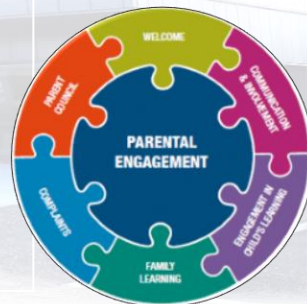


Struthers Primary School and EYC

December 2023 Newsletter



Dear parents and families

I can't believe we are in December already. The atmosphere in school is magical, as we enter into the festive period. I have included the diary once again, with the key dates where we come together.

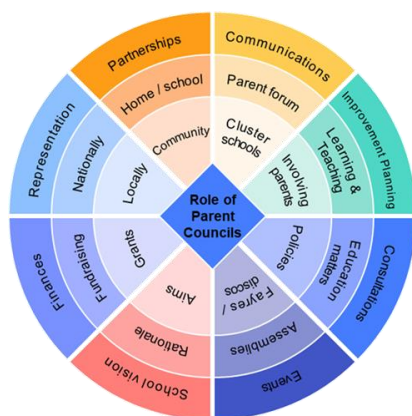
Date	Time	Event
05.12.23	14:00 and 18:00	Infant Nativity – P1 and P2
07.12.23	18:00 – 20:00	Christmas Movie Night
08.12.23	12:45 – 13:15	School Choir - Singing for Hansel – Tesco, Irvine
11.12.23	Afternoon	P5 Christmas Party
12.12.23	Afternoon	P6 Christmas Party
13.12.23	11:00 – 11.30	EYC Christmas Concert – all children together, regardless of session
13.12.23	12.00 – 13.30	Christmas Lunch
14.12.23	Morning and Afternoon	In-House Panto
14.12.23	19:00 – 20:30	Snowball Party for P7
15.12.23	13:30 – 14:30	P7 Walk-round Marr
18.12.23	Afternoon	P2 Christmas Party
19.12.23	Afternoon	P3 Christmas Party
20.12.23	10.00 -11.30	EYC Christmas Party
20.12.23	Afternoon	P1 Christmas Party
21.12.23	Afternoon	P4 Christmas Party
22.12.23	2.30pm	Close for Christmas – 2.30pm

ADVENT

Our little Santa helpers have been very busy beavering away, sorting and wrapping our books in time for sharing with our little ones on the lead-up to Christmas. A huge thank you to all involved. We have managed to collect enough books for all of our EYC children and every child in the school. Thank you to everyone who contributed to make our book advent possible.



PARENT COUNCIL



Our next Parent Council meeting will be held within school on Wednesday 24th of January, between 18:15 and 19:15. The Parent Council is a forum for all parents and we are always keen to welcome new faces to our meetings. You can do as little or as much as you like, but joining the Parent Council is a great way to find out about things that are happening in the school. If you would like to find out more then come along to our next meeting. We'd love to see you!

WORLD BOOK WEEK

Our world book week was a huge success with lots of rich experiences on offer across the school. We joined Authors' Live sessions with the Scottish Book Trust and learned lots from: Nadia Shireen, Abi Elphinstone, Adrian Edmondson, Cressida Cowell and Ross MacKenzie. We were also thrilled to welcome a few VIPs into school as part of our Community Reading Programme, including: Daryl, the programmes manager from Kilmarnock Football Club; Karen and Helen from the Micah Project; and one of our dear, retired colleagues, Mrs Brearley. We were also delighted to join Sun Court Nursing Home, where our Reading Ambassadors spent a lovely afternoon reading to their residents.



WIDER ACHIEVEMENTS

November saw the launch of our wider achievements' assembly. We had a great number of super achievements to share, from ice-skating, to gymnastics, to Rainbow promises and so much more. The whole school thoroughly enjoyed learning of everyone's achievements and the support shown towards each of the pupils was incredible!

A copy of our show-case is available for you to see on our school website and platform X (formerly Twitter).

We plan to formally celebrate achievements once a month, so if you would like to share a success with us, please email your child's achievement(s) to: achievements.struthers@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

We are already excited for next month's assembly!

SPORTING SUCCESSES

Day of Dance: Primary 5 have worked hard over the last two months to learn 8 different Scottish dances. They were then invited to show-case their talents at the Day of Dance celebration at Troon Town Hall. Well done, Primary 5!

Flipfest: A squad of 14 pupils, from P4-7, have been working hard over the last 2 months to prepare for Active Schools Flipfest Display. On Tuesday 28th November they attended the event at Ayr Academy. There were nerves and lots of excitement but our girls gave it their all and what a brilliant job they did! Their performance was fun and show-cased their gymnastics and dance skills! We are so proud of you!



Sportshall Heats: On Tuesday 28th November, a squad of 18 P7/6 pupils attended the Sportshall Heats at Marr College. All of the local cluster schools attended the event. The competition itself involved a selection of track and field events. All pupils participated in 4 events each. There were some outstanding performances from our pupils, including an enormous javelin throw in excess of 22 metres from Adam and a speedy sprint from Melissa and Millie, resulting in first places in each of their races! Each and everyone of our talented pupils did a fabulous job: overall, they came second place in the final results! What a fantastic result and a great morning had by all!



Swimming: On Tuesday 28th November, South Ayrshire held a Schools Swimming Competition. Millie (P7) and Fergus (P6) represented Struthers Primary. Both pupils competed in several races and were delighted to have set new personal best results in some of their races. Millie also did a fabulous job placing 1st in her Butterfly Race.

Lunch/After-school Clubs: There have been many opportunities this term for pupils to attend after-school clubs including, drama, gymnastics, football, homework, athletics and cross-country. Most of these clubs are now wrapping up due to the dark nights and as we speed ahead to the end of term. There have also been a number of lunch time clubs including, mathletes, gymnastics, choir and art club.

Next term, some of the clubs will be starting up again but watch out for some new opportunities for different sports and activities for different age groups. If there are any parents who are happy to offer some time for an after-school opportunity, please get in touch.



Our children in Primary 6 and Primary 7 have been improving their rugby skills under the guidance from Marr Rugby coaches. Some of us are trying to improve our catching, throwing and holding skills; whilst others are honing their skills in intercepting the ball and making tactical decisions as an attacker and as a defender.

BABY HAYES



We are delighted to share with you that Mr and Mrs Hayes are expecting their first baby in May. Mrs Hayes shared her wonderful news with the children at assembly on Friday. Apparently, the baby is roughly the same size as an orange right now. The children have been so caring already, making sure Mrs Hayes isn't lifting anything too heavy.

HELPING HANDS

Thank you to all of our 'helping hands' volunteers this term. It is so lovely to have parents and families back in school again. Working together in partnership can make a positive contribution to improving our children's learning. There are many informal ways of getting involved. If you are able to help on a regular basis or occasionally, please get in touch.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER RECYCLING

With more and more children choosing to wear Christmas jumpers to school throughout the month of December, we are aware this brings with it, additional costs. We are conscious of the fact that Christmas is an expensive time of year and we would like to offer to run a Christmas jumper recycling service to try to help keep costs down. We would like to ask that if you have a Christmas jumper that is too small for your child, but is still in a reasonable condition, that you consider donating it to the school. We are hoping that if we receive enough donations we would have some available at the school office, with no charge. Any donations can be handed into the school office or your child's class teacher. Please note there is no expectation from the school that children should wear a Christmas jumper to school in December.

As always, should you have any queries about anything within our newsletter, or in connection with your child's learning, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Best wishes

Mrs Laura Clark

