

Dear Parents/Carers

1st March 2013

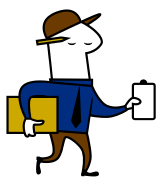
Our security arrangements and procedures for entry to our school are very important. Please be patient as good security can be frustrating but it remains my job to ensure everyone feels safe and protected. We are planning changes to the layout of our school office and work will start during the Easter break. Please can I also remind you that if you need to use the toilet in our reception area that you let a member of our office team know?

Parental Consultations- Thursday 21st March 2013

In order to ensure children are **fully involved in their learning**, please talk with your child about their work. The children will also be able to talk with you about their work in their Progress Folders. This will be an opportunity to celebrate success and will help us to plan next steps in learning together. More details to follow on Monday 4th March.

Attendance Matters

Please note absences continue to remain unauthorised unless your child brings a letter into their class teacher upon returning to class. Scottish Government has set **98%** as a target for attendance. Regular attendance ensures our children have access to teaching and can make progress in their learning and development.



Safety Matters- School Buses (Transport)

Please note that you are responsible for the conduct of your child at all times when they travel on our school buses. We encourage your child to make sensible choices and wear their seat belt for maximum safety. Please talk to your child about how to travel safely on our school buses.

Easter Holidays

The Easter holidays are only a few weeks away; this term really has flown in! School will close on **Thursday 28th March** at 2.30pm. (The buses will collect children at 2pm, as usual and the remaining children will leave at 2.30pm.) We will re-open at 8.55am on **Monday 15th April**. Our **Spring Celebration** will be held in Coltness Memorial Church on **Wednesday 27th March at 10am**. Please do come along and join us!

Battle of the Bands: Primaries 6 and 7 are performing a concert to our school on Thursday 28th March. We would ask parents of children in Primaries 1 to 5 to make an Easter Bonnet for our Parade

Comic Relief- Friday 15th March

Please support this worthwhile cause by wearing **RED** for the day. Please donate **£1** and take part in a 'boogie' at our whole school dance-a-thon! Red noses will also be available to buy in school on the lead up to the day. Cost is **£1**.

Can you help us?

If you have any items of school uniform that your child has outgrown, but are still in good condition, please send them into school as we can 'recycle' them to other families. Thank you.



Parent Council News

The next meeting of the Parent council will be on Monday 4th March at 6.30pm in the school. I know the council would be delighted to see you if you could manage along. The next disco is planned for Thursday 14th March. Cost is £1 and is paid at the door. Our Parent Council are also looking for items for Tombola, as they will have a stall at our Parental Consultations.

Health Matters

As you are aware, our children's health is very important. Mrs Lilly and Mrs Govan have organised a range of activities are planned for our **DAY of ACTION**. This is planned for Friday 22nd March. Scot Roger from Spotty Dog Adventures will be working with us too! We are encouraging our children to wear blue and donate £1 to water aid.

Weather: Due to the condition of our playgrounds during periods of snow and ice we will often need to keep the pupils indoors during intervals. While this is not an ideal situation for pupils or staff, I am sure that you can understand that the pupils' safety is our key priority. We will continue to allow the children to access the school building during inclement weather from 8.40am. **Please let Mrs Johnston know if you have changed address or phone number recently. It is important that we have accurate information to contact you about care and welfare matters.**

P.E Kit: We deliver two hours of Physical Education in school each week. This is an important part of your child's education. All children are encouraged to bring their full gym kit for P.E, but the minimum requirement is a pair of gym shoes. All children should have a change of footwear for P.E lessons as outdoor shoes can mark and damage our gym flooring. We would ask you to ensure that your child has their P.E kit with them

on the appropriate days. Pupils may only be withdrawn from P.E if they bring a letter to school, signed by you, explaining why they should be withdrawn. Thank you in advance for your full support.

Head lice: Please remember to check your child's head on a regular basis for any signs of infection. It is no longer the role of the school nurse to do this and responsibility falls to the parent. The school can no longer inform parents of any outbreaks of head lice. Advice given by the school nurse is that checks should be made on a weekly/fortnightly basis. If a child has head lice, they should be treated before returning to school. Please seek advice from your local Pharmacist or G.P about which treatments are most effective. Further information is available from www.onceaweektakeapeek.com.

Internet Safety- Kristin Carroll our Parent Support Worker will be on hand in Room 2 during our Parental Consultations. Please call in to find out more!

Nursery Event for Parents and Friends

The Nursery Class are organising another fundraising event. A Bingo and Karaoke night is planned for Friday 15th March in St Brigid's Parish Centre at 7.30pm. Tickets are £4.00 and include a flyer and a tasty bite to eat.

Community News

Kristin Carroll our Parent Support Worker has organised a wide range of activities and events. If you would like to chat to Kristin, please contact our school office and we will pass your details on.

Ark Community Café meets weekly on Friday mornings. This is a time for people to meet and to take part in some 'me time'. Please call

Jen Carty on **07845091625** for more information. The ARK is a place where children and their families meet on Tuesday evenings at Coltness Memorial Church. I know you would be made most welcome.



ECO News: We all know the three 'Rs' to help us reduce the amount of waste we generate -

Reduce, Reuse and Recycle - but we'd like to remind you about the fourth 'R'. The Fourth 'R' is REFUSE! REFUSE carrier bags