

Head Teacher's Report

I can think of only one place to start this month's Head Teacher's report and that is at the start of today. There was a great deal of excitement and anticipation across the whole school this morning as each class waited for the coaches to arrive and take the children, staff and parent helpers to the Pavilion Theatre for the Christmas Pantomime trip to see Aladdin. It was truly fantastic to hear the children heading out to the coaches and all the more special when we consider the challenges we have all faced over the last few years. The excitement will continue this Thursday at Assembly with some Owl Magic. I don't want to give away any surprises at this time but I look forward to sharing more of this event in the next HT report in January.

As we did not have a Parent Council meeting last month, I would like to take you back to another whole school event. Many children stayed on in school after 3pm to change into their wonderful costumes for our Halloween Disco. It was very well attended and it certainly looked like everyone had a fantastic time which was demonstrated by the many surprised and astounded faces when the lights came back on to announce that it was already time to line up to get ready to head home. Time does indeed fly when you are enjoying yourself and many thanks to Mrs Waddell for organising this wonderful event.

Mrs King has been very busy introducing many initiatives to help promote literacy skills across the school. Last month saw the launch of our 'Wizard's Word of the Week' during the whole school assembly. The infant department and upper school were each given a new word to use in a variety of ways. Three of the school's Literacy Leaders had everyone spellbound as they waved their Wizard's Wands to weave their magic and make sure the new words would be well used over the next week. This will be a regular feature in our weekly assembly programme so please ask your child what the word of the week is after each Thursday Assembly and try different ways to use the 'Wizard's Word of the Week' at home or when you are out and about with your family. We will also share the word of the week on twitter.

It was lovely to welcome so many families to the Parents' Evening which took place on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November respectively. We look forward to seeing you in the school for the Open Days as well and more details will follow in the New Year.

We are grateful to those families for signing up to Parent Pay over the last few weeks. The speed and accuracy of service at lunchtime has improved greatly due to orders being placed in advance. Those children who have pre-ordered have been going to the dinner hall first to make sure they receive the meal they have chosen. Please note Parent Pay can also be used to pay for school trips or to update your own contact details without informing the school office.

I am delighted to announce that we will be offering after school clubs for the following activities: **Monday**- P2 Multisport and P7 Football **Tuesday**- P6 Basketball **Wednesday**- P5 Football and **Thursday**- P7 Badminton

Rehearsals with the school choir are well under way now as we have been invited to perform a Christmas Program at Prince's Square on the 19<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for the pupils and the school and we are very excited at the prospect of singing at such a wonderful setting.

During the month of November, all classes paid a visit to Cardonald Library and thank you to all the parents and carers who were able to join their child for this visit. P7 and P7/6 also visited the library on the 15<sup>th</sup> November to hear author Alex Nye talk about her spooky stories.

Once again, we have been working with Dan the Storyman and this term there is a project called, 'The Cardonald Worm' which will link learning for sustainability with a story that all of the children will help create and then share whole school. As well as the obvious literacy benefits, this project will further enhance and encourage the way our pupils look at and view not just their local surroundings but also the world around them from a different perspective.

All P2 and P3 parents/carers will be invited into school to work alongside their child with the help of our Mathletes and Literacy Leaders. Activities will be centred around the resources and activities from the Read, Write, Count bags and the bags themselves will be given to all pupils in P2 and P3 after the sessions.

As always, if there is anything you wish to discuss or if you have any concerns, please use the Headteacher email address at the bottom and I will get back to you as quickly as possible.

Best wishes,  
Martin Coogan - Headteacher