



New School News – Number 2 – January 2012

Preparation Works

All the demolition and preparation works were completed satisfactorily and we've been working away fine in our more compact building and playground. The new area created by the removal of the old Caretaker's House has been a welcome bonus, and the move of the Visitors' Entrance and Waiting Area has worked well. All of the classes are coping well with being a wee bit more cramped, and we've taken the chance to get rid of lots of unneeded furniture and other stuff. Clearouts are good! ☺

Contractor Appointed

Just before the holidays, the Council awarded the contract for construction of the new building to **Mansell Construction Limited** of Perth. Mansell has extensive experience of works such as ours and we're looking forward to working with them. Our own Council Capital Projects team also now has great experience in taking forward these projects, having successfully delivered lovely new PPP schools, and the current projects in Whitfield and Blackness Road are also going really well. Exciting times ahead!

Plan Modifications

There have been some changes made to the internal plans for the new building which will allow two additional classrooms for each school. This will ensure that there is plenty of classroom space available to meet the needs of both school populations. Copies of the revised plans will be in school and displayed soon.

Revised Timetable

We have been advised that the construction timescale planned at present is:

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|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Contractor Mobilisation (planning) | January/February 2012 |
| • Start on Site | March 2012 |
| • Completion of Phase 1 Works | June 2013 |
| • Decant of schools to new building | June/July 2013 |
| • Demolition of Existing St Clement's | July - Sept 2013 |
| • Car Park and Pitch Completion | September - November 2013 |

This means that we should see real progress by the end of this term; we should be in the new building for the start of Session 2013-2014; and everything should be done and dusted around Christmas 2013. Great news! ☺

(over)

Local Implementation Group

This group, with parents from Lochee, Charleston and St Clement's playing a crucial part, has now met twice to begin to look at how the new building will operate. Any issues or worries are being raised at this group. High on the agenda is ensuring that an effective travel/drop off plan is in place to ensure pupil (and adult) safety. Plans for the merger of the Lochee and Charleston school communities and the choice of a new name for their school is also well underway. Volunteers to attend these meetings (during the day, usually) from the St Clement's Parent Forum are always very welcome - please contact me if you feel able to contribute in any way.

As always, please contact me if there is anything you wish to comment on or discuss around the plans for the new building. The views of parents, families and, of course, the children themselves are really important in shaping the future of the new St Clement's Primary school in partnership with the merged Lochee/Charleston Primary.

*A. Macgregor
Head Teacher
January 20th 2012*