

Park Primary School SWAYing into Christmas with News, Learning, Achievements, and Loads of Fun!



1 - Greetings and welcome to the last newsletter of the year!

Before sharing our news, we would like to begin by expressing our gratitude.

To each parent, thank you for being an integral part of our school family. Your engagement, encouragement, and partnership have made a significant impact on the success of our pupils and the overall vibrancy of our community.

A sincere thank you to the members of our Parent Council. Your dedication and tireless efforts have enriched the experiences of all our pupils and made our school a better place. Your support in organising events, fundraisers, and providing valuable insights have been invaluable.

Our exceptional teaching and support staff have worked tirelessly to create a nurturing environment for our children. Thank you for your hard work and commitment.

Our pupils have shone brightly this year. Their achievements are a testament to their hard work, supported by your encouragement and guidance. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them.

As we approach the holiday season, we extend our warmest wishes to you and your families. Enjoy the well-deserved break, and we'll see you in the New Year!

Classroom Highlights

Primary 2/1 chose to do cooking this term. The children made ice-cream, baked biscuits, made sandwiches and pizzas. They learned and practised many food preparation techniques: mixing, rolling, kneading, chopping, slicing, grating and spreading. Along the way the children also learned about hygiene and how to follow a recipe.

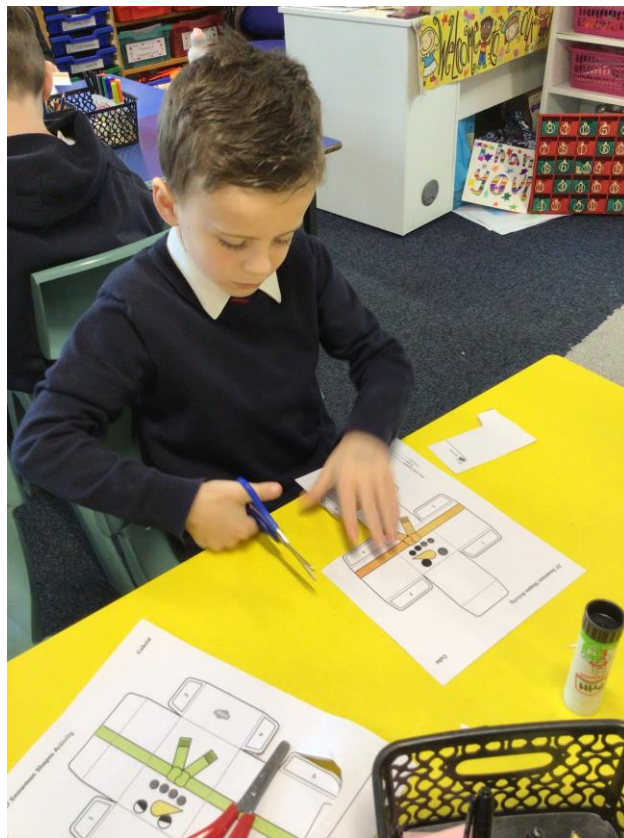


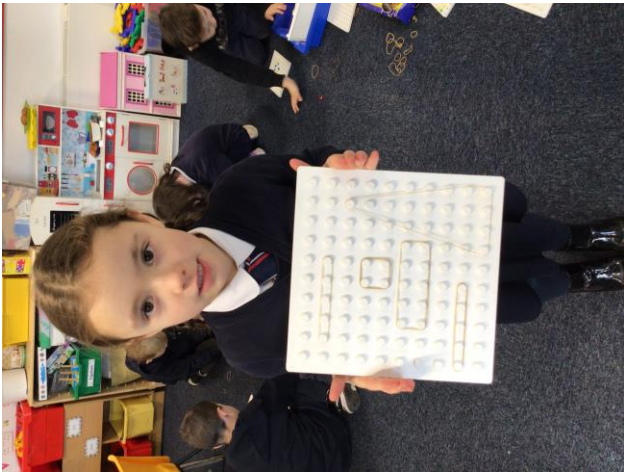


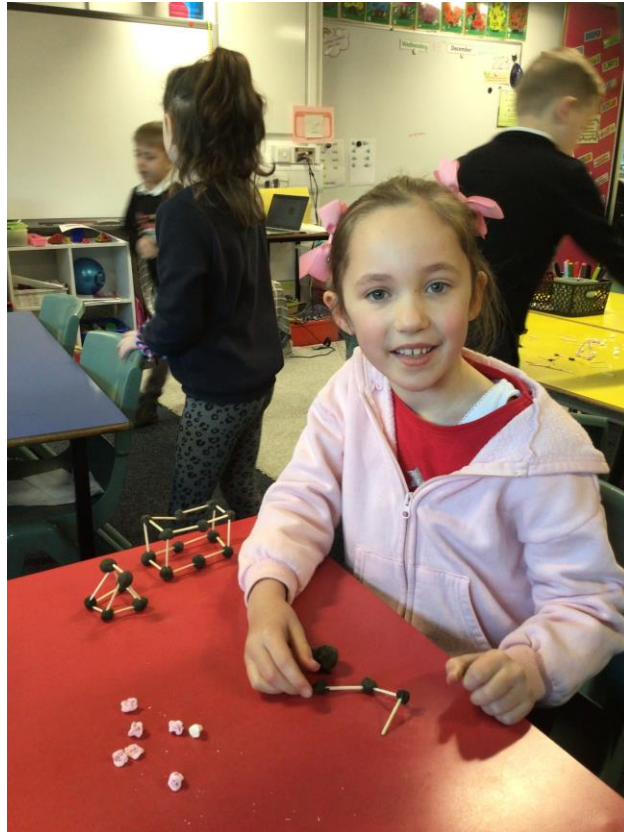
It has been another busy term in P3/2!

Part of our learning over the past couple of weeks has involved investigating 2D shapes and 3D objects – both inside and outside the classroom.

