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11<sup>th</sup> June 2012

Dear Parent/Carer,

Some information for you:

### **Staffing**

It has now been confirmed that Miss Moonie will be staying with us as a permanent member of teaching staff. This is great news for the school. An upcoming change is that Mrs Lucas has decided to leave at the end of this session. We wish her all the best for the future and thank her for her service to the school.

### **Classes for Next Session**

I'm working on the class structure at present and hope to be able to let you know which class your child will be in and which teacher she/he will have very soon. There will again be 9 classes, and P1-3 classes can only have a maximum of 18 pupils to one teacher.

### **New School**

A new school update newsletter went out last week, and our pupil Construction Committee is working hard on their newsletter at present.

### **Sports Day**

Our Sports Day will take place, weather permitting, this Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> June, at Myrekirk, starting at 10am. The morning will be Olympic themed, and linked to our House System. All welcome - here's hoping for good weather.....

### **Education Mass**

Senior pupils will represent the school this Thursday at the annual Education Mass in St Andrew's Cathedral at 7pm. This year's Mass is led by St Luke's and St Matthew's Primary, Fintry, and Parents/Carers are very welcome to come along.

### **School Uniform**

It's been noticeable over the last wee while that there has been a bit of a slip in the wearing of the school's uniform in some classes. Wearing uniform encourages children to take a pride in their appearance and their school and this in turn helps their attitude to school life in general. It is my intention next session, prior to our move to our new building, to speak with parents and agree exactly what our uniform should be. I am aware, for example, that the navy items referred to in our Handbook can be difficult to find at a reasonable price. In the meantime could I please ask you when purchasing new uniform for next session to avoid 'branded or 'personalised' items and to follow the Handbook advice as much as you can:

- navy or dark grey skirt/pinafore/trousers
- white shirt/blouse with St Clement's tie (P7 has its own special tie) or white Polo Shirt
- school sweatshirt or plain navy pullover/cardigan
- black shoes (proper school shoes are encouraged rather than trainers and we ask that parents ensure training shoes are not worn to school.)

The school sells at cost price the navy sweatshirt, white polo shirt and navy fleece all with the school's name and badge embroidered on them. We also sell our own PE Kit of school t-shirt and shorts and a school drawstring bag. These are available from the school office, with order forms already sent out last week.

Your support with this is much appreciated.

### **Water Bottles**

Please make sure that your child has a suitable plastic bottle with them every day so that they can drink enough water during the day. Evidence shows that this is a really important part of being ready and able to learn, especially when the weather is warmer.

### **Another 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 monies raised from many 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 session, across the many events which we have held. Recently, we raised over £1000 for Sports Relief and £120 for Cash for Kids. The mini-Summer Fair last week raised over £600 towards summer outings, and this week's Hotshots event at Sports Day will help further with subsidies for these. I'm still looking for a parent representative to join 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.

### **Awards Ceremony**

Please join us for our end of year 'prizegiving' on **Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June**, when we celebrate the many achievements of our pupils over the session. The ceremony starts at 9.30am in the Assembly Hall.

### **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.

### **Parent Council**

Our Parent Council remains on the lookout for new members –with the children of some long serving members leaving the school we now have very few Council members and this has had an effect on our ability to organise events this session and on our engagement with the processes for the new school building. New members are desperately needed to share the load and provide new ideas. Please contact the school if you're willing to help out.

### **School Improvement Plan**

A new Improvement Plan for the school is in preparation, which will take us through to 2015. Pupils and staff have been involved in this process of deciding what we do well, what we could do better, and what our priorities for improvement should be and I intend to invite interested parents to contribute over the next week or so. Watch this space.....

### **Summer Holidays**

The holidays start at **12 noon** on **Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> June** and the children are back at 9am on **Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> August** for our last session in this building.

Yours sincerely,

A. Macgregor  
Head Teacher