

Garnetbank Gazette



2019-2020—Term 2



Dear Parents and Carers,

Can you believe it's nearly December? Time flies when you are having fun and being kept busy! Please read on for an update, important information, dates and events. We hope you continue to enjoy our regular updates in learning on twitter and our website too.

Happy reading and best wishes from the team at Garnetbank Primary

Christmas Raffle: Please continue to donate raffle prizes for Garnetbank's famous raffle. Children will be able to buy tickets in December (all money goes to the school fund). It will be drawn in school at a children's assembly on the last week. Any 'grown up' prizes will be kept in the office and we'll advise you if you are a winner! Tickets will be on sale to children in school in December in the pastoral room. 50p for 1, £2 for 5

Scotland Reads: This programme continues in Garnetbank, organised by Mrs Simpson and run by our volunteers. Thank you to all of our parent/grand parent helpers and volunteers (from Lloyds and TSB) for reading with children twice a week and boosting their learning!

Santa Presents: Every child will receive a gift from santa, funded by the money raised during the book fayre before summer.

New Resources: Our parent council have donated £500 from the money you help them raise to enable us to buy new library books. It was lovely to see how happy the children were about this, as we really do have a love of reading in Garnetbank! We will also be purchasing new reading materials for the whole school funded by your sponsored spell money. These materials are much needed and will ensure our children have high quality materials to learn from. Thank you so much for all of your support. It really does make such a difference.

Special Donation: A former pupil of Garnetbank has made a very generous donation to the school, in addition to teaching some forensic science to the p7s in the new year. His highly successful career has been in science and he continues to lecture at Glasgow University. We will be purchasing maths and science materials for the whole school thanks to this wonderful donation. It is so important to encourage our children in science, technology, engineering and maths, therefore we are creating the Dr Ian Dale 'STEM' award to recognise effort and determination in this area. We look forward to awarding this at our end of year assembly..

Office staff shortage: We do remain short staffed in our office at the moment, which poses a small challenge! We are all working as hard as we can to maintain our standards. If we don't immediately get back to you, please bare with us. Thank you for reducing the amount of requests for dropping off forgotten items or taking children out during school time. Thank you for phoning or email the absence line rather than the school. Mrs Tunn is on her own, so each request takes her away from the desk/phone and door. There are no office staff on a Wednesday afternoon so if possible please avoid at that time.

Parental survey: We haven't been able to formally collate the results of the survey yet due to staff shortage. However, I have read every one and found them very informative. I will provide more information in the next newsletter. Generally they paint a very positive picture about our school! They highlighted a couple of things we can consider to continue to improve and I appreciated your insights. Thanks to all who filled them in! To be continued...

PARENT COUNCIL— THANKS!

Our parent council is open to all parents to join. Martina— the chair, Claire- the secretary, alongside the rest of the hard working group, do so much for our school. They represent parent views, support the school and all of our children: They have spoken to many of you at our induction days, baked cakes and given a friendly welcome on the P1 first days, spoken to you at the open days and provided hot drinks and snacks at parents night. They also put on the wonderful Autumn celebration recently and have raised thousands of pounds for the school over the last few years from various events (with your help). You will see posters around the school gates encouraging you to join. It really does make such a difference to our children. If you are able to join, there are approximately 6 meetings a year and some events to support. If you can't join, you are welcome to attend the AGM and to provide your name if you can help out on a day or two. We will inform you all of the next meeting. Just turn up if you want to join. Many hands make light work!

I would personally like to thank every member of the parent council for helping our school be the best it can be!

Please read on for important dates. Thanks again, Linda Reed, Head Teacher

IMPORTANT DATES

UPCOMING TRIPS AND EVENTS

- **Friday 6th December** Jack and the Beanstalk at The Kings Theatre (All pupils and staff)

Children will have an early lunch before leaving for the theatre. We will return back to school for the usual finish time of 3pm.
- **Wednesday 11th December** - School Christmas Lunch
- **Thursday 12th December** - **School closed** to pupils due to Voting
- **Tuesday 17th December** - Christmas Assembly - Parents and Carers to attend 9.30am start

Choir performance and Nativity performed by P2/1 classes, Parent Council bake sale (please donate homebaking)
- **Thursday 19th December** - Non Uniform Day – bring along £1 – goes to school funds

CHRISTMAS/ NEW YEAR HOLIDAY DATES

Finish - Thursday 19th December – 2.30pm

School closed - Friday 20th December 2019 to Friday 4th January 2020 (inclusive)

Return to school – Monday 6th January 2020 - 9am

PARTIES

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| P3 | Tuesday 10th Dec (morning after break) |
| P5, P6 and P7's | Wednesday 11th Dec (afternoon) |
| 2/1's, P4/3, P5/4 and P2 | Friday 13th Dec (morning after break) |

This year children will be provided with party snacks, funded by your donations, thank you. Children can wear party clothes if they wish on the day of their party. Please send to school wearing shoes suitable for party games and activities as well as outdoor play during break/lunch.

Wishing everyone a wonderful festive period and happy holidays,

Team Garnetbank