To support their understanding of the properties of various shapes and objects, the children made 2D shapes using Geoboards and elastic bands and cut out 2D nets to make 3D models. They used matchsticks and Play-Doh to create 3D objects, including cubes, cuboids, square-based pyramids and triangular prisms. In addition, the children carried out a variety of building projects using different construction resources.







Primary 4 have had another busy term. Although the children have worked very hard and made super progress in all areas there have certainly been some stand out moments for the class!

They did an absolutely amazing job of hosting an Open Afternoon. Mrs Danks was so proud of how well they performed and of how they were able to share their learning with our visitors whilst exploring a range of topic-based activities.

Their presenting skills have been developed too during our rehearsals for the Christmas concert and the children are really looking forward to performing for their families!

They made Miss Bryan feel very welcome, so welcome in fact that she didn't want to leave at the end of her six week placement! J

Finally, Primary 4 were also lucky enough to experience another STEM workshop. This time, they were working on their coding skills and using an online programme to control a small robot – great fun was had by all!

We're all looking forward to our Christmas holidays and to see what next term brings!





It has been a busy term in P4/3! Our first topic was the human body and we enjoyed learning lots about the skeleton, the organs and our five senses. We undertook an experiment to discover how our digestive system functions and we sculpted our very own model skeletons, using salt dough we had made by applying our measuring skills. We also spent time designing our own Christmas centrepieces for the school fair and created these out of holly, berries and baubles. This term we have been learning lots about non-fiction texts and we have been reading some great non-fiction books from our school library.





