



Lighting the Paths of Learning - Learn, Include, Global Citizenship, Health, Together

Kindness

Respect

Responsible

Resilient

DECEMBER 2025

WEBSITE: <http://www.st-gerardine.moray.sch.uk>

EMAIL: admin.stgerardinesp@moray-edunet.gov.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome to our new monthly newsletter, and what a fantastic month to start with – December! Everything is starting to feel very festive today, the children have been talking about opening their advent calendars and we had a lovely primary 2 – 4 Carol Concert dress rehearsal in St. James' Church today. Their enthusiasm for singing Rudolf the Red Nose Reindeer cannot be matched!

There are lots of exciting and festive events happening between now and the end of term on the 19th December. Hopefully they will all be captured in this newsletter, and as always with schools, some dates may change, however we will always endeavour to get that information out to you as soon as possible.



Skipping Challenge



Congratulations to Ms Mackay for completing her amazing skipping challenge of 30 days skipping for British Heart Foundation with a total of 15031 skips. She also wanted to thank Primary 4/5 for their amazing support and joining in with her on her skipping sessions at lunchtimes. Very Well done Ms Mackay!

Active Schools - Junior Park Run

LARGE SCHOOL LEAGUE TABLE		
Position	School	Points
1	Bishopmill Primary School	57
2	Greenwards Primary School	33
3	St Gerardine Primary School	30

Well done to everyone who took part in the recent Junior Park Run event in November. Our next league date is on Sunday 28th December – Despite being in the holidays, we still run the league. As always, please feel free to share the attached poster (attached with this newsletter) with sign details and dates with newcomers who can sign up anytime. The more the better!

Full results are found on the parkrun website - <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/cooperpark-juniors/results/latestresults/>

Attendance:

Mrs Mackenzie-Copp has been keeping a really close eye on attendance and this month's top attendance goes to:

1st place – 97.3% Primary 4

2nd place – 94.57% Primary 6

3rd place – 93.62% Primary 1

Whole school 93.54%

Well done to the top 3 classes for great attendance percentages, who will be the top class for attendance next month?

Christmas Performances:

P2 - P4/5 First Level Carol Concert at St. James' Church- Tuesday 2nd December 2pm - no tickets necessary

P5 -7 Second Level Christmas Show - Thursday 11th December

Show performances: 9.30am - 10.30am and 1.45pm - 2.45pm

Thank you to everyone who completed the online ordering for P5 – 7 performance tickets. They will be issued soon!

Nursery & P1 Early Level Christmas Show - Tuesday 16th December Show performances: 9.30am and 2.00pm

This year Primary 1 and nursery children will be performing some much loved Christmas songs. Each child has a small role within the show. We will send out which part your child has later this week and any items of clothing they may require. The children will be making refreshments for you. We will be asking for a small donation for this on the day. Please note we are limited to 2 adults per child per performance.

Shared Learning Events



We have lots of exciting shared learning events happening across the school before the end of term. Look out to see if your child's class has an event coming up and it would be lovely to have you come and join us for them.

P1s – Tuesday 2nd December 2.30pm

P2 and P2/3 – Wednesday 3rd December 2.30pm

P5 and P5/6 – Tuesday 9th December 2.30pm

P3, P3/4 and P4/5 – Monday 15th December 2.30pm

P7s – Thursday 18th December 2.30pm



Lighting the Paths of Learning - Learn, Include, Global Citizenship, Health, Together

Kindness

Respect

Responsible

Resilient

Come as you Please – Thursday 4th December

On Thursday 4th December, we will be holding our festive come as you please day and asking for a voluntary donation of a gift for the Parent Council – Christmas Gift Shop, which will be held on the same day at 3pm in the school hall. All children are warmly invited to come as they please, however we will ask for no football strips, thank you and we hope you can join us at 3pm for the Christmas Gift Shop.



Christmas Fair – Friday 5th December 3pm – 5pm



Our Parent Council are incredibly busy at this time of year organising so many festive events, and they have been working incredibly hard to plan our Christmas Fair on Friday 5th December at 3pm. We hope you are able to join us, there will be lots of amazing craft stalls, Santa's grotto and more! If anyone is able to help our fantastic Parent Council, please let us know and we hope you can join us on the 5th December, thank you.

