

Lamlash Primary School and Early Years Class

UPDATE FROM MRS FOSTER

Hi everyone,

The Christmas holidays are fast approaching and despite the fact that celebrations have to take account of Covid precautions, classes have been very busy getting ready for end of term activities. We may not have our usual show, but each class is rehearsing their own contribution for a Lamlash Primary and Early Years showcase. We have original dramas, traditional Christmas songs translated beautifully into sign language and of course Nativities from both P1/2 and Early Years: it is very reassuring to see that we can find alternative ways to make this time of year special. We will send you details so that you can view and enjoy these performances.

Next week sees the start of our parties – I know that Santa has read over our risk assessments and will take every precaution when he makes his visits to the school. The primary and Early Years will also take part in the Santa Dash with the High School next Tuesday 22nd – details to follow in this newsletter. Lamlash green will be flooded with Santa suits and Christmas jumpers on that day; my fingers are crossed for good weather.

It has been a long and challenging term for all of us; the unprecedented circumstances we find ourselves in has meant that we have to adapt and react to what has become a new 'normal'. However, I am very proud of the way that our pupils and staff have dealt with the situation and have moved forward with teaching and learning. I would like to thank parents and our community for their support too, the partnerships we have are crucial in ensuring we offer our pupils the very best opportunities.

I hope you all have a very well deserved, relaxing and enjoyable break and I look forward to seeing everyone when we return for the spring term.

11TH DECEMBER

DATES FOR THE DIARY

The children's Christmas parties will be taking place next week on the following days:

P1/2 Monday 14th

P6/7 Tuesday 15th

P4/5 Wednesday 16th

Early Years Class Wed 16th, am & pm

P3 Friday 18th

All the school parties will take place in the afternoon and children will have an opportunity to change into their party clothes after lunch. EYC children can come dressed for their party.

Friday 18th Early Years Class
Pyjama and Film day

Tuesday 22nd Christmas Jumper Day and the Santa Dash starting at 9.15 a.m. LPS & EYC

Children are welcome to wear their Christmas Jumpers that day for a donation to 'Save the Children'.

Raffle Tickets

Raffle Tickets to win one of four Christmas Hampers are on sale in the Primary School and several retail outlets on the island. Tickets can be purchased via ParentPay, or by bringing cash to school. The draw will be made on Friday December 18th.

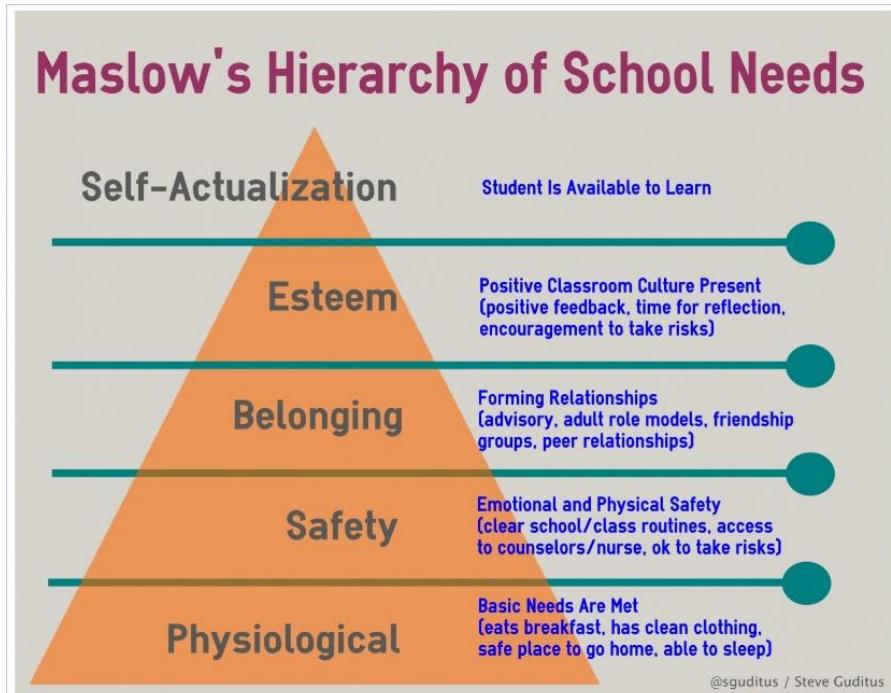
Donations towards the hampers will be gratefully received at the primary school or early years class.

NEWS FROM MRS DICK

My job in the school focuses on everything pastoral i.e. the health and wellbeing of our young people and their families and looking how we can provide support through the school so they are at a point where they are ready to learn. When talking about this with others I often refer to Maslow's hierarchy of needs. This is the hierarchy:



Very simply, for a child to be able to learn effectively at school, basic and psychological needs need to be met in the first instance. Have they had breakfast, have they got somewhere to live? Do they need support to feel loved and be secure? Our role in the school is not to judge who has these or who doesn't but to provide the additional support and resources to help our children and their families have what they need to be on an equal footing when it comes to successfully accessing education as anyone else and there can be many reasons for this including additional support needs, loss of income at home, historical reasons which no-one is to 'blame' for. What a child's needs looks like in a school setting is this:



EARLY YEARS CLASS NEWS

It's all sparkle and glitter in the EYC. The children have turned into Elves and are working very hard to make and create some lovely Christmas keepsakes. We have been learning some signs to a new song, become movie stars and shared our thoughts on some Christmas traditions.....all will be revealed on Wednesday 23rd December.

