

Parent Council Meeting – Tuesday 7th December 2021

Head Teacher's Report

I would like to start by thanking the Parent Council for all your help and support leading up to Christmas. The children are very excited about their class parties which the teachers have been able to organise thanks to the money that you delivered to the school last week. We are also grateful for agreeing to pay for the cost of the online pantomime and special treats for the children to enjoy while watching the performance which will take place in classrooms using the Smart Board screens at set times. Let us hope that this time next year, all of the performances will once again be performed live and in person.

Along with many schools across the UK, I received an email a few weeks ago from Bob Swinbank at TreeAppeal.com. After a few emails between the two of us, we received this morning 40 saplings from Alba Trees PLC as part of the TreeAppeal.com project. So far, 31,350 trees have been planted across 220 schools and we are proud to now be a part of this scheme. Once the saplings have been planted, we will share the pictures for everyone to enjoy.

The Eco group have been very active every day in the lunch hall setting up a station where plastic water bottles are now not just put in the general bin, but collected and counted before they are put back in for re-cycling. This is indeed a huge improvement and a clear sign that the messages from Learning for Sustainability and COP26 are being embraced by the whole school. We are also grateful to the Parent Council for the many re-usable water bottles that have been delivered to the school. Children that do not have a re-usable bottle have been given one of the donated bottles which has their own name on it and stays in school so that it will always be available for them to use. So far, half of the bottles donated have already been given out to very appreciative pupils.

We have applied for the Celtic Connections Free In-School workshops for 2022 which offers workshops in traditional music, song and stepdance. The workshops are led by professional Celtic artists as tutors, and are free of charge. If we are not successful with the first allocation, the school will then be put on a priority list for future offers.

Our Literacy Leaders have new recruits from Primary 6 after filling in their application forms. They have already been busy helping launch the Reading Challenge. Prizes are available for classes that read the most. Mathletes have also been very pro-active and have started peer support to help P1 and P2 pupils with their confidence in maths. P7 have been involved in the PEPSS programme to develop leadership skills and next term, this will move onto developing leadership roles at home.

We had unexpected visitors in the school today. Following our weekly fire alarm test, the school was contacted by the Fire Service telling us that they had deployed a Fire Engine to the school in what turned out to be a false alarm at the Fire Service call centre. The visit was certainly not wasted. P2 came down to meet the fire crew as one of the pupil's dad was one of the firemen. Many excited children came outside to meet the crew and they enjoyed seeing the lights and hearing the siren as we all waved to the fire crew as they left.

It is with sadness that I have to inform you that, after 16 years of service at Cardonald Primary School, Lesley Grant will be leaving us at the end of this term. Lesley is an inspirational and thoroughly dedicated professional who will undoubtedly be missed by everyone in the school community. I am sure you will join me in thanking Lesley for her tremendous contribution to Cardonald Primary School and wishing her every health and happiness in her early retirement.

Best wishes,

Martin Coogan
Headteacher
Cardonald Primary School

Heateacher@cardonald-pri.glasgow.sch.uk