



Struthers Primary School



Newsletter

December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

The past couple of weeks have brought mixed emotions for staff, pupils and families at Struthers. The start of December saw great excitement as our classrooms started being decorated and the Christmas parties have been in full swing. We've had nativity performances, Christmas lunch and Christmas quizzes too.

Unfortunately, December also brought the news of a new COVID variant and new isolation rules. The past couple of weeks have resulted in staff absence, pupil absence and yet again, whole class isolation. I hope all those who have tested positive have a speedy recovery and that you are all able to enjoy Christmas with your families. I have no idea what January will bring, but I'm sure Ms Sturgeon will keep us all up to speed with the latest rules and regulations.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

We still have a few parties to go, but so far, they have been a huge success! Although our year groups haven't been able to meet together, the individual classes have enjoyed a full day of games, dancing, movies and good fun! A huge thank you to our Fundraising Group who provided snacks, juice and selection boxes for all our pupils.

CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

Once again, our Fundraising Group very kindly purchased an online pantomime for our school and are also providing ice-cream for the viewing on Tuesday morning. In addition, South Ayrshire council have also paid for a recording of the Gaiety Pantomime this year, which all schools are able to access. Class teachers are able to use a link to this recording prior to school closing next week and I hope pupils are able to enjoy this too!

NATIVITIES

Thank you to Helen and James Hogg who were able to support us in the recording of our infant nativities. Each P1 and P2 class have recorded their own performance and we will send the link out for these performances to families as soon as they are ready. Thank you to Mrs Devlin for the planning of the nativity and coordination of the performances!

Pupil Update – By Lewis Millar, Lucy Canavan and Melisa Dereli

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

We had great fun wearing our Christmas Jumpers on the 10th of December. We do Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children. The first Christmas Jumper Day was in 2012 and is celebrated all over the world. At Struthers Primary School, we wore our jumpers and brought in donations to make a hard life better. We raised £222.65. Millions of pounds have been raised over the years. One pound can buy a child a set of pencils and £200 can give a stove to a classroom to heat it for 5 months. Thank you for helping us to raise money for Save the Children.

SCOTS FORTNIGHT

Our annual Scots Language Fortnight starts on Monday 10th January. Each class will be allocated a Scots poem, which pupils will practise in class and should try to learn by Monday 17th January for a virtual competition. This year's competition will follow a similar format to last year:

- Pupils should upload their video entries to Seesaw no later than Monday 17th January
- The top two entries from each class will be put together in a video and shown to our judges

- Our judges can then hopefully reveal the winners for each class at a special assembly on Friday 21st.

Primary 6, 7/6 and 7 will also have a socially distanced Burns Supper on the 25th January in the hall with poem recitals, toasts tae the boys, reply fae the lassies and some Haggis/Irn Bru and Shortbread.

We realise that Scots language is not for everyone; however, it is an important part of our curriculum and a chance for some pupils to excel in this given area. We ask that every pupil makes an attempt at learning their poem, however, there will be no obligation to recite the poem for the competition if the pupils do not wish to do so.

Huge thanks to Miss Wyllie for the planning and organisation of Scots Fortnight.

SWIMMING LESSONS

In January, swimming lessons will start for our current P5 pupils. Parents of pupils in P5 will have received a separate letter. As you may know, our P6 pupils missed out on lessons last year and the plan is for our P6 pupils to attend lessons after Easter. Information for our P6 pupils will be sent out nearer the time.

ABSENCE PROCEDURES

Just a gentle reminder that we ask parents/carers to notify the school office **before 9:30am** if a pupil is going to be absent from school and on each day of their absence. Failure to do so will result in our clerical staff sending a text message asking you to contact the school. Pupils who arrive late to school must report to the main office before heading to class.

CHANGES TO MORNING PROCEDURES P3-7

Currently, all doors open between 8:55am and 9:05am. In the New Year, this will continue to be the case for our P1 and 2 pupils, with a finishing time of 2:55pm.

For our P3-7 pupils, doors will not open until 9am and will stay open until 9:10am. There will be supervision in the playground from 8:50am. P3-7 will continue to finish at the usual time of 3pm.

On behalf of all the staff at Struthers Primary School, I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year when the time comes. I look forward to seeing all pupils back at school at 9.00am on the 6th January.

Best wishes,

Gail McKellar
Head Teacher

DATES FOR THE DIARY

January 2022

6 th	School reopens
10 th	Scots' Fortnight
17 th – 21 st	P1 Online Registration
21 st	Poetry Competition
25 th	P6, P7-6, P7 Burns Supper

February

10 th	School closes at 3.00pm
11 th	Holiday
14 th	Holiday
15 th	In-Service
23 rd & 24 th	Parents Night Appointments
31 st	Easter Service