Our water tray has turned into the Antarctic, full of icebergs and Antarctic animals. We have learned where on our planet the Antarctic is situated. Our home corner is now the home of Mr & Mrs Claus, complete with bed, Christmas stocking, Christmas dinner and Rudolph.

We have been experiencing lots of sensory experiences, made snowballs, painted on different materials and enjoyed using some of our new small world resources. We have also taken delivery of our fabulous new outdoor suits from Arran Active; they are warm and waterproof so that we can continue to spend many more hours outdoors in ALL weathers.



P1/2 NEWS

P1/2 have been getting into the festive spirit this week with our rainbow challenges. These challenges, which we access weekly and are designed to apply or extend children's learning through a play based approach, have been much enjoyed this week. We've had a winter scene complete with a trainset and some snow, our own Christmas tree to decorate, and a post office. We've been challenged to write Santa a letter, use numicon shapes to create Christmas pictures and even build Santa's sleigh!



PIC COLLAGE

P3 NEWS

Primary 3 having been making bell decorations for the Community cards and for taking home. This is so everybody can be part of the Worldwide Santas Christmas Eve jingle. On Christmas Eve at 6pm in your own time zone wherever you are in the world we are asking everyone to come outside and ring your bells for 2 mins to spread Christmas cheer and help Santa fly his sleigh.



P4/5 NEWS

P4/5 have been enjoying taking part in the Active sessions with Lauren and the NASA pupils, always following Covid-19 rules and guidelines.

This week, as part pf our Jacobite's topic, we have been learning about clans and tartan. We had a go at designing our own tartan.



P6/7 NEWS

P6/7 have been writing letters to local residents and will be helping with a community project for Christmas Eve. This will hopefully make future pen pals for 2021 and when we are able, we will invite our new friends in for afternoon tea.

We have been working hard on our letter writing and next week we will be having a 1915 day writing with ink and quills and looking at food from that time, spam and corned beef dishes of the day. In Numeracy we have been looking at time and working on timings of events and journeys. In topic we have been looking at plants and pollinators using the class window to show this and add our Christmas lights.

Next week a slower pace getting ready for Christmas.



Santa Dash

We are having a whole school Santa Dash event on Tuesday 22nd December and at 9.15 a.m. The Early Years Class and Primary will start the event off.

Every pupil and staff member will receive a Santa hat for the occasion and we would like them to wear Christmas jumpers to school that day. Pupils will be running, jogging or walking in their class bubbles and they will set off in groups of 6 (socially distanced) Senior pupils, North Ayrshire Sports Academy pupils and Staff will be used to marshal the course. The Santa Dash route is – From the tennis courts in Lamlash round the putting green (early years), to the Christmas tree and back (p1/2), to the Car Park stones (p3-7). (Two loops for those jogging or running and one for those walking) Festive Treats and Refreshments will be provided for everyone taking upon returning back school. If you wish, you are able to make a small donation towards this event via Parent Pay. All donations will go into the school fund.

Arran High School/ Lamlash Primary Free Period Products Pilot

You may be aware that North Ayrshire Council provides free period products in schools with additional provision made for school holidays. We are replacing the holiday provision and offering a trial to register for a 2-3 month supply of period products to be delivered to your home address. Register before the 17th December 2020 via the link below: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=stT1vp5s4Eb30U5irQzJ58t0wS0QpDmH5-IltUisJNU5ISjhVRUlyVUJOU1IIQjIEQk8ySjE5US4u> Products remain available and free to use in the upper primary girls' toilet.

Mountain Bike Club

Can you please spare 4 minutes to complete Arran High School Mountain Bike Clubs survey? They are looking to evidence wider public support for their Dyemill skills trails project with pumptrack and its associated community asset transfer of land from Forestry & Land Scotland. Your thoughts and feedback will help develop design proposals that takes our wider communities views into account.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JX9VPH8>

Joke Time

Today's Joke is courtesy of Dave Payne, formerly our Brass Tutor.
Can tell the cold weather is coming...
Was out last night and got sprayed by a salt spreading lorry ... "Watch out!" I tried to shout through gritted teeth ...

Asda

Did you know Asda's children's meals in their cafe are free for the month of December? If you are over in Ardrossan doing the Christmas food shop then something to bear in mind.

Christmas Limericks to wind up the newsletter:

Santa's Sleigh limerick

We're singing the song of the sleigh
As Santa gets his underway.
The bells are a-jingle,
Our tummies a-tingle,
SO SHOUT OUT FOR THIS XMAS DAY!

Fairy limerick

There was a young Xmas-time elf
Who greatly admired himself.
He climbed up the tree,
A fairy to see,
But fell down and left with a skelf!

Reindeer limerick

A reindeer of Santa's grew ill
So the vet gave the patient a pill.
His ears went all droopy.
And then he went loopy.
So your present is over the hill!

Staff Stars

Just a reminder that by clicking on the link below (anonymously if you wish) you can provide a bit of positive feedback for a member of staff who you have felt has gone above and beyond to support your child or the school. It has been a tumultuous year for all and just sometimes it is nice to hear when things have gone well. We are all a little guilty of assuming people know we are appreciative.

Staff Stars link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=oyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKRkaHYvxFO5EggAZuYgZ9fxURFQ1Qk5EQIIVk01R0hCV1ZQWFpaWIU3NS4u>