



Principal's Newsletter

December 2018



Dear Parents / Carers,

The festive season is now well and truly upon us here at Victoria Primary School and Nursery Unit – Christmas Trees are appearing in many classrooms across school, Mrs Ritchie has been decorating the school office and the children are working hard towards the many different Christmas events that take place each year.

December is a really busy time for us all; at home, at work and at school. As a school, we really appreciate the time that our children and their families dedicate to school life during such a busy month. I also want to thank the staff for the time they give, away from their own families, to support the school at events such as the Christmas Fayre, Carol Service etc.

Later in this newsletter I have included some important dates for your diary linked to events happening in the coming weeks. Please keep note of these dates.

Also included in this newsletter are some dates in relation to our 50th Birthday Celebrations. At the start of this academic year, Victoria Primary School had been open for 50 years....a remarkable milestone. The school have planned in some events for later in the Spring Term. Keep your eye out for more information to follow.

Many thanks,

Mr C. Fulton

Principal

A reminder....

As all parents and carers will be aware of, the road just outside our school becomes a very busy place at the start and end of the school day. Our main priority is to keep all the children safe as they come into school and leave.

Please pay extra attention when driving and parking around this area. It is imperative that you do not stop cars to drop off / pick up children on the yellow zig-zag lines outside the main school gates. These lines are there for the sole reason to keep your children safe.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Principal

Mr C. Fulton

Acting Vice Principal / Head of Foundation & Key Stage 1

Mrs J. Orr

Special Needs Co- ordinator and Designated Teacher for Child Protection

Miss J. Minnis

Nursery Lead

Mrs P. Addis

Head of Key Stage 2

Mrs R. Miskelly

I'M WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD IN SCHOOL.

If you are concerned about the welfare of a pupil in school, please speak with Miss Minnis (Designated Teacher for Child Protection)



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Consent Forms – URGENT

At the beginning of last week, every pupil in school was given a generic consent form that we required to be completed and returned to school by **Friday 30th November 2018**. In order for us to become fully GDPR compliant we require consent for a range of different reasons – as outlined on the form. If you have not yet returned your form, please do so as a matter of urgency. From January 2019, if we have not received a form from you we must assume that you do not give consent for any of the items listed on the consent form. This will have an impact in terms of assessment of your child, photographs being taken by the school photographer etc.

IF YOU REQUIRE A SPARE COPY OF THE FORM PLEASE CALL INTO THE SCHOOL OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Mega Marathon Week Update

As you can see from the total below, our mega marathon week was a tremendous success. On behalf of the pupils, can I pass on my thanks to the entire school community for your support in this endeavour. The school has now managed to purchase 21 new iPads and covers for children to use on a regular basis in addition to the remaining working iPads in our school stock. This will make a huge difference to the delivery of ICT across the schools and in supporting research activities in the classroom as part of our daily curriculum teaching.

Thank you to you all!



MEGA MARATHON
WEEK TOTAL...

£4484

THANK YOU!!!!!!



This month's attendance fact:

Research has shown that...

- Children with poor attendance throughout their school journey are 3 times more likely not to achieve good GCSEs (Grade A* - C) including English and Maths.

Class	%	Class	%
1JM	96.1%	1JO	97.9%
2AH	97.2%	2JS	95.3%
3PC/JMM	95.8%	3LMF	97.4%
4PMC	96.7%	4JMC/RMC	96.5%
5VD	96.7%	5JL	96.3%
6GH	98.1%	6HG	96.1%
7RMIS	96.9%	7AN	96.3%

Green = 96% +

Amber = 94% - 95.9%

Red = 95.8% and below



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Key Dates for December and January

Thursday 6th December

PTA Christmas Fayre 6:30pm – 8:30pm (Please send in your bottle bar donations if you have not already done so.)

Monday 10th December

Nursery Christmas Performances @ 9:45am and 1:15pm

Wednesday 12th December

Christmas Carol Service at North Street Presbyterian Church @ 7pm

Tuesday 18th December

School Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day (Children can wear non-uniform/ Christmas Jumper £1. School closes at 1pm)

Thursday 20th December

Christmas Discos (Cost £1. Children can wear non uniform and can also purchase tattoos and glow sticks for 50p each)

Friday 21st December

School closes at 12pm for Christmas Holidays

Thursday 3rd January

School reopens

Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th January

Pantomime in school. (Cost is £5.50 per pupil)

Thursday 17th January

PTA Meeting @ 7:30pm. All welcome

Monday 21st January

School Development Day – SCHOOL CLOSED. Kids' Cave open from 8am – 5:30pm



To celebrate our wonderful school being open for 50 years, we will be having a week of celebrations in April 2019. More info will follow in due course:

Mon 1st April – School Production

Tues 2nd April – School Production

Wed 3rd April – School Production

Fri 5th April – PARTY DAY! School Open for past staff, pupils and parents for Afternoon Tea and to view an exhibition of our 50-year history and to take a walk down memory lane.



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Term Dates 2018 / 19

A reminder of our term dates for this year. Dates highlighted in yellow are dates that have been amended.

<u>Autumn Term</u>	
August	Wed 22 nd , Thurs 23 rd , Fri 24 th August – School Development Days (School Closed) Mon 27 th August – Bank Holiday (School Closed) Tues 28 th August – School reopens for P2 – P7 pupils (School will close at 12pm on 28 th , 29 th and 30 th of August)
September	Fri 28 th September – School Development Day (School Closed)
October / November	Fri 26 th Oct – School Closes at 2pm. Mon 29 th , Tues 30 th , Wed 31 st Oct, Thurs 1 st , Fri 2 nd November (School Closed for Half Term) Mon 5 th November – School reopens
December	Fri 21 st December – (School closes at 12pm for the Christmas Holidays)
January	Thurs 3 rd January – School reopens Mon 21 st January – School Development Day (School Closed)
February	Fri 15 th February – School Closes at 2pm. Mon 18 th February – School Development Day (School Closed) Tues 19 th , Wed 20 th , Thurs 21 st , Fri 22 nd February (School Closed for Half Term) Mon 25 th February – School reopens
April	Fri 12 th April – (School closes at 12pm for Easter Holidays) Mon 29 th April – School reopens
May	Mon 6 th May – School Closed (Bank Holiday) Mon 27 th May – School Development Day (School Closed)
June	Thurs 13 th , Fri 14 th June – School Development Days (School Closed) Fri 28 th June – (School closes at 12pm for Summer Holidays)

REMINDER – Our school led afterschool clubs will finish for Christmas this week (Friday 7th December). They will resume again in the New Year on the week beginning Monday 14th January 2019. Some of our clubs had been oversubscribed at the beginning of the year and children who had not been successful in attending a club at the start of the year may have the opportunity to start in the Spring Term. If there are to be any changes in clubs, members of staff will let children know. If your child attends an afterschool club led by an external provider, Eg Burns Soccer, Hola Bonjour, Irish Dancing etc, please refer back to letters provided to you at the start of the year about dates for these clubs or contact the lead member of staff for that organisation.