

# IMS News December Newsletter

17<sup>th</sup> December 2014



## Christmas @ IMS

We kicked off our Christmas Countdown by hosting our Christmas evening on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. It was a busy and full evening with face painting, nail colouring, tombola and raffles. We were entertained by pupils from Isobel Mair, St Cadoc's and Crookfur schools who make up the Community Unity Choir.

We had some very happy winners of Hampers and Raffle Prizes and we raised £1064 for the school!! The occasion was a tremendous success, many thanks for your attendance and contributions a great time was had by all.



Graham Logan, Strategic Director of Education Scotland, visiting

## From the Head Teacher

We have had an extremely busy term so far. Classes have been participating in Outdoor Learning Projects, Scottish Book studies and of course preparing for our annual Christmas celebrations.

As I'm sure you all know by now Sarah Clark was successful in her application for the post of Head teacher at IMS and I'm sure you would all agree our school is in great hands going forward.

We have hosted a number of visitors to the school this term, keen to see some of the excellent practice reported by Education Scotland in their report from September, as always the teaching and learning across the school has been superb!

All that's left for me to say is that it has been a privilege to be Head Teacher of Isobel Mair School for the last ten years. Thank you to all parents and staff who have supported the school during this time. I know that IMS will continue to be an excellent school. I wish all children, young people and their families a Merry Christmas, and staff (past and present) all the best for the future.

Love and best wishes to you all.

**Mari Wallace**

Headteacher

## Community Unity

This term classes Whalsay, Jura and Tiree have been taking part in Community Unity events with St Cadoc's and Crookfur Primary Schools. Crookfur Primary pupils kicked off the Kilt Walk by bedecking themselves in tartan and walking to IMS for some Scottish Dancing, a Reels on Wheels performance and some shortbread. IMS pupils then walked down to St Cadoc's Primary School where they were welcomed by the P7s and piped into the school, St Cadoc's pupils performed a number of Scottish songs and poems and provided more shortbread! The three schools then met up again for a Cielidh hosted by Eastwood High School in the afternoon. The pupils had a fabulous time meeting new friends, learning new dances and eating lots of shortbread. Thank you to all the schools involved and especially Eastwood High for hosting a terrific Ceilidh.



## Children in Need @ IMS 2014

## Swimming Success!!

The Izzy Mair Swimming Team has been back in action with 11 of our athletes qualifying to represent the West of Scotland at the Scottish Disability Sports National Swimming Championships. The event took place at Tollcross Swimming Centre, the venue for swimming at Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. Swimmers from all over Scotland were competing, and our contingent came away with four medals, two Gold, one Silver and two Bronze. Well done to all the team, and particularly Gemma, Sarah, Hannah and William for winning their medals!



On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November IMS played our part in raising money for Children in Need. The pupils and staff all put in a fabulous effort; dressing up as their favourite Super Heroes and participating in lots of fun activities and songs; we managed to raise a whopping £249.80. Thanks to all parents, staff and pupils for your efforts and contributions in making this a worthwhile event.



## Jeans for Genes 2014

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September the pupils wore jeans to celebrate Jeans for Genes Day. Leah and Yhaya went round the classes to collect contributions which go to a very worthwhile cause. Thank you for all your contributions we managed to raise £131.40. Special thanks to staff and pupils in Class Mull for helping to organise!



## Christmas Service 2014 Baubles!



The whole school celebrated Christmas in true Isobel Mair style with a whole school Christmas Show. Thanks to the creativity, hard work and dedication of staff across the school every child contributed to and participated in our Christmas extravaganza “Baubles”. Full of songs, laughs and award worthy acting the pupils entertained a very grateful audience, generating lots of festive spirit. Lots of Staff and pupils have worked very hard during rehearsals and a special thank you to Maureen our visual Artist who designed a magnificent “Baubles” backdrop for the show, to Martyn Hay our Musical Director, Lynn O’Brien, Gayle McMillan and Alan Holmes for filming and ICT wizardry! Thank you for your support.



## So long, farewell.....



This term sees the departure of a cherished and valued teacher from IMS. Ann McGookin came to the school as a temporary teacher in 1995 becoming permanent in August 1997. Throughout her time in the school Ann has been a fabulous educator to pupils and staff! Calm, kind, helpful and organized Ann has provided meaningful and valuable experiences to pupils at various stages in their school life. Ann has also stepped up on two occasions to the post of Acting PT, firstly at our former Carlibar base and then latterly at the new school, on both occasions providing excellent leadership and support to staff and pupils. Not only pupils but teachers have benefited from Ann's experience. Many teachers down the years have gone to Ann and have been provided with no nonsense straight talking advice on any number of questions. Ann has contributed an enormous amount to the lives of pupils, staff and parents at Isobel Mair and will be missed. Ann, thank you for everything, go and put your feet up.

## Dates for the Diary

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm

School closes for Christmas Holidays

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 9am

School re-opens

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January

Parents Night

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February

Schools Close for mid-term break

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February

Schools re-open



@ IMS 2014

The whole school got into the festive spirit by donning their Christmas Jumpers on Friday. Christmas Jumper Day is always popular and IMS pupils and staff did their bit this year and raised £124.55 for Save the Children charity. Thank you!

