



Newsletter – Friday 8th December 2023

Well the EYFS panto performance this week means that we are now well and truly into the run-up to Christmas at school! Next week sees the EYFS take to the stage for their Nativity, which is always a highlight of the year for us, before our first ever Christmas Fayre on Thursday, which we hope will be a fantastic experience for everyone! We are very happy to have a number of parents forming a new fundraising group, who will be helping organise and run the fayre and other events through next year, as well as a number of other parents and family members asking for stalls at the fayre.

Our year 2's enjoyed an Elf Run with the year 2's from Joseph Locke and HolyRood yesterday as the latest Collaboration Cup sports event, but we decided the weather didn't lend itself to all the children doing the Elf Run at Shawlands. We will keep an eye on the weather next week and let you know a couple of days in advance of when we will be doing it for real at Shawlands. We will be letting the year 2's join in with the whole-school run as well, so they don't miss out. Below is a link if you would like to donate to the Barnsley Hospice.

https://www.justgiving.com/page/shawlands-primary-school-1700565270160?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fshawlands-primary-school-1700565270160&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share

Christmas Fayre

We would welcome any donations of raffle prizes, toys for our toy stall and items for our tombola. These can be brought into school from Monday. The final day for donations will be Wednesday so we can ensure everything is labelled up. Children can take them to their teachers or there will be a box in the main reception. If we could have cakes and biscuits on the day that would be greatly appreciated.

Please could you confirm with Mrs Athorn if you would like a stall at the Fayre.



Father Christmas

As part of our school fayre we are going to have a Santa's grotto. Unfortunately, we will not be able to offer this to all children and only 40 places will be available as we only have a 2 hour slot for the fayre. We will be opening spaces up on Gateway on Monday at 8.15 am to EYFS and KS1, and all places will need to be pre booked on a first come first served basis. We understand some children will be disappointed but we are hoping that this will give children who wont get the chance to visit a grotto out of school the opportunity. The cost of this will be £3.00 and children will receive a selection box, a certificate and a photo (the photo will be given at a later date).

Food bank

We will be having a food bank collection on Thursday 14th December any donations can be brought into school from Monday and either passed to the class teacher or the office.

Christmas parties

EYFS Tuesday 19th December

Key Stage 1 Monday 18th December

Lower Key stage 2 Thursday 21st December

Upper key stage 2 Wednesday 20th December

Children can come to school in their party clothes on their party day. Please bear in mind that children will be in normal lessons and outside at playtime so suitable shoes and warm clothing will be required. Please do not send children to school wearing makeup.

School will provide party food and prizes for games. All children will also receive a small gift. This is from the generous donations from Halloween and Christmas card sales.



As we near the end of the first term, I'd like to finish by sharing the outcome of some recent visits we have had from the Local Authority as they roll out a programme of development visits for all schools. We had a day when our School Improvement Officer looked at History and Computing in school, and was very impressed with the progress made in these areas and the curriculum we offer the children. We have also had a visit to look at the maths curriculum and samples of children's work, and again, the SIO was impressed by the work done to pull the curriculum together from EYFS to Year Six, and the standard of the work in books. Both these visits left us with helpful suggestions of tweaks which could be made to further enhance the curriculum we offer. We also had a SEND visit from two LA officers, who were very happy with the passion and knowledge of send needs shown by all staff in school, as well as the warm, welcoming feel of school and the positive behaviour and engagement seen in the children throughout school.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 13th December

- EYFS Nativity performance (PM)

Thursday 14th December

- Christmas Fair (3pm)
- EYFS Nativity performance (AM)
- Food bank collection

Friday 15th December

- Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day

Finally the sale of poppies/merchandise for the Royal British Legion raised £264.04, thank you to everyone