



MUIREDGE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2022

The most wonderful time . . .

Merry Christmas from all at Muiredge! We have been extremely busy over the last term, but as always have been working incredibly hard learning and showcasing our super work. Christmas is a time to spread festive cheer and this newsletter rounds up our last term and the success we have had.

Christmas Café 2022



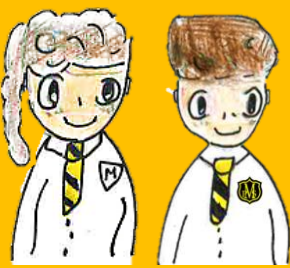
Last week saw our fantastic Christmas Café take place. This year we had fabulous performances from all classes and our wonderful P1 and p2 pupils who were involved in our nativity 'Born in a Barn'.

We also had a wide range of musical talent on display in the form of our junior and transition orchestra, brass and wind performances and of course the super Muiredge choir. What a talented and Musical school we have!

Parents and friends were an excellent audience and enjoyed a mince pie and a cup of tea. We have to say a big thank you to the parent helpers who supported this event serving in our café kitchen, without you the café wouldn't be possible. Our Café raised an amazing £3000, so a huge thank you to parents and friends for your kind donations, all money raised support our school fund which helps us provide exciting learning opportunities for our children.



Be The Best You Can Bee



Community Advent Calendar

Miss Ashwood has started her very own Muiredge tradition this year and created a fantastic community advent calendar across the windows at the front of our beautiful school building. Pupils, staff and parents have contributed and it has been a delight spotting the new advent windows appear each morning. Thanks to all who contributed.

Eco Fayre

On Friday the 25th November we hosted our fabulous Eco Fayre, classes around the school have been learning about a wide range of Eco topics as part of our interdisciplinary learning. Our Fayre showcased all of our hard work and allowed our super pupils to share important eco information with parents and friends. We even finished the day off with Mrs Miller, Miss Ashwood and Mrs Lee taking part in a fashion show wearing recycled outfits designed by pupils. A huge thank you to Mrs Gray who planned and coordinated this event. Mrs Gray is hopeful that we can achieve our Green flag and will be working with the boys and girls to do this next year.



Time to say farewell

We are bidding a fond farewell to Miss Sullivan who is relocating to England after the Christmas holidays. Miss Sullivan has been part of the Muiredge team for 8 years and will be greatly missed. We wish to thank Miss Sullivan for her hard work and dedication to our children and for the excellent learning opportunities she has provided. Miss Sullivan is a skilled practitioner and a lover of literacy, developing our school library and reading buddies partnership over the years. We wish her every success in her new adventure down south.

We are also going to be saying goodbye to Robert our Cook in Charge after the Christmas break. Robert is joining the menu development team and is seconded until June to build community partnership work across South Lanarkshire schools. Robert serves lunch with a smile and always goes the extra mile for the children and families of Muiredge. We wish him good luck in his new post and note that he is always welcome to pop in to see us!



Learning In Focus

Supporting Your Child At Home:

Bedtime Reading

11 great reasons to make a bedtime story a priority

2023 THE YEAR OF READING



Next Year is set to be the year of reading in Muiredge. As part of our improvement journey we continue to build a culture of reading for enjoyment and will be supporting our youngsters to read more often for enjoyment and share the experience of a good story. To support us in the venture we are asking for parents as part of New Year resolutions to read more, either yourself as positive role models or with your child.

We appreciate as busy parents by bedtime, you yourself some nights would ideally like to be tucked in and read to! But we want to highlight the importance of reading with your child everyday, that bedtime story is such an important ritual and something we want all of our children to experience. So with this in mind We've rounded up 11 great reasons to make bedtime stories a priority whenever you can.

1. Its good bonding time

Whatever your child's age, sharing a bedtime story gives them a time when they have you all to themselves – something that may not happen at any other point of the day.

2. It improves your child's reading skills

Just because you're the one doing the reading, don't assume that your child isn't learning. 'You'll be surprised by how much children grasp when you're reading a bedtime story, following the words and starting to recognise them on the page.

