



Loanhead Primary School

December Newsletter 2023

I can't believe it is December already, one of the nicest months to work in Loanhead as the feeling of community is very strong through all our December events. I would like to wish all our families a wonderful festive season and a happy and healthy 2024 when it arrives.

Head Teacher Awards

Congratulations to the following pupils who received a Head Teacher Award for November *P1 Kasper – Inclusion, P2 Esme - Care, P3 Isla – Honesty, P4 Astrid - Learning, P5 Ayesha - Learning and P6 Tobias – Learning P7 to be announced at assembly on 15th December*

Staffing

We have appointed an acting Principal Teacher. Mrs Kirsty Smith will hopefully take up post before the end of term and will be with us until next June. Miss Marianne Woods will be joining Mrs McMurchie in the office and hopefully will also be with us before Christmas. We sadly say goodbye to Mr Tidder at Christmas as he is stepping down to spend more time with family, we wish him all the best. He will be much missed. We are currently interviewing for 2 new Learning Assistants to join the team.

Indoor Shoes and PE kit

Can parents please ensure that all pupils have indoor shoes and PE kits in school? The weather is poor and we have lots of wet feet, a change of socks would also be helpful! Please do not send slippers as indoor shoes as these are unsafe in the gym hall and not suitable should the fire alarm go off.

Christmas Fair

Thank you so much to all who came along and supported our Christmas Fair. We raised over £2200 for school funds.

This is a record breaking amount for us. Thank you very, very, very much!

Thank you also to all the local businesses who donated raffle prizes we had an amazing amount of prizes this year and they were all very much appreciated!

Severe Weather

Please note that in the event of severe weather and school closure we will work from home. You will be alerted by updates through council social media and Forth One. We will also endeavor to text parents. On the first day we ask that you access the severe weather matrix on the school website. This allows class teachers to prepare for the following days to deliver lessons through google classroom and seesaw.

ICT

Children should have chrome books and chargers at home. Chargers should remain at home. If your child has lost their charger you can purchase these by following this link from digital services;

Families who wish to purchase replacements should be directed to good quality options, such as this [Chromebook charger](#) or this [iPad cable](#) and [charging plug](#).

These chargers have been approved by the council and are fully compatible with pupil chrome books.

Elf on the Shelf

Elves are not allowed in school. Many families have special traditions around their elves and we wish to keep this magical for all children.

School Post Box

The school post box for Christmas cards will be in place from Monday. Please ensure the child's name and class are written on the front to allow the cards to be delivered to the correct recipient!

Dunedin Consort

Primary 4 and Primary 6 parents are invited into school on Monday 11th December at 9.45am to the Dunedin Consort concert where the premier of P4 and P6's songs will be performed by professional musicians!

P1 and P2 Nativity Monday 11th December

Nativity for Primary 1 and Primary 2 families. This will start at 2.30pm and take place in the large hall. Please note that we can only accommodate a maximum of 2 guests per family for our P1 and P2 children. On exit there will be a collection for school funds.

Christmas jumper and school Christmas lunch Wednesday 13th December

Wear your Christmas jumper or decorate your sweatshirt!

Primary 3 – 7 Christmas Carol Concert Thursday 14th December

Parents of pupils in Primaries 3-7 are invited to join us for a carol concert on Thursday 14th December at 2.15pm. We can only accommodate 2 guests per family for this event. On exit there will be a collection for school funds.

Monday 18th December P5-7 Pantomime at Portobello

Primary 5 – 7 pupils are off to see the Panto at Porty! Bus leaves at 9am. A huge thank you to the Parent Council who have fully funded this trip.

Monday 18th December Nursery to P4 – fun times with Gary Copeland – Show in school

Nursery to P4 will have a fun fuelled morning with Gary Copeland in the school hall. We always have a lot of smiling faces after Gary's show! Thank you again to the Parent Council for fully funding this event.

Tuesday 19th December P1 & P2 Christmas Party

Suggested donation is £3 per pupil and snacks and juice will be provided. This can be paid through parent pay. Pupils may bring party clothes to change into after lunch. We hope to have a visit from Mr Claus around 2.30pm and you are welcome to join us for a fab photo opportunity!

Tuesday 19th December P5, P6 & P7 Christmas Party

Suggested donation is £3 per pupil and snacks and juice will be provided. This can be paid through parent pay Pupils may bring party clothes to change into after lunch.

Wednesday 20th December P3 & P4 Party

Suggested donation is £3 per pupil and snacks and juice will be provided. This can be paid through parent pay Pupils may bring party clothes to change into after lunch.

Wednesday 20th December P7 Pupils Panto at LHS

In the afternoon, P7 pupils will attend the dress rehearsal of Lasswade High School Panto. Please note the bus pick up from this is 3.10pm at Lasswade HS and pupils will be late back

Friday 22nd December Church visit ALL WELCOME

Our Christmas service will take place in Loanhead Parish Church at 9.30am. If they would like to, children are asked to bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the food bank. All families are welcome to join us.

Friday 22nd December 11am Nursery Party

Nursery party starts at 9am. We ask parents to join us for a sing-a-long at 11am. There will be a visit from Santa at 11.30am – a super photo opportunity!

Please note school finishes at 12.25pm on Friday 22nd December for all school and nursery pupils. All pupils return on Tuesday 9th January at 8.30am (nursery) or 8.50am (school).

Dates for your diary (please note dates may be amended)

Monday 11th December – 9am Dunedin Consort concert for P4, P6 and parents of P4 and P6

Monday 11th December – P1 and P2 Nativity for P1 and P2 parents 2.30pm

Wednesday 13th December - School Christmas lunch

Thursday 14th December – 2.15pm P3-7 Christmas Concert for P3 – P7 parents * Date Change

Monday 18th December – 10am P1-4 Gary Copeland Christmas concert in school

Monday 18th December – 9am 5-7 Portobello Town Hall Pantomime

Tuesday 19th December- P1, P2, P5, P6 & P7 Christmas Parties

Wednesday 20th December – P3 & P4 Christmas Party P7 visit LHS for pantomime

Friday 22nd December – whole school visit to church for Christmas service & Nursery Christmas Party

Monday 25th December – Friday 5th January HOLIDAY

Monday 8th January– Inservice Day staff only

Tuesday 9th January – pupils return

Tuesday 9th January – Friday 12th January Mental Health week

Friday 26th January – Scottish poetry recital competition

Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February HOLIDAY

Thursday 7th March – world book day

Wednesday 13th March – Nursery curriculum evening

Friday 15th March – sign language day

Tuesday 26th March – Thursday 28th March P5 Camp

Friday 29th March – Monday 15th April HOLIDAY

Tuesday 16th April – all return

Thursday 23rd May – Learning Trios * Date Change

Tuesday 28th May – Learning Trios * Date Change

Monday 6th May HOLIDAY

Monday 20th May Inservice Day staff only

Monday 3rd June – Friday 7th June Health Week

Monday 3rd June – Sports Day

Wednesday 5th June – World Environment Day

Wednesday 12th June – Friday 14th June P7 Transition days

Final day of term – **Friday 28th June**