



**St. Mary's (Leith)**  
**R.C. Primary School**  
**Newsletter – December 2017**



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Dear Parents & Carers,

*Advent has arrived at St. Mary's Leith! The children and staff have been very busy (as always!) this term and are ready to enter the festive season and to celebrate the peace and joy of Christmas. The hall and school decorations are up and we look forward to all our Christmas activities detailed below. Thank you for your continued support and we hope you enjoy our preparations and celebrations this month!*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Peter Gibb. Head Teacher.*

#### **Recent Events**

There have been many exciting and successful events that have taken place since we returned from the October break. Some highlights are:

- The Parent Consultations were very well attended in November. Many thanks for engaging with us in supporting your child/children's learning. Thank you for the feedback received and of course, feedback is always welcome at anytime.
- Our Open Day was also a very popular event and we welcomed many new and existing families on a guided tour in advance of P1 Registrations for next year.
- We appear in today's Evening News – a double page feature on Page 34 & 35... Well done to the staff and pupils who contributed. Some spare copies are available in school.
- P7 have been busy since the October break, they have enjoyed the first of their transition events at Holyrood High School and enjoyed success at their Mock Court Trials... Well done P7s!
- We had a delegation of Pupils representing us at the sitting of the Children's Parliament in November – Well done to all involved.
- P5s enjoyed visits to the Museum on the Mound in November.
- P4b have visited Tesco to participate in a 'Farm to Fork' learning visit. They've also been to see our friends at Manderston Court as part of their Intergenerational Workshops.
- P5s & P7s have enjoyed a visit to the Cinema last month.
- Many classes have enjoyed learning the Ukulele this term.
- P3 have enjoyed signing lessons from NYCOS (National Youth Choir of Scotland).
- We have enjoyed two Family Sunday Masses at St. Mary's Star of the Sea and we had a lovely celebration of All Saints Day at a whole school Mass. Many thanks to Fr. Martin, Sally and Chris for all their help in celebrating our faith with our Parish this term.
- The Parent Council have hosted a very successful Halloween Party and a Bake Sale this term – Many thanks to them for all their efforts and dedication to the school.
- We have had a Sea-Life exhibition in our Foyer the past month, P2b have helped with the design and hosting – Well done!
- The Peace and Justice group (and staff) had a very successful McMary's Meals lunch-bag fundraiser – Staff made over 120 sandwiches and bags for pupils to purchase to raise funds for Mary's Meals!
- **A big thank you to all our parent volunteers and contributors who help with events at the school, we very much appreciate your time and effort supporting our school, pupils and classes: Thank you!**

## Christmas Activities and Arrangements for December 2017

<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Pantomime – Cinderella at the Kings Theatre.</b></p> <p>Buses leave at 1pm and return at 4.45pm. Children may bring a drink and small snack that must fit in their pockets as they will not be taking bags to the theatre. When we return, all children will be brought back into school for safety reasons and then dismissed from usual doors (P5 from the West Door). Please respect the safety of all by not attempting to collect your child straight from the bus.</p>
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>P6 &amp; P7 Christmas Show</b></p> <p>The pupils will watch at 1.30pm. The evening performance will be at 6.30pm.</p>
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Christmas Fair – 11am-1pm</b></p> <p>The Parent Council are organising the Christmas Fair, open from 11am. There will be refreshments and lunch, various stalls including Christmas crafts, Tombola &amp; Lucky Dip, Toys, Books, Face Painting and games for all. In addition there will be Home Baking, Santa's Grotto and the choir will be singing carols! Come along, join the fun and support the school or give your child some spare change to spend as they will visit during the school day!</p>
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Christmas Lunches and Christmas Jumper / Clothes Day.</b></p> <p>Wear a Christmas Jumper, Christmas hat or Christmas clothes to wear all day (Not dress-down ie. no jeans, tracksuits, etc). Wear school uniform if you wish and we can provide a tinsel decoration!</p> <p>Christmas Lunches must be ordered on ParentPay by Midnight Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December.</p>
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>P1 &amp; P2 Christmas Nativity</b></p> <p>There will be two shows. The first at 1.30pm and the evening performance will be at 6.30pm.</p>
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Christmas Film Fun Night: 3.00-5.30pm</b></p> <p>A Christmas film, some pizza and Christmas singing! Separate letter with details will be issued - All money raised is for Mary's Meals.</p>
<b>Christmas Parties</b>	<p><b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> – P6 &amp; P7 at 1pm</b></p> <p><b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> – Nursery at 10.30am</b></p> <p><b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> – P4 &amp; P5 at 1pm</b></p> <p><b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> – P3 Morning and P1 &amp; P2 Afternoon</b></p> <p>Children can bring party clothes to change into for their parties.</p>
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<p><b>Carol Service at 10.30am at St. Mary's Star of the Sea.</b></p> <p>School Closes at 12.00 noon. Christmas Holidays begin – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!</p>
<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018</b>	<p><b>Pupils resume at 8.50am</b></p>