

# GARROWHILL PRIMARY

## DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER



Dear parents, carers and friends,

Thank you so much to everyone in the Garrowhill Family for making me feel so welcome as the new Head Teacher in our school. I feel extremely privileged to be working with such wonderful families, children and staff. My first few days have been busy and I have very much enjoyed getting to know the children. We all enjoyed the tree decorating and singing on Friday last week. Whilst this was a bit different to the usual Christmas celebrations; it was so nice to bring some classes together to be part of this. It was an honour to be given some beautiful decorations from our School Captains to add to our tree. I have been fortunate to meet some families at the school gate and I look forward to getting to know everyone better in the coming term.

With Christmas fast approaching the final few weeks of term are busy with Christmas parties, our online Panto, Christmas lunch and the Primary 1 and Primary 6 Nativities.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch at any time. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me by telephone or email I am always happy to help.

Kindest regards,

Gayle Clarkson

Head Teacher

[headteacher@garrowhill-pri.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@garrowhill-pri.glasgow.sch.uk)

### Parentsportal

Garrowhill Primary is one of the launch schools in the city for the use of Parentsportal. Thank you to the 50% of families who have linked to their child's Parentsportal account. If you have not done this, please help us by linking to your child's account now.

Parentsportal is a new digital service which will help to replace schoobag post by allowing families to update data checks, family information and consents online.

To login to Parentsportal; you need a MyGov account with Glasgow City Council. If you require any support with this, please contact the Clerical Team who will be happy to help.

### Universal Free School Meals

The Universal Free School Meals offer will be extended to children in Primary 5 from 5th January 2022. There is a hope that Primary 6 and 7 pupils will be offered this from August 2022. We will keep you informed of this.

We recommend that P5 parents do not front load your child's Parent Pay account for the post-Christmas period.

Arrangements for Breakfast Club have not changed.

## DECEMBER DIARY



7th	P6 Choir singing @ Silverburn Shopping Centre
8th	P5 Choir singing @ Silverburn Shopping Centre
10th	Save the Children 'Christmas Jumper Day'
13th	P2 Christmas Party and Online Panto
14th	P4 Christmas Party and Online Panto
15th	P7 Christmas Party and Online Panto Christmas Lunch
16th	P3 Christmas Party and Online Panto P1 Nativity Filming
17th	P5 Christmas Party and Online Panto P6 Nativity Filming
20th	P1 Christmas Party and Online Panto
21st	P6 Christmas Party and Online Panto
22nd	School closes early for Christmas Break: * P1a, 1b & 2/1 - 2.20pm * P2a, 2b, 4/3, 4, 6/5 & 6 - 2.30pm * P3a, 3b, 7/6, 7a & 7b - 2.40pm

## Weekly Update

In order to keep you informed of what is happening in school; I will send a weekly update through the school app.

The App is our main means of communicating news and events to parents/carers. Please ensure you download this free app to your phone by selecting the Scot Ed App and Garrowhill Primary School. Through this you will receive notifications, letters and news relevant to your child's class. You will also be able to keep up to date with many other aspects of school life.

Please ensure you are following the correct channels for your child. Follow: Urgent, your child's class and your child's year group.

## Christmas @ Garrowhill

On Friday 10th December we will be supporting 'Save the Children' on their annual **Christmas Jumper Day**. Children may come to school wearing their favourite Christmas Jumper, with their school uniform. You can make a donation to support this charity by following the link on Parent Pay. Thank you so much to the families who have already made a donation.



On Christmas party days, children may come to school wearing their party clothes. The dates of the class parties are noted on this newsletter and on the school app. In the morning the children will attend parties in their year group and in the afternoon the children will enjoy the online pantomime 'Aladdin.' We are hoping a very special visitor will be able to pop along to the Primary 1 party!

This year we will be gifting all children with a plant to nurture and grow. This gift will support the children's learning on sustainability and climate change. They will also receive a selection box from Brighter Baillieston.

Mrs Bouch has also arranged for our choirs to visit Silverburn Shopping Centre to spread some Christmas cheer with their Carol singing.

P1 and P6 have started to work on their school nativity. P1s will present 'A King is Born'. P6 classes will present 'The Bells Ring Out'. These performances will be sent out digitally on Seesaw to P1 & P6 families.

## Child Protection: Absence From School

It is the responsibility of all parents to inform the school, before 9am, of any absence from school. Failure to alert staff or the absence line that your child cannot attend causes concern for us under our child protection procedures. We must be satisfied that every child is accounted for on every school day.

When a parent or carer fails to inform the school/absence line our clerical staff can often spend the whole day trying to establish that the child is safe.

Please record your child's absence online or phone the dedicated absence team on: **0141 287 0039** from 8am on the first day of absence **AND** every subsequent day. It is important that the school is kept up to date during any long term absences.

*Parents are strongly encouraged not to take their children out of school for family holidays. Should you wish to remove your child from school for any reason you must put your request in writing to the Head Teacher.*

## Safe Routes to School

Thank you to the families who are parking safely around our school perimeter. Please ensure when dropping off or collecting children that you park and drive carefully and are mindful of our neighbours and families crossing the road. Please keep all of the children safe by finding a safe place to park when dropping off or picking up at the end of the school day. Remember our drop-off zone can also be used in the morning.

## Christmas Break

The school closes early for the Christmas Holiday on Wednesday 22nd December and reopens on **Wednesday 5th January**.

We wish all families a restful and enjoyable Christmas break and send every good wish for 2022.

