



ANDREW'S WEEKLY ROUNDUP

Believe, Achieve



RESPECT INCLUSION TEAMWORK EFFORT

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 5th January 2021 Staff Inservice Day (Remote – School closed)

Wednesday 6th January Keyworker Childcare begins

Monday 11th January School resumes for pupils via online learning at home

Monday 18th January In- school learning expected to resume

22 December 2020

Dear Families

The Christmas holidays have arrived and it was great to see happy, excited children in school these past two days. It made for a super end to the term, even in these challenging times. Your children are amazing little people!

WINTER FAIR

Our Winter fair took place on Saturday 12 December. The weather had been truly horrid but we had a brief respite for the hours of the Fair! It was an absolutely brilliant event. I want to thank Fran Armour and Susan Dunlop (and family) in particular. They put a huge amount of work into the event and their creativity and enthusiasm were inspiring. I also want to thank our Host families who created magical, fun packed experiences and activities for children and adults at their homes. You put an enormous amount of work in and brought a lot of joy to Sciennes children and families. The glitter that was pasted on my face was still evident the next day, even after a shower. Tara Nixon was also very good at pouring a very generous mug of mulled wine! All great fun and contributed to a brilliant community event. Thanks also go to Leda Uberbacher and Caroline McKellar, our Parent Council Chairs, for all their support. The Fair raised an astonishing £5,900.

Fran has put together some photographs from the day

<https://prezi.com/view/BgFYTVGhcKiCtYTETfUT/>

and here is a link to the Orienteering Trail with answers to the clues:

<https://scienneswintertrail.wordpress.com/sciennes-winter-trail-2020/>

Our P7 children sold out their stock in record time and raised an incredible £700. They learned a lot about business planning, budgeting and advertising, all within a COVID environment. Well done P7!

PROMETHEAN INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARDS

The first five Promethean interactive whiteboards were installed in Primary 6 and Primary 7 and the children and staff love them. Mr Armstrong and the Digital Leaders will send out a video and further information about them in the new term. These boards are already having a positive impact on Teaching and Learning.

CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY

Our Christmas Assemblies took place in school on Friday 18 December. Normally we go to St Catherine's Argyle Church but this year Stuart Irvin, the Minister, came to school. He spoke about how the first Christmas was a bit upside down but that it brought hope and related it to this Christmas. I shared news about how Toby (our kitten) was growing up and that we were having a bit of an upside down Christmas too as our tree had twice been knocked over by him! Mr Howie thanked key workers across the country for helping us all. I then read Mog's First Christmas by Judith Kerr to finish the Assembly. We missed our wonderful school orchestra and choirs but it still felt like a special Assembly.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Every class had a Christmas party this year. We held them in our Class Bubbles in the classrooms and whilst they were a bit different, the children still had great fun. They also enjoyed party food. Our Fruit Group donated 50kg of clementines to the school and these were given out to the children at their party. Many thanks to LeeAnne Boyle for organising this.

FIRST MINISTER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

As you will be aware both the Prime Minister and our First Minister made significant announcements at the weekend that will affect us all. The school holidays for children have been extended until Friday 8 January and remote Home Learning will take place between 11-15 January. The current expectation is that all children will return to in-school learning on Monday 18 January. Information has been sent out in relation to Keyworkers and to determine whether you meet the criteria for eligibility. Keyworker childcare will be available from Wednesday 6 January during normal school hours. Please refer to my separate email about this for further information and a link to the application form.

I do hope you all have a very Merry Christmas. It will be a bit different this year but I hope you still enjoy it. I am looking forwards to sampling my first festive glass of Baileys this evening with some Christmas music on my new turntable! Current tasteful favourites are Annie Lennox with “A Christmas Cornucopia” and Tracey Thorn with “Tinsel and Lights” but I’m sure I will revert to some Boney M, Shakin’ Stevens, Wham and a bit of Mariah!

Here’s to a much improved 2021!

Andrew

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Please remember to wash your hands

Follow the correct hand washing procedure

www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus