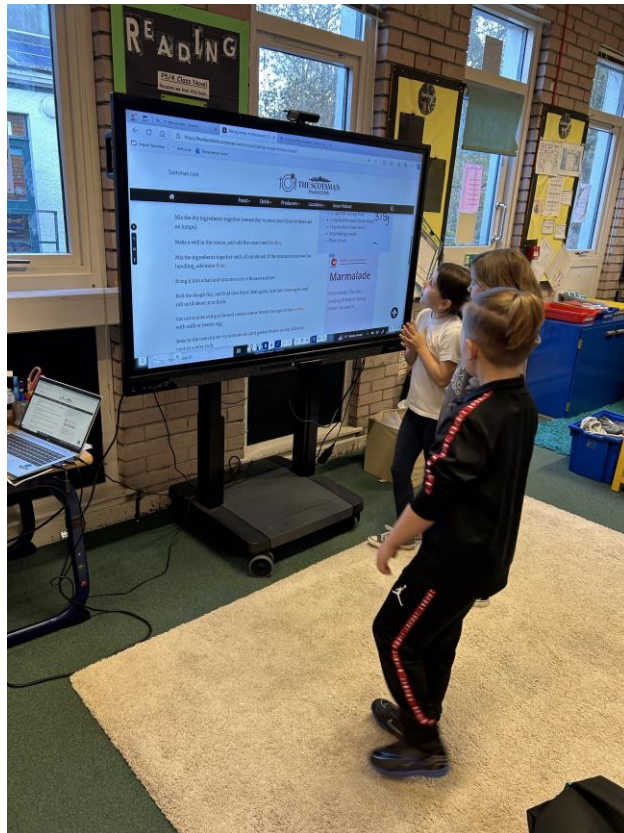




Primary 5/4 have had an extremely busy term learning all about the human body. We were very excited to invite our families in to see all our learning and look forward to doing so again in the future.

More recently, we have been learning all about writing instructions and recipes. We made model lungs and wrote up the process to allow others to complete the experiment too. We also made Irn Bru Scones to celebrate St Andrew's Day and wrote up the recipe - they were delicious!

Members of Primary 5/4 also achieved a Blue Peter Book Club Badge as part of our learning about 'reading for enjoyment'. Mrs Gunn is very proud and can't wait to see what Primary 5/4 achieve in the New Year.









We have had another busy term in Primary 6. We started off this busy term with a block of swimming which the children really enjoyed. We also had a fantastic time sharing our learning with the parents at the open afternoon, where the children showcased some of the things they have been learning about the human body. We completed this topic by visiting the Science Centre in Glasgow. It was lovely to take the children on such a fantastic trip.

We have also been busy this term learning songs for our visit to North Argyll House, the Rotary Club Christmas Concert and the school Christmas concert. It has been wonderful to watch the children's performance skills grow as their confidence has increased. We are very proud of them!





P6/5 have had a busy term, filled with lots of different learning experiences. One of the main highlights, has been the children's weekly Samba Drumming lessons with Mrs Bissett. They have learned about music from another culture, experienced playing with different instruments, worked cooperatively as a group, developed their listening skills, followed musical instruction, as well as keeping the rhythm!





P7 have had a busy term learning about the human body. The pupils put together excellent presentations and devised some fun senses experiments to try out on their classmates! They have also learned about several different body systems and the vital organs which relate to each system.

More recently, we have been very inventive, working in clan groups to decide on stalls for the Christmas Fayre. The clan leaders took charge, ensuring that each stall would be profitable by budgeting and deciding on selling prices, before setting everyone to work creating crafts, posters and yummy treats to sell!

We also had lots of fun learning some Ceilidh dances with Mrs Kelly!





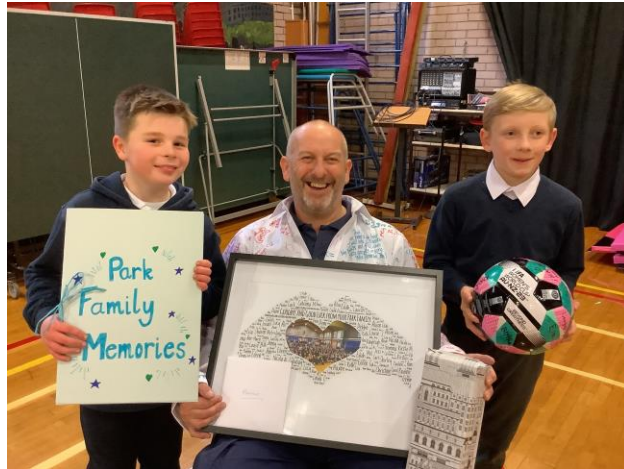




Other News



2 - Dropping off donations to Hope kitchen!



3 - Sad farewells...



4 - Awesome Parent World of Work Assembly.



5 - Thank you for the music!



