

Dates for Your Diary—November and December 2019

NOVEMBER

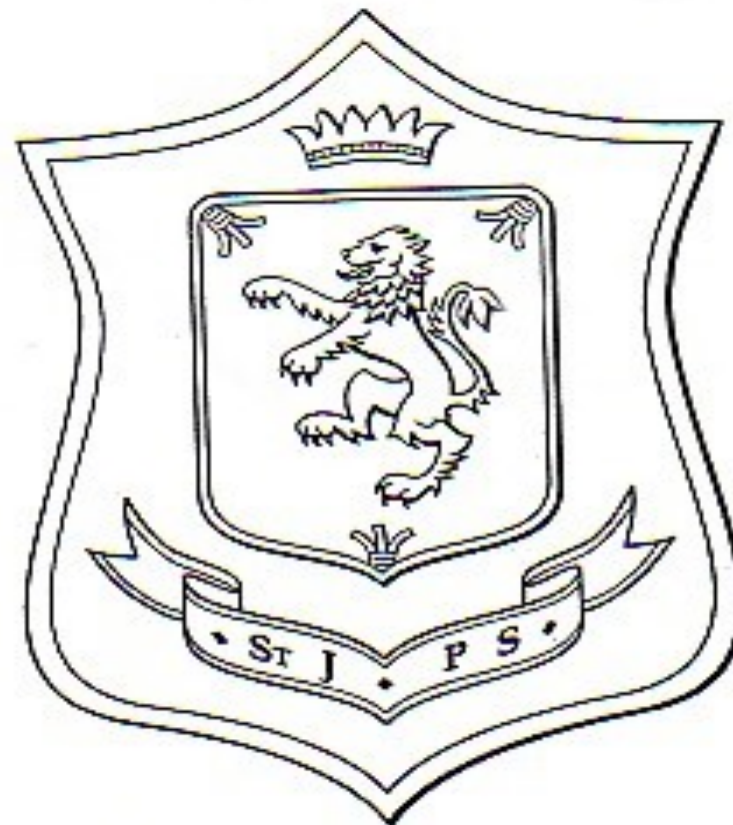
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| Fri 1 st | 9.50 am | Assembly - Rooms 4 & 6 Presentation |
| Mon 4 th | 11 - 12.30 | Two senior pupils visiting HGS for Transition Committee Rooms 1 & 2 will enjoy a construction workshop Room 14 visiting Care Home School Choir singing at St. John's Church |
| Tues 5 th | pm | School Choir being recorded |
| Wed 6 th | 11.00 am | Netball Tournament at Blantyre Leisure Centre |
| | pm | Two senior pupils visiting HGS for Transition Committee |
| | 10 - 10.45 am | P4 teachers visiting other schools in Learning Community |
| Thurs 7 th | 11 - 12.30 | Room 15 visiting Care Home P7 teachers visiting other schools in Learning Community |
| | 3.30-5.30 pm | |
| | 6.30 - 8.30 pm | Parent Open Evening |
| Mon 11 th | 11.00 - 12.30 | 'Flu Vaccination for pupils Room 14 visiting Care Home |
| | 7.00 pm | Parent Council Meeting in Staff Room |
| Thurs 14 th | | P4 teachers visiting other schools in Learning Community P7 teachers visiting other schools in Learning Community Room 15 visiting Care Home |
| Mon 18 th & Tues 19 th | | IN-SERVICE DAYS - school closed to pupils |
| Friday 22 nd | 9.50 am | Assembly - Rooms 12 & 13 Presentation |
| Mon 25 th | 1.30-2.30 pm | Primary 7 hosting Tea Party in dining room for guests from Care Home |
| Tues 26 th | 1.00 - 2.15 pm | Girls' 5-a-side Football Tournament at HPSG |
| Fri 29 th | pm | P1 & P7 Buddy Afternoon |
| Sat 30 th | | Hamilton Grammar School Christmas Fayre |

