



GARROWHILL PRIMARY NOVEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER



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Dear Parents/Carers

TRANSITIONS

Enrolment for children due to begin P1 in August 2018 will take place throughout the week beginning 6th November. Enrolment procedures are changing this year and all prospective parents are being asked by Glasgow City Council to enrol on-line

Please refer to the **Glasgow City Council Website "School Enrolment"** for further information on this process and on making a placing request.

As school staff will not have the opportunity to meet new families through the enrolment process, we are hosting two short open sessions on the evening of 8th November. The first is from 6.30-7pm and the second from 7.15-7.45pm

Primary 7 pupils were issued with their transition to secondary school paperwork on 1st November. Thank you to everyone who has already returned these. All returns should be with us by the 10th November.

Parents of P7 pupils are invited to an information evening on 6th December at 6.30pm to discuss the transition process for S1. A member of staff from Bannerman High School will be present at this meeting.

Our associated secondary school is Bannerman High. Bannerman High is a delineated school which means it has a catchment area in the same way as the primary schools. Primary 7 pupils who do not live in the Bannerman Catchment area but who wish to attend the school must make a placing request to do so, even if they attend an associated primary school.

Please note, children who attend a school by a Placing Request are not entitled to free school transport.

OPEN AFTERNOONS

Open afternoons in your child's class is an opportunity to visit the school and take time with your child to discuss their learning and progress with them in the school environment. Some parents have the view that these events are unnecessary as parents have taken time from work and do not get to speak to class teachers. However, many families do enjoy visiting the school to review children's work with them and for this reason we intend to continue to offer the opportunity. We understand that working parents are not able to take time off from work and have explained to all children that when an adult cannot come to school, the children will take the work home to look through at the end of that week.

Our next Open Afternoons take place in December and each class will receive an invitation via our school app.

ALL OPEN SESSIONS WILL RUN FROM 2.15PM UNTIL 2.45PM

Diary Dates

6th November: P1 enrolment week:

7th November: P4/3 visiting Baillieston library

8th November: New Entrant open sessions at 6.30pm and 7.15pm

9th November: North East Basketball festival in Gym Hall

21st November: P6 swimming sessions begin.

5th December: Carol Concert in school 9.30am, ticketed event

5th December: Hopscotch Theatre Company visiting school

6th December: P7 parents in school for transition meeting at 6.30pm

6th December P4 - 3 choir singing at Baillieston Care Home.

7th December P5 - 4 choir Carol singing at Morrisons 1.30pm

11th December: P4a Carol Singing at Swinton Care Home

12th December: P4b Carol Singing at Sandford Gardens

13th December: P7/6 Choir singing at St Enoch's Centre

SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN AND SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

The entrance at Maxwell Road is one of two pedestrian entrances that we have, Please do not stand at this entrance when dropping off as we have received complaints from the public that the footpath is difficult to pass. Mums with prams trying to access the nursery can find this particularly challenging. If you must observe your child in the playground before 9am, it would help if parents dropped children off and moved on further along the street or into the park.

All parents should continue to remind children that once dropped off at school they must not leave the school grounds. There are staff in the grounds to assist if they need help with anything.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

During our Carol Service we decorate the Christmas Tree and each year group sings one of their favourite carols.

Our Carol Service will take place on Tuesday 5th December at 9.30am in our assembly hall. We are only able to accommodate 80 guests at this event. Tickets will be issued on a first come first served basis to parents/carers. The fairest way to do this is by telephone as request slips/order forms can be lost or delayed in transit.

Parents who wish tickets for the Carol Service should call the school on Friday **10th November** (maximum of 2 per family). **Do not call before this date as tickets will not be ready.**

Please understand that we cannot exceed an allocation of 80 due to the capacity of our hall.

SPELLING WORKSHOPS

Since September we have offered several information sessions for parents to raise awareness of some of the changes in teaching approaches in literacy. School staff have participated in training from Ruth Miskin trainers to improve our approaches to the teaching of phonics and spelling. This will impact on some of the ways your child is learning spelling patterns. We are very grateful to the many P2 and P3 parents who attended prior to the October holiday.

Last week only 6 of our P4 parents were able to attend the session. We will post as much information to assist those who could not attend on the class area of the website and app.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Our Christmas Services take place on Tuesday 19th December in Mure memorial Church.

Parents and family of P1-3 pupils are welcome to join us in Church at 11 am for our P1s presentation of 'A King is Born'. Parents of children in P4/3-p7 are invited to join us in church at 1.30pm when P6 classes will present 'The Bells Ring Out'

SCHOOL FUNDRAISER & CHRISTMAS

Thank you very much to everyone who contributed to our annual school fund raising event in October. The amount raised to date is £4,688.55 This exceeds our target of £2000 for playground games and equipment. Mr Young is now coordinating the work to make sure this plan is carried out.

We will also be using some of the funds to pay for the Christmas Panto and the class parties that all children participate in.

On Christmas party days, children may come to school wearing their party clothes. The dates of the class parties will be posted on the school app and website. Mrs Bouch is also arranging for our choirs to visit a variety of venues to Carol Sing and notification of which groups of children are attending which venues will also be sent as an app alert for your information

Many thanks to everyone who made an effort to contribute to the sponsored event

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINES IN SCHOOL

From Monday 6th November school staff **will no longer be able to support the administration of medicines for the treatment of short term illnesses**. For example, if your child is prescribed antibiotics or a steroid cream to treat a short term condition, then the daily doses will need to be administered at home. Alternatively you may wish to make arrangements to attend school and administer the medication to your child yourself.

As a staff team we work hard to support children and their families especially when affected by illnesses. However, we no longer have the staffing capacity to offer this level of support and this decision has been taken to ensure that medications prescribed by GPs are administered as safely as possible and that any risk to children is minimised.

Children affected by long term medical conditions such as diabetes, epilepsy, allergies and asthma **will not be affected by this change** in our policy and staff will continue to implement their care plans as agreed with their families.

As always, in the event that your child becomes ill and you are unsure of procedures to support them then please speak to member of staff.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Please remember school closes on Wednesday 20th December at 2.30pm for the Christmas break and re-opens on Thursday 4th January 2018.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Linda Logue', written in dark ink.

Linda Logue
Head Teacher