A bedtime story is also a good opportunity for shared reading, for example taking it in turns to read a page – or a paragraph, depending on your child's ability.

3. It sparks imagination

Unicorns, wizards, fairies and monsters... Books open up whole new worlds to children, both real and imagined, and sharing a bedtime story will take them to places they'd never have dreamed of. So while you might be in a rush to finish the book and get on with your evening, allow time in your bedtime routine to chat about what you're reading: you'll be helping your child's development and gaining a fascinating insight into how their mind works.

4. It creates conversation

Any parent who's read a bedtime story will know that the words on the page are only part of the experience. You'll also be answering questions, explaining concepts and talking about what's happening on the page.

Reading together can trigger all sorts of wonderful questions and stimulate conversation, which can help children understand their own place in the world.

5. Making a routine means you won't forget

We all know that certain tasks get overlooked in the hustle and bustle of daily life, but if you make reading a part of your child's bedtime routine – as important as brushing their teeth – it means you're less likely to forget.

6. It expands your child's vocabulary

Did you know that children need to hear a word up to 12 times before they can start to use it themselves? Reading a bedtime story will give your child this exposure to new words (especially if you're reading the same book, night after night!) and so build their vocabulary.

7. It improves their emotional intelligence

Books can help little people deal with big feelings, and sharing a bedtime story can be a way into discussing difficult situations. Reading helps children recognise that they are not alone, and that others have faced the same problems and feelings as them.

8. It encourages independent reading

Don't fall into the trap of thinking that reading to your child will make them 'lazy' and less likely to read by themselves. A report by the Reading Agency found that children are more likely to read through free choice if reading is enjoyable in the first place, and reading to your child at bedtime is a great way to help them fall in love with books.

9. It improves mental wellbeing

Recent research by the National Literacy Trust found a link between reading and mental wellbeing, so sharing a bedtime story with your child could help to improve their emotional health.

10. It helps you (both) relax and unwind

Many of us introduce a bedtime story in the baby days as part of our little one's evening routine, and it can still help promote relaxation at bedtime even for older children.

At the end of a busy day, a bedtime story can be a way of leaving the day behind, helping the whole family switch off so that whatever stress and noise has happened throughout the day can be forgotten.

11. It's good even for children who can read by themselves

Yes, it's tempting to ditch the bedtime story once your child is an independent reader, but there are many benefits in carrying it on, even though they can read by themselves.

'Once children learn to read, they need to stay engaged with books that interest them, and this can often be books that are slightly more advanced than their reading level.

(Information sourced from: www.theschoolrun.com)



Happy Reading Everyone!



Church Service



We are looking forward to returning to Uddingston Old Parish for our Christmas service on Thursday 22nd December at 10,30am. Parents and friends welcome to attend. Our young instrumentalists and choir will be performing and spreading some festive cheer.

Equity at Christmas



Our Equity Elf Mrs Lee has been hard at work ensuring all children receive a visit from Santa. Muiredge have been working in partnership with the staff at Dunelm in the Tannochside Retail park, who set up a gifting tree and have donated generously to support our families. We were overwhelmed with the donations. We have also been supported by Viewpark Church who donated food hampers. Thank you so much!

Our winter jacket and Christmas jumper drive was a huge success, we wish to set up a more permanent swap shop in the New Year. We have also got a new family support worker called Maxine from Barnardos who will be working with us next year, this is funded from our pupil equity fund.

Thank you to staff

A huge thank you to the staff of Muiredge who have been Christmas angels working away in the background learning songs, hosting parties and keeping learning going in amongst the Christmas festivities. We are so lucky to have such a committed staff team who really do go the extra mile for our families.

A final Thought . . . Memories

Christmas is a time to celebrate and be together and it has been heartwarming to welcome everyone back to celebrate a traditional Muiredge Christmas this session. I got to watch my own child perform at his Christmas show and was overwhelmed by emotion, which took me by surprise if I am honest. But it has made me reflect and realise that schools make memories to be cherished at Christmas time that will be recalled and replayed for years to come. I do hope you make magical memories this year, wishing you a very Merry Christmas and all the best for 2023!

Kind Regards

Leigh Miller (Head Teacher)