April

1 st	School closes at 2.30pm
19 th	Pupils return

May

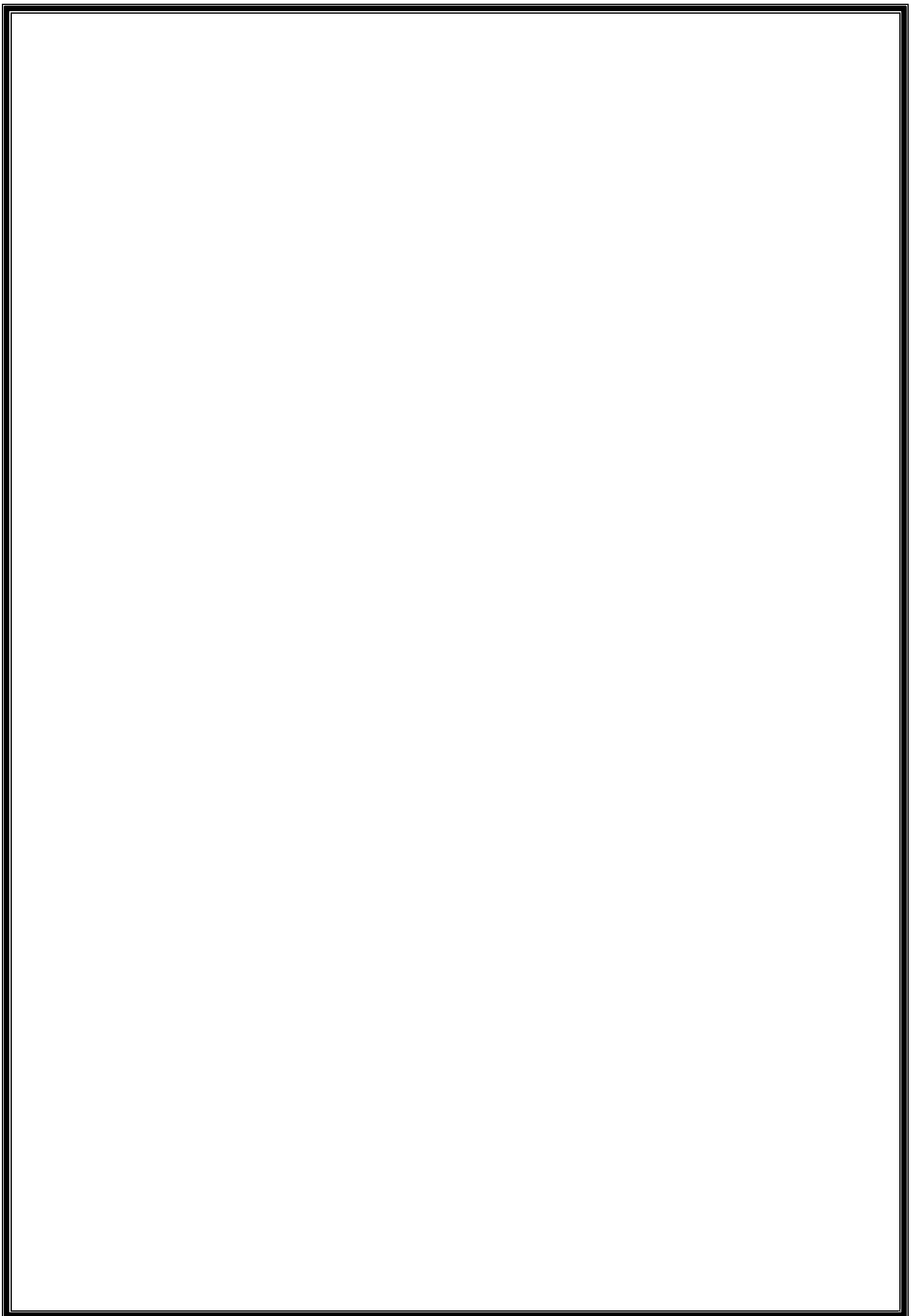
2 nd	Local Holiday (May Day)
3 rd	Pupils return
5 th	In-Service Day
6 th	Pupils Return

June

2 nd	Local Holiday
3 rd	Platinum Jubilee Holiday
29 th	Close at 1.00pm for Summer Holiday








August

17 th	Local Holiday
18 th	In-Service Day
19 th	In-Service Day
22 nd	Pupils Return



Struthers Charity Fundraising Calendar 2021/22

Below are all the charitable events that will be organised this session by staff and pupils. Other awareness and fundraising events occur throughout the year such as global emergencies as well as charities which are close to pupils, parents and staff. If you have any charities which you would like us to recognise please get in touch.

Date	Charity and Event	Organisers	Amount Raised
Friday 24 th September 2021	Macmillan coffee morning Donations for coffee morning and cake stall 	P7 and staff	£45.50
Throughout Oct/Nov	Harvest for South Ayrshire Foodbank Bring tins, pasta, rice etc. 	Staff and pupils	
Friday 19 th November 2021	Children in Need Fun and games dress up day 	Staff and pupils	
Friday 10 th December 2021	Save the Children Christmas jumper day 	Staff and pupils	
January 2022	Finding Your Feet First Footing Challenge 	Staff and Pupils	
18 th March 2022	Comic Relief Fun and games 	Staff and Pupils	
21 st March 2022	Down's Syndrome Scotland Lots of Socks Day 	Staff and pupils	