times for P1, P2/1, P2, P3 and I would send a text to let you know. Fingers crossed!

School Uniform

We are very proud of our school uniform and how smart the children look, in wearing it. It gives an important sense of identity and belonging to Our Lady of Peace. Thankfully, almost all children come to school, in full uniform. Please encourage your child/children to wear it every day.

- Black skirts or trousers
- White shirt
- **School tie**
- Green school cardigan or jumper (OLoP hoodie, if cold)
- White t-shirt and black shorts for P.E. (essential)
- Change of shoes for indoors (suitable for gym) and wellies for outdoor learning if possible.
- Polo shirts are for P.E only and not for daily wear in school.

**Respectful
Ready
Safe**

Hooded tops- the children have loved wearing these! I have reminded them that these are not a replacement for warm jackets, especially during our harsh, Scottish winters. They are intended to keep the children cosier in the necessary, ventilated classrooms (due to Covid-19). Many children are refusing to follow instructions and instead, taking off their jackets in a chilly playground...your support is much appreciated.

Indoor shoes

All pupils need to have a change of shoes for indoors. Thank you to those who manage to respect this school rule. Unfortunately, this is being largely forgotten or ignored, especially at the upper school stages. The result is extra work for our fantastic cleaning team / our school carpets being ruined. Hygiene and cleanliness are at the forefront of our minds. Again, please send your child to school with soft, indoor shoes and check regularly if they need replaced.



Parent council

Thank you to those parents who attended a recent PC meeting, despite all the restrictions in place! Your feedback is important to us and more parents/carers are needed and welcome. The PC will provide a children's Christmas Hamper and I will issue further information about tickets, etc.

Parking

- ❖ Vehicle gates are closed from 8.45-9.15am and 2.45-3.15pm
- ❖ Signage to advise of this is erected on the gates.
- ❖ Please respect that no parking or drop off is allowed in the area leading to the vehicle gate or at the entry gate. It is dangerous.

Dates

Tuesday 22nd December 2020 2.30pm school closes for Christmas holidays

Wednesday 6th January 2021 school re opens at 9.00am

I wish you and your families much happiness, as we approach Christmastime. Hopefully 2021 will bring new beginnings now that we have a vaccine!

Warmest regards,
Mrs A M McDonald

Headteacher

Headteacher@ourladyofpeace-pri.glasgow.sch.uk