



Dear Parents/Carers

Now that the festivities have begun, there is a magical, Christmassy feel around school. The children performed brilliantly last Tuesday and Wednesday at 'The Nativity' and Carol Concert. Thank you to parents for all the help from erecting and dismantling the stage, serving mulled wine and mince pies, clearing the hall and especially to Ann Durston for directing the music.

The net cost of £230 for Christmas activities at Eassie - visit to Kirriemuir Panto, performances & Christmas party – will be met from school funds: details to be circulated at a later date.

P1/2/3 visited the science centre as part of their 'Materials' topic and P4-7 joined Glamis pupils at the Ruthven Church to visit author, John Fardell. P1/2/3 pupils were entertained by the Charleston Playgroup children at their Nativity.

Primary School Review

Thank you to the parents who gave up their time to be part of the parent focus group and meet with the inspection team. We received many encouraging comments and feedback was very positive. Once I receive the final written report we will make an action plan to address any areas for improvement highlighted in the report and this will be shared with all parents/carers. I am extremely grateful to our hard working staff team who spoke with and shared learning and teaching (including class observations) with the inspection team.

I often speak about how proud we are of the children at Eassie and the Pupil Council also spoke to the inspection team about the school and their learning. The visitors all commented on the lovely atmosphere throughout the school and also about how brilliant the children were. Thank you Pupil Council.

In-service days

Staff from Eassie and Glamis came together at a Kirriemuir Cluster School's joint meeting held in Northmuir Primary. We had a very interesting and thought provoking presentation from staff from the Educational Development Service on Early Literacy and staff appreciated the opportunity to network with other teachers in the cluster and share practice. We returned to school in the afternoon to plan our Paired Reading programme which will begin early next term (a letter explaining this initiative will be sent home next term). The following day we had a presentation from a colleague from Perth and Kinross on Mental maths and later planned a programme which will be delivered next term in each class.

Reading Week

This was an action packed week full of super reading activities. The children worked co-operatively to create characters from fairy tales, design leaflets and posters promoting reading to children, flow charts summarising key events in stories and enjoyed a visit from local author, Sylvia Troon. Sylvia shared tips for story writing and used her amazing puppets to read some of her stories to the children. The week ended with parents invited in to school to read with the children and for the children to share their learning with parents and carers.

Drama workshop

P1/2/3 enjoyed a visit from an Angus Council drama facilitator who dramatized the story of The Little Red Riding Hood to develop literacy skills with the children.

Superstar Corner



Thomas Duffy visited the P6/7 class at Glamis and gave a presentation on World War II aircraft to help them with their World War II topic. His presentation was excellent and he shared his extensive knowledge and ably answered some quite challenging questions. Well done, Thomas!

Emergency School Closure Procedures

During the winter months schools can sometimes be disrupted by severe weather. We recognise it is important that our school remains open so parents are able to work and pupils can continue to learn – and so we will remain open if at all possible. However, if we do experience severe snow/ice resulting in hazardous conditions, we occasionally have to take the difficult decision to close the school during the school day. Once this decision has been made we will notify parents via telephone.



Decisions to close or keep open individual schools prior to the start of the school day will be posted to the Angus Council website (www.angus.gov.uk) on the "School Status" page. If a decision has been taken the previous day information will also be available on Tay Connect (0844 855 1724) select option 1 for Angus school information or option 2 for Angus bus information and /or Angus council's ACCESSLine (08452 777 778) and will also be broadcast on Radio Tay when available. Information will also be updated via Twitter @anguscouncil or facebook at facebook.com/anguscouncil or on Tay Connect (0844 855 1724).

A Home Work Grid for each class will be posted on the pupil pages of the school website (usually writing, science and maths activities which relate to the snow) and we would encourage your child to complete some of these during the day – as well as continue with reading and tables practice.

What can you do to help?

- Don't forget suitable warm clothing – gloves, hats, scarves, wellies etc. or even a change of clothing. We always allow the children to play outside and wellies are a MUST!
- If you are a working parent and might have a problem with a sudden earlier pick up, please put a back-up plan in place with another family member or parent and inform the school. This will allow staff to leave earlier for their safety if weather dictates.
- Please ensure that we have an up to date telephone number at all times as emergencies can, and do happen. Even if a school is open during severe weather conditions, parents are entitled to keep their children at home if they have any safety concerns whatsoever.

P5-7 Ski trip to Glenshee 27th - 31st January

9 children along with 14 children from Glamis Primary will be heading to the slopes of Glenshee next term for a week of instruction with the Cairnwell Mountain Sports. Here's hoping for lots of snow!

Ski Trip 2014 - second hand sale of ski clothes – Thursday 9th January at 3.30pm in Glamis school hall

If you have ski clothes (salopettes, jackets, gloves, thermals etc) that no longer fit your children or wish to purchase second hand ski clothes please go along to Glamis school. All items should be washed and priced and may be handed into Eassie school any time during the week. Lidl also have reasonably priced children's ski wear in stock now.



Children In Need

Thank you for your generous donations and thanks to this support we raised £25.

E-Safety

E-safety is vitally important to ensure children stay safe on-line. To learn more about the risks facing our children when they use computers, please log on to <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk> Another useful website you might like to visit is <http://support.xbox.com/en-GB/xbox-live/onlineprivacy-and-safety/online-safety>

Glamis After School Clubs

In the final week of term, ALL after school clubs organised by Glamis will not be running. Next term all clubs will resume the second week of term. (This involves some Eassie pupils).

Scottish/Burns' Poems

These will be handed out by the class teachers the first week back next term so please look out for them in school bags and please help your children to practise at home. Mr Ingram has kindly agreed to judge the finalists and 3 pupils will represent the school at the Kirriemuir Cluster Poetry Competition to be held some time in February.

P7 Transition activities

P7 pupils will be taking part in workshops at Webster's High School on Tuesday 14th January and parents are invited to come along on Wednesday 15th January at 4.30-6.00pm: further details to follow in first week of term.

Help needed!

P1/2/3 will be starting their new topic in January, People who help us and the wider world of work. Ms Crawford is looking for parents who would be willing to come in to the class to speak to the children about their jobs. If you are interested and able to help please contact the school.

And finally...



I would like to thank all parent volunteers for their valuable support within Eassie. I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable holiday – have a truly Merry Christmas and very Happy New Year.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Yours sincerely
J Ferguson
Head Teacher

DIARY DATES

19 th December	Christmas Party
20 th December	End of Term – 12 noon
6 th January 2014	Term Starts
27 th – 31 st Jan	Ski Trip to Glenshee
3 rd Feb	7pm Parent Council meeting (all welcome)
13 th February	In-service day 4 (school closed to pupils)
14 th & 17 th February	Mid-Term holiday
21 st March	Sport Relief
4 th April	End of term