6 - Thank you to our honorary Sports Council Captain, Bob MacIntyre. You are a true legend!

Open Afternoons and Stay & Play Sessions

Thank you for joining us at our recent Open Afternoons and Stay and Play sessions. Your presence, enthusiasm, and active participation truly made the events special. We all had a fantastic time exploring the wonders of the human body through fun experiments and activities, as well as experiencing the joy of learning through play.

We appreciate your role as partners in learning, and together, we're creating a collaborative and engaging educational environment for your children. Seeing your involvement in various activities and sharing in the excitement of your child's learning journey was wonderful. Your partnership enhances our school community, and we're grateful for the support you provide in laying a strong foundation for your child's education.

We also want to thank you for your feedback. Your insights and observations are incredibly valuable and help us make continuous improvements.

We look forward to more opportunities for sharing learning and value your ongoing support as partners in your child's learning journey.

Pupil Voice

CLAN News

The CLANS had great success with their Christmas Enterprise project. Iona made a grand total of £77 with their handmade coasters and trivia quiz. Kerrera generated an impressive £141 with their Santa sleighs and milkshake stalls, while Lismore earned a cool £60 with their hot chocolate bags and Santa hats. All the CLANS would like to thank the parents who helped and supported them with these projects. The CLANS split the profits with the Parent Council, and they intend to use their share for very special CLAN treats.

Pupil Council

The Pupil Council has had a very busy term gathering the voices and ideas of all pupils. They presented themselves to the entire school at assembly with a fantastic presentation, stating who they are and what they do. Pupil suggestions have been coming in thick and fast. While they can't make things like trampolines in the playground, they intend to raise funds next term to purchase an outdoor basketball hoop and some much-needed playground equipment.

Dog fouling is a recurring issue on the Pupil Council's agenda, and the Parent Council would like to extend a huge thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Morawski for their very kind donations of proper signage. This signage aims to help prevent dog owners from walking their dogs in our school playground.

High 5!

Our High5 book documents the achievements of our wonderful pupils outside of school. Every week at our whole school assembly, we celebrate these special accomplishments. Here are just a few examples of the fantastic achievements by our amazing pupils.

We ask you to encourage your child/children to contribute to this book. If they've demonstrated learning and perseverance outside of school to acquire a new skill or pursue a hobby, please encourage them to share their accomplishment through words or a picture. We look forward to celebrating their achievements together as a school community.

Thank you for your support in recognising and celebrating the talents and efforts of our pupils.

Parent Council



7 - The Parent Council extends its heartfelt gratitude to everyone who supported them throughout the year, especially those who contributed to the Christmas Fair, helping raise over £1500! Thank you!

For Your Information

Staffing

Our ASN, Gregor Campbell, will be leaving at the end of the term to begin his PGDE placement. We would like to thank Gregor for the help and support he has given to our boys and girls, and we wish him all the best with his course and for the future.

We are pleased to announce that Eilidh Hunter has recently joined our team as an ASN. We welcome her and look forward to having her on the team.

Help us improve!

Dear Parents/Carers,,

We would normally be sending Learning Logs home at this time of year, however we want to ensure that any communication about your child's progress is as relevant and meaningful as possible. We are currently reviewing the way in which we report on pupil progress so will not be sending Learning Logs home at this time. We would be very grateful if you could spare a couple of minutes to complete a short survey on the reporting methods currently used at Park.

The purpose of reporting is to support and improve children's learning. It is important that our parents and carers are fully involved in this process as we know that parental engagement in children's learning supports improved attainment and achievement.

We know that many parents value ongoing information about their child's progress rather than lengthy end of year reports which can leave little time to support your child's next steps in learning. Working together with parents, we aim to develop a simpler and more effective means of reporting on your child's progress. We hope to provide a range of meaningful and purposeful reporting opportunities throughout the year in order for you to gain a clear understanding of how your child is progressing and how to best support your child's learning at home.

Please click on the link to complete the survey: <https://forms.gle/MmmMbHbtsykgk6R89>

Dates for the Diary

- School will resume for staff and pupils on Thursday, 4th January 2024