Christmas Dinner – Wednesday 10th December

It is very exciting that our Christmas dinner day is nearly upon us! The canteen will be serving Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 10th December.

The options for that day will be:

Lentil Soup

Turkey Dinner

Vegetable Puff – changes from previous menu

Egg sandwich - changes from previous menu

If you could fill in the survey below so we have a rough idea of numbers for each it would be appreciated.

<https://eu.surveymars.com/q/TxxWRqOYa>



Christmas Jumper day – Wednesday 10th December



On our Christmas dinner day, we will also be having our Christmas Jumper day. This year there is no donation to be made, and there is no expectation for any parent to buy new jumper for this event. Thank you to everyone who has been really generous and donated any pre-loved Christmas Jumpers to the school, these are available before school starts near the school reception area, if anyone would like one, thank you.

School Gates at Pick up and Drop Off Times

Since joining the school last month, several staff members have been expressing concerns



about the number of parents and carers dropping off in the school car park which is reserved for School Staff and disabled badge holders only. Concerns have centred on parents and carers dropping children off in the car park and near misses happening. None of us want any children to be hurt on their way to school, and I would respectfully ask that all children are dropped off out with the staff car park and that they enter the school through the pupil entrance, not across the car park, thank you. If the number of parents and carers entering the car park continues, we will look having a member of staff monitoring the car park. This is not something we want to have to do, and we hope parents and carers will work with us, however to keep all of our children safe this may be something we have to do.

Parent Council Meeting

The Parent Council meeting on Monday 24th November was very well attended and it was lovely to meet our elected Parent Council Members. All parents and carers are part of our school parent forum and welcome to join any of the Parent Council meetings, or help with any fundraising events. If anyone is able to help at the Christmas Fair please do get in touch with Mrs McDade who will let the Parent Council know, thank you. The next Parent Council meeting is on Monday 2nd February at 6pm in the school hall.



DIARY DATES

DECEMBER

2nd – First Level Primary 2-4/5 Carol Concert at St. James' Church 2.00pm

P1 Shared Learning

3rd – P2 and P2/3 Shared learning 2.30pm

4th – Come as you please

Christmas Gift Shop 3pm

5th – Christmas Fair 3pm – 5pm

9th – School Choir singing for the Veterans

10th – Christmas Jumper / Christmas Dinner

11th – Second Level – Primary 5 – 7 Performance
9.30am and 1.45pm

12th Christmas card deadline

15th – Christmas Jumper Week

Christmas Party for P5/6

Shared Learning – P3, P3/4 and P4/5

16th – Early Level Show – Nursery and P1, 9.30am and 2pm

17th – Christmas Parties for:



Lighting the Paths of Learning - Learn, Include, Global Citizenship, Health, Together

Kindness

Respect

Responsible

Resilient

All P1s, P2, P2/3, P3, P4/5, P5, P6 and all P7s more information to follow

Christmas Cards come home

18th – Christmas Assembly 9.30am at St. James' Church

Shared learning – P7

Christmas Party P3/4

19th – End of term, dress down day and carols at 2.40pm in the playground, everyone welcome to join us



Attendance totals and wall display in school

5th – Start of term school opens at 8.55am

13th – Primary 1 Heights and Weights checks – TBC

14th – Elgin Burns Club judging poems

26th – Primary 7 Parents' Evening

27th – P1 – 6 Parent's Evening

Primary 7 Information evening at LHS

28th – Primary 1 – 7 Parents' Evening

It has been amazing to join the staff team, at this festive time of year. There are so many fantastic activities still coming up before the end of term and I hope that you are able to join us at either our shared learning, festive events or the brilliant events organised by the Parent Council after school – especially our Christmas Fayre this week. Wishing everyone a very happy and festive December,

Best wishes,

Mrs Wolford, Head Teacher.



Christmas Jumpers Donation Table – thank you to everyone who has donated pre loved jumpers so far. There is still time to drop off more donations if you have any. Pop along to the table before school if you would like a Christmas jumper.

