



# St Clement's School

## Newsletter - Winter 2018



The run up to Christmas is always very busy. Getting ready for the Nativity, the Party and Pantomime as well as the normal teaching and learning which always has a bit of extra Christmas sparkle at this time of year. For some people Christmas can be difficult and as a school community we take time to reflect on this. We continue to support the Highland foodbank and MFR Mission Christmas appeal. If you would benefit from either of these charities please do not hesitate to contact the Head Teacher and we can point you in the right direction. There is also a new fantastic app called 'Prevent Suicide Highland' which can be downloaded on either iPhone or android and provides useful information for those who need help or information around mental health. It has been a privilege to work with such wonderful pupils and their families and we wish you a very happy Christmas.

### News from the Nursery

The nursery pupils have been learning about shopping and social interaction within the community. They have been making choices and then paying and packing their items.



### Family Learning Sessions

Parents and pupils recently participated in the first of 4 music making and Gaelic song sessions with Feis Rois. The next learning session is on 24<sup>th</sup> January. Nursery and Primary: 9.30-10.15. Secondary: 10.15 – 11.30. Join with us if you can.



**Classes 5 and 6** organised a Harvest Collection for the Highland Foodbank. A large donation of food items from the school community was gratefully received by the Foodbank.

The next Family Fun Afternoon, organised by the Parent Council is on 19<sup>th</sup> January. This free event, is an opportunity to meet other families and socialise together.

Designing Christmas cards for the Festive Charity Christmas Card Competition organised by Ian Blackford, MP, has been one of the many activities classes 5 and 6 have enjoyed this year.

They have been busy with swimming lessons, outdoor learning in the community, preparing snacks with John at the Youth Café and, always top of the list, football at Ross County.

Academic learning has been important too! Everyone particularly enjoyed making Plasticine models showing the different layers of Planet Earth - 'It's like an onion!' (Cameron Shaw). Our 'One World' interdisciplinary learning is so much fun.



*Scott Ross' entry for the Christmas Card Competition*

### Class 8

This session Class 8 have been working hard at their ICT. We are slowly but surely mastering the Chromebooks and some pupils are able to show leadership in their learning by supporting other pupils and staff. The pupils are developing skills in using Google Slides and Wix websites to share information effectively. Class 8 have also been learning about transition opportunities with a trip to the Transition Fayre and a visit from a former pupil. On top of all of this they have been working well at their Maths, English, PE, Performing Arts and Social Subjects.

Our last newsletter featured our YPI programme, where senior pupils were about to make a presentation on their chosen charity to a judging panel. Both teams presented very well, with Team Generous Giving's securing £3000 for Sight Action and Team Creating Happiness gifting £100, donated by the Rotary, to CHAS.



**Class 7** One of the highlights of our learning this term has been volunteering for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Pupils were involved with organising a MacMillan Coffee Morning, raising the fantastic amount of £461. Recently they hosted a Tinsel Tea for Dingwall Men's Shed and Wyvis Care Home. Feedback from the guests was very positive and we look forward to developing our skills through further volunteering opportunities. Students continue to work hard in all their curricular learning and are becoming familiar with using Chromebooks in the class room. The class was delighted that Alix Mackay was a finalist in the Highland Heroes Brave Child of the Year Award. Alix enjoyed an evening of celebration with family, friends and the other awards finalists at the Kingsmill Hotel.



For information on school closures in adverse weather. Call (08005642272 followed by the PIN 043000) [www.highland.gov.uk/schooldlosures](http://www.highland.gov.uk/schooldlosures)

### Pupil Absences

If your child is absent, please inform the school office on the first morning of absence on either 0800 564 2272 (043000) or the school number 01349 863284 as well as the relevant taxi company. **In cases of Diarrhoea and Vomiting, children should not be sent to school for 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting and will not be allowed to swim for 2 weeks following the last episode .**

Thank you to Dingwall Co- op for making us one of their local causes. Also to the Men's Shed for tidying the Community Garden.



### Parent Council News

The Parent Council have been very busy. We raised an amazing £5882.60 through various fund raising activities, many thanks to all who organised, helped and contributed. These funds will be used to directly benefit the pupils, ideas welcome!

We have also started Family Fun days, aiming for monthly sessions, to provide an opportunity for families to get together.

We continue to liaise with THC and other bodies in our efforts to secure a new school building. Please contact Christyna; email [fergunator75@gmail.com](mailto:fergunator75@gmail.com) if you can offer support in this.

If you have any queries or are able to support the Parent Council in any way, please contact Joanna; [jo.dymock99@gmail.com](mailto:jo.dymock99@gmail.com) (P.C. secretary) or Avril; [avrilgary@btinternet.com](mailto:avrilgary@btinternet.com) (P.C. Chair)

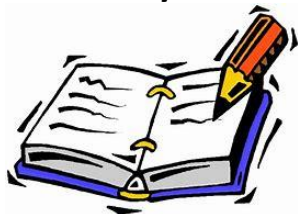
We are very appreciative of individuals and organisations who have generously donated to school funds in recent months. These include: Dingwall Rotary Club, St Clements Church, Ardross and Alness Bowling Club, Gillian Mackay, Royal Arch, Oscars Sports Bar, Ferguson Family, Robert Kotschviejew, Ross and Strathpeffer Senior Golf Members, and Mr. and Mrs. Lees.

We also thank the MacLean family for their continued generous contribution of our Christmas party and pantomime visit, Ross County for providing the venue and Tesco Dingwall for donating Christmas gifts for pupils.

***We'd love to see you at our Nativity Service on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December, 10.30 am, in Dingwall Free Church (across from the railway station). Refreshments served afterwards.***



### Dates for your Diary



**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December** – School closes for the Christmas Holidays  
**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January** – School re-opens for the Spring Term  
**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January** – Family Fun Afternoon, Maryburgh Hall, 2-4 pm  
**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January** – Family Learning Sessions with Feis Rois  
**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February** – In-service Closure  
**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February** – In-service Closure  
**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** -Family Fun Afternoon, Maryburgh Hall, 2-4pm  
**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April** – School closes for the Easter Holidays

 [@school\\_clement](https://twitter.com/school_clement)

St Clement's Practical Autism <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZYIMzYSDLH5ht0ONkcAh9g>

Inspiring Ambition



Nurturing Happiness