DECEMBER

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|------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Wed 4 th | 9.30 - 11.15 am | Hamilton Grammar School Sports Event for P7 |
| Thurs 5 th | 3.00 - 4.30 pm | Christmas Cinema in School Hall - Open to all children. Tickets on sale from end November. |
| Friday 6 th | | Christmas Singalong in House Groups - all welcome 9.15 - 10.00 am - Seil 10.15 - 11.00 am - Skye 11.15 am - 12.00 noon - Arran 1.30 - 2.15 pm - Iona Pay at the door entry |
| | 2.00 - 3.00 pm | Rooms 14 & 15 - Flower Arranging |
| Tues 10 th | 1.30 - 3.00 pm | Christmas Party - Rooms 4, 5, 6 and 7 |
| | 6.30 - 8.30 pm | Christmas Ceilidh for Primary 6 and 7 |
| Wed 11 th | | Cafeteria Christmas Lunch |
| | 1.30 - 3.00 pm | Christmas Party - Rooms 8, 9, 10 and 11 |
| Fri 13 th | 1.30 - 3.00 pm | Christmas Party - Rooms 1, 2 and 3 |
| Mon 16 th | 9.30 - 10.30 | Nativity Dress Rehearsal - Whole School |
| Tues 17 th | 9.15 am | Some pupils walking to St. John's Church to drop off costumes |
| | 1.30 pm | Pantomime for Whole School - Pinocchio. Funded by our Parent Council |
| Wed 18 th | 10.00 am | Nativity Play in St. John's Church. Whole school walking. |
| Thurs 19 th | pm | P1 & P7 Buddy Afternoon |

St John's Primary October 2019 Newsletter

St John's Website-Google-[st-johns-hamilton-pri](http://st-johns-hamilton-pri.co.uk)



In the Hamilton Grammar Learning Community our Primary 1,4 and 7 teachers are meeting regularly to work together to plan and assess writing. This will support teacher judgements and further develop consistency across all 5 feeder schools for Hamilton Grammar. Teachers are visiting each other's schools and observing the teaching of writing lessons and sharing good ideas.

We hosted a very popular and busy Book Fayre during our Open Day in September. We have used the commission from the Book Fayre to purchase novels to further challenge our children and to provide a range of different texts to interest readers.

Our Primary 3 children are enjoying a lunchtime club for dance run by a Hamilton Grammar 6th year pupil. The children have learned some excellent routines and are thoroughly enjoying the chance to work with an older pupil.

Head Teachers in Hamilton attended a safety training briefing to help keep children safe online. From this we are planning to host a training event for parents to support keeping all children safe in the new year.

Our Primary 7 pupils have started their visits to Hamilton Grammar School as part of our transition programme. In October our Primary 7 parents also got the chance to visit the Grammar to meet staff and hear about a day in the life of a first year pupil.

As part of transition to secondary school our senior pupils have started a record of achievements which count towards an award at the end of the year. All schools in our Learning community are working on JASS Awards and our P7 children are aiming for Bronze by the end of the term. We plan to take this forward into secondary school where children can then work towards silver and eventually gold. As part of this award scheme our children have decided to regularly visit a local Care Home to meet residents, read to them and talk about their memories. Later on the children plan to invite guests from the Care Home to school for a tea party.

Our Girls and Boys Football teams both participated in local tournaments and football festivals throughout October. They showed great sportsmanship and skill when playing. It is very much appreciated to have our parent helpers who accompanied the teams as we could not attend if it wasn't for their help.

Our Netball team participated in the Hamilton tournament and also acquitted themselves well.

Room 5 and 7 presented a great assembly about safety. They showed us rules to keep ourselves safe and who to talk to if we are worried. All children were wonderful on stage.

Room 2 braved the elements for a local walk to Cadzow Glen. Lots of leaves, cones and twigs were collected and brought back to school to look at, draw and make into pictures. They really needed their wellies as it was dry when they left but exceptionally wet on return.

Our teaching staff are working together on a training programme called Tapestry. This is the second year of this training for our staff. In this teachers work together to observe and reflect on their own and colleagues' work in order to improve the learning for our children. Teachers are very enthusiastic about how the small changes they make in their teaching have made large improvements for learners.

As part of our School Improvement Plan we are looking at the cost of the school day. We are very aware that sending children to school can be a costly occurrence. We have audited what we are currently doing and are looking for parents/ carers who would be able to commit to attending about 3 meetings over the year with children and staff to discuss ways in which we can ensure that all children get the same opportunities and that we reduce pressures on parents regarding school and money. If you are interested please call the school office. Our first meeting will be held in November.

We held a recycling event on Friday 25 October where anyone who wanted came along to the dining room and chose a dressing up costume. Thank you for all of the donated costumes.

We hosted two Halloween Discos on Wednesday 30 October. Both were very well attended with more than 200 children dressing up and dancing the night away. Thank you to all our parent helpers who kindly gave up their evening to come along and make the event a success. Lots of congratulations to the creativity of parents in making and recycling costumes.

Caroline has been working hard in our playground making it a fun, exciting and creative place to be. Our Outdoor Talking Team is creating signs for the different areas of our playground.

Our Literacy Talking Team met and are working hard to reorganise our school library.