



19th December 2011

Dear Parent/Carer,

As term draws to a close, a few pieces of information for you.

Staffing

Now that Miss Smith has completed her phased return to work, it's time to say a big thank you and farewell to Miss McLean, who has worked so well with P1 since August and has been a great member of our team. We wish her all the very best as she moves on to work at Craigiebarns Primary in the new year.

Another change is more of a swap. Mrs Dashwood successfully applied to become one of our Support for Learning teachers, and will take up this post in January. To cover Mrs Dashwood's P2 class, Miss Moonie has agreed to stay with us until the summer and will therefore be P2's teacher from January. In support for learning, Mrs Burns will be working with Mrs Thompson with our Nurture Class, and Mrs Dashwood will work with teachers and classes across the school. I'm sure that these changes will help us to continue to support all of our learners as well as we possibly can.

Enrolment for Next Year's P1

Enrolment has started and will continue through January and into February. If your child is ready to start in August 2012, please contact the school office to make arrangements for enrolment. Please spread the word, too, amongst family, friends and others, about your hopefully positive experience of our school and its very positive future which, of course, includes a lovely new building in the near future.

New School

As you'll have seen in the Tele, it's full speed ahead with the new school building. With all the preparation work complete (thanks to Muirfield Contractors), the contract for the new place has been awarded to Mansell Construction and we expect to welcome them onsite in February. The Local Implementation Group continues to meet to look at plans for how the schools will operate, with parent representatives from all three current schools present. If anyone would like to be part of this, please let me know.

Huge Thanks

As you know, we do lots of charity fundraising during the year which helps many others throughout the world. Charity also begins at home, so we put the monies raised from Christmas activities into our School Fund to spend on subsidising school events such as visiting shows or trips. Can I thank you all so much for your generosity this year, across the Fair, the Shows, and the Choir's Carol Singing, which together have raised in the region of £2000, which will go such a long way. I'd still like to have a parent representative on our School Fund committee, which audits and advises on how we spend this money, so if you're up for that wee job, let me know.

Final End of Term Event

Our final 'open' event of the term is our Carol Service, led by our P5/6 classes, on **Tuesday, 20th** at 9.30am. Please join us.

Communications

Please keep an eye on our Blog and Twitter feed, addresses above, for other wee snippets of news, some of which don't make the paper based newsletters.

Safety

After the recent incident on South Road involving one of our pupils, who is, happily, on the mend, staff are once again reinforcing the road safety message in class; please do the same at home. All aspects of safety are always high on our agenda as I'm sure they are on yours.

Parent Council

Our Parent Council is always on the lookout for new members to share the load and provide new ideas. Please contact the school if you're interested in finding out more.

School Improvement Plan

In the new year we'll be looking to form a new Improvement Plan for the school which will take us through to 2015. I hope to fully engage pupils and parents as well as staff in this process of deciding what we do well, what we could do better, and what our priorities for improvement should be. I will be in touch early next term to invite you to take part in focus groups and other ways of keeping you involved.

Holidays

The holidays start at **12 noon** on **Wednesday, 21st December** and we're back at 9am on **Thursday, 5th January**.

I hope you, your families and friends have a very peaceful and happy festive period and are blessed with all the joy with which Jesus lit up our world.

Yours sincerely,

A. Macgregor
Head Teacher