

December 2020

Parent Council Meeting

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Parent Council Virtual Meeting. The minutes of this meeting will be posted on Dojo and some of the key points will also be shared in this newsletter.

Parents' Night

Currently due to COVID regulations we are not able to run the usual Parent Night event. The staff have however written an interim report to keep you up to date with your child's progress. The reports will be given out to all children before the end of this week. Should you feel that you wish to discuss anything in the report, please don't hesitate to message your child's teacher on Dojo and we can give you a call.

Christmas Celebrations

This has been a very different year with children and families missing out on so much. At Sidlaw View, we are determined to make this special time of year as exciting as possible for the children. We do need to do things a little differently to ensure we are sticking to guidelines and keeping our school community safe but with a little extra planning, we can do this!



- ✓ **Christmas Jumper Day** – Wednesday 9th December – please remember you do not need to wear a Christmas Jumper. Let's just lift Christmas spirits with a bit of tinsel, baubles, bright clothing or if you have it Christmas jumper/leggings or dress. Let's bring some sparkle to Sidlaw View. If you can we would appreciate a donation of £1 for the Save the Children charity.
- ✓ **Christmas Cards** – children can still bring in Christmas Cards – the children themselves can hand them out to the other children within their own class bubble. If cards are to go to a different class bubble, the card will be quarantined for 72 hours before being given out. We will ensure that the pupils sanitize their hands before giving out their cards.
- ✓ **Presents for Staff** – I have been asked if staff can still be given gifts. Yes they can however the staff member must quarantine for 72 hours before opening the gift. This is however an unnecessary expense and instead I would like to invite you to send a message of appreciation to your teacher. I would like this to be a surprise and intend on adding any messages we receive to an appreciation board in the staffroom for all staff. Should you wish to take the time to recognise the commitment of our staff, please send a message directly to either myself, Mrs Matheson and Mrs Cruickshank and we will ensure they are typed and displayed for all to see. Please support me in thanking the staff for their hard work and commitment during these very challenging times.
- ✓ **Christmas Parties** – We will be having Christmas Parties in classes as we do every year. There will be fun games, music and treats in the classes on Monday 21st December. Children can wear their own clothes for the parties.
- ✓ **Pantomime** – We have booked a virtual panto for the children to watch during the last few weeks of term. We will also be gifting our parents with a link to an online panto through Downfield Musical Society. We are donating money to the Whitehall Theatre Trust so that our families can have this experience. The link will become available on the last week of term.
- ✓ **Christmas Fayre** – Although we can't do the Christmas Fayre in the traditional way, we are still going to have fun. All children have made Christmas Crafts and P7 have made a lovely e-book to show them off. The e-book will be posted on Dojo on Monday 7th December and the crafts will be on sale from that point. We will initially only be selling the crafts to their own classes then from Friday 11th December, children can buy left over crafts from other classes. Please be assured that COVID risk assessments and guidelines will be followed when selling across classes.
- ✓ **Christmas Fayre Activities** – At the Christmas Fayre we would normally have lots of fun games and activities for the children to participate in, once again we will do this but in a different way. Thursday 17th And Friday 18th will be days of Christmas fun where classes will go down to the gym hall and take part in a range of Christmas activities to spread Christmas cheer. Classes will be timetabled to allow time in between each group for cleaning the equipment. Activities will include making Christmas biscuits, Santa flip, Pitchy and pin the nose of Rudolph.

- ✓ **Santa Visit** – we have written to Santa in the hope he could do a virtual visit. We know he can't come into school as has to ensure he stays healthy for his big day but fingers crossed we will see him!

Christmas Presents



We know that the cost of Christmas can add pressures and stresses to many. We have been fortunate to be one of the many schools who have received a donation from NCR staff to ensure that no child goes without at Christmas. If you need some support, please send me a message through Dojo or speak directly to Mel or Leanne our School and Family Development Workers. This is on a confidential basis, so no one need know. We want to ensure all our children have gifts to wake up to on Christmas morning.

P7 Residential

We have made the decision to start planning for a P7 residential in May. We hope this will definitely include overnights stays however we need to be planned for all eventualities. This is booked for 26th – 28th May with Ancrum Outdoor. The children will stay down at the docks in Dundee and all activities will be planned by the children over the three days. If restrictions do not change and we can't stay overnight, we will ensure that the P7 pupils will still be able to participate in all planned activities during the day so they do not miss out. The cost will be approx. £150 but the children will undertake some fund raising and the school will subsidise the cost so no one will pay more than £100. We will be setting up Parent Pay so parents can start to pay up the costs. We are going to ask for a minimum of £10 deposit before the end of January.

Class Dojo

It has come to light that during lockdown class dojo were offering an addition to the package free of charge for one month to support bedtime, homework, tooth brushing routines etc. There has been an incident when money was then removed from a parent's bank account after the free trial. This should not have happened and was not endorsed by the school, should you have found yourself in this position, please contact the school and we will give you the contact details to try and reclaim your money.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 7 th December	Christmas Fayre E-book will be posted on Dojo and then crafts will be for sale in pupils' own classes.
Friday 11 th December	Christmas Crafts from other classes now on sale. Reports out to parents
Wednesday 16 th December	Tayside Contracts Christmas Lunch menu
Thursday 17 th December	Virtual Christmas panto – 'Oliver with a Christmas Twist'
17 th /18 th December	Christmas Activities – one hour per class
Monday 21 st December	Christmas Parties
Wednesday 23 rd December	Last day of term 2 – 12noon finish
Thursday 7 th January	Start of term 3



All that's left to say is a huge thank you for your continued support. A huge thank you also goes to all the staff who everyday work tirelessly for the benefit of each and every child. You truly are all amazing. Remember and send me in words of appreciation so they know that their efforts do not go unnoticed!

Have a lovely Christmas everyone, enjoy some well deserved time with your families and remember to stay safe and healthy.

Kim Flynn
Head Teacher



Keep an eye out for updates on your child's learning through:

The Sidlaw View Twitter Page - @SidlawViewPS