



Education, Leisure & Housing Services

Papdale Primary School

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25th October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Autumn/Winter Term Events 2022

I'm writing today to provide you with news and updates on events planned across the school for the remainder of the calendar year.

School Photographs: October 31st to November 8th

As mentioned at the start of the year, we hope to capture portrait photographs of each of the Papdale Primary School children (P1-P7) this term and will be offering families the option to purchase mounted prints should they so wish. Full details of the pricing, and of how to order, will be provided in November. A shoot schedule is provided below and is replicated on our online [Events Calendar](#):

Monday 31 October	P4E, P6M and P7E
Tuesday 1 November	P4M, P6/7S and P7M
Wednesday 2 November	P2E, P3E and P6E
Thursday 3 November	P2M, P3/4S and P5E
Friday 4 November	P1B, P1L and P3M
Monday 7 November	P1/2C
Tuesday 8 November	P5M

P5M Swimming

This term it is the turn of P5M to visit the Picky pool on a Friday morning. Buses leave the school right after registration, so make sure the bairns have their swimming kit with them.

Joe's Boxes

Joe Goldblatt will be visiting several Orkney schools with his Education Scotland endorsed programme on the Jewish way of life this term and will join us at Papdale for sessions with P5E and P5M on 9th November. You can find out more about this initiative at the following link. https://www.scojec.org/resources/joes_boxes/joes_boxes.html

Christmas Cards Project

We are again using Art Projects for Schools Ltd (APFS) for a Christmas Card project this year. The funds raised through your support will be used towards additional resources for the school, from which the children will benefit. Your child should, by now, have brought home their original artwork. To order cards featuring that design, simply visit <https://www.apfsorders.co.uk> and input the unique artwork code - found on the label on the reverse of your child's artwork - and your child's first name and surname. Orders must be placed by midnight on 7th November 2022.



BBC Children in Need - BE SPOTACULAR

We are finalising all the details for the big day, or rather DAYS, as we will be having three fun-filled Play for Pudsey days created, organised and led by Papdale's P7 classes. More details to follow next week.

Cinema Visits

Class P3/4S will be participating in the IntoFilm Festival this term, visiting the Picky Cinema on 16th November to see a free showing of The Croods 2: A New Age. Buses will leave the school at circa 9:30am for a 10am start. Pupils will be back at school in time for lunch. If you are able to join us as a parent helper please inform the office.

Similarly, Class P3M will be participating in the IntoFilm Festival this term, visiting the Picky Cinema on 23rd November to see a free showing of Clifford the Big Red Dog. Buses will leave the school at circa 9:30am for a 10am start. Pupils will be back at school in time for lunch. If you are able to join us as a parent helper please inform the office.

Similarly, Class P3E will be participating in the IntoFilm Festival this term, visiting the Picky Cinema on 9 November to see a free showing of Minions: The Rise of Gru. Buses will leave the school at circa 9:30am for a 10am start. Pupils will be back at school in time for lunch. If you are able to join us as a parent helper please inform the office.

Christmas Events

We have the following events pencilled in for the run-up to Christmas. We will advise as soon as possible should any of these dates change:

- Monday 12th December: P1 singalong in Infant Hall (Afternoon) **Parents/Carers Welcome**
- Tuesday 13th December: Pupil Christmas Lunch in Dining Hall (Lunchtime)
- Wednesday 14th December: P4 singalong in infant hall (Afternoon) **Parents/Carers Welcome**
- Thursday 15th December: P3 Play in Infant Hall (Afternoon AND Evening) **Parents/Carers Welcome**
- 16th/19th/20th/21st December: Year Group Parties in Infant Hall and Gym Hall (Afternoon)
- *DATE TBC:* *School Discos after school in Infant Hall*
- Wednesday 21st December: Christmas at St Magnus Cathedral (Morning)

Primary School Football

Teams have now been selected by the coaches for the Primary School Football League this year and pupils have been informed whether they have been selected. Training continues to take place at KGS on Thursday evenings for those selected for the teams. The cost per session remains £1.50. This payment contributes to the cost of team registration (£100 per team) and hire of KGS.

Full fixture dates to be confirmed but the first day will be Saturday the 12th November, with approximately five weeks of fixtures before Christmas and another five after Christmas. We've been informed by the League that, as per last year, fixtures will be held at Picky between 4-8pm generally with a mini-league format which will mean teams will play a number of fixtures for approximately one hour each time.

Primary School Netball (P6/P7)

Teams have now been selected by the coaches for the Primary School Netball League this year and pupils have been informed whether they have been selected. Training continues to take place after school on Wednesdays in our Infant Hall for those selected for the teams. The cost per session remains 50p. This payment contributes to the cost of team registration.

We are also running a 'fun' netball session after school on Mondays in the Infant Hall for those P6/P7 pupils who missed out on a squad place but still wish to practice and play some friendly games. This will be free of charge as there are no registration or hire costs.

Primary School Netball (P5)

We will be holding two free-to-attend P5 netball team selection events on the Infant Hall (315 - 415pm) on Thursday 27 October and Thursday 3 November. Details on future training sessions and costs of participating will be shared with those pupils selected after these sessions.

Halloween and a Road Safety Reminder

We are asking that pupils do not wear Halloween costumes to school on Monday 31st October but, in recognition of the date, our Junior Road Safety Officers are running a colouring-in competition to raise awareness of the need to be bright and be seen this Halloween. They also ask that parents and carers are extra considerate in the darker months and absolutely stick to parking and striding from the KGS carpark. Papdale Halls of Residence have also requested that, for safety reasons, parents and carers do not use PHoR as a dropping off point.

Papdale Participation Fund

We are pleased to announce that an anonymous donation, which was matched by charitable and gift-aid contributions, has resulted in the establishment of a joint School/Parent Council Papdale Participation Fund which currently sits at almost £3K. This fund will help us to ensure that no pupils miss out on experiences due to financial hardship.

Sensory Room

Despite the incredible investment in books, we are still yet to completely spend the funding raised by the Parent Council with the Miles in May initiative. I am pleased to report that we've now identified and refurbished a space for the promised and long-awaited Sensory Room, and we hope to have this fully equipped and ready to launch by the end of this calendar year. Thanks for your generous help in making these amazing developments possible.

Scholastic Bookfair

I'm also pleased to report that your investment in purchasing books at the recent Scholastic Book Fair, held around Parents' Evening, combined with the credits we received from Miles in May book purchases, leaves the school with a Scholastic balance of just over £500 to spend on more new books for the school. This, combined with the very popular Book Neuk, must place us as one of the most pro-active, literacy-focused schools in the land.

Rights Respecting Schools Award

Papdale Primary have registered for this award which looks at UNCRC - UNICEF UK (United Nation's Convention on the Rights of the Child). The Papdale Voices will begin to lead activities towards our Bronze Award this term by kicking off with an introductory assembly for the whole school on Monday 31st October. Watch this space as we will be sharing more information with parents/carers soon. The Papdale Voices will also lead Anti-Bullying Week 2022 - Listen Up! (Respect our Rights) 14-18 November 2022.

Dyslexia Awareness Week 31st October - 6th November 2022

You might see some of us wearing a blue ribbon to mark the week along with activities done in the classroom and at assembly. For more information on Dyslexia follow the link: <https://dyslexiascotland.org.uk/dyslexia-awareness-week/>

Changes and Additions

That's all for now, I'll keep you updated with any changes or new additions to the calendar via GroupCall and the Events section of the school website. We will write again in the new year, letting you know of upcoming events including the much-anticipated visit of the Orkney Drug Dog to each class.

With very best wishes,

Steven Burnett

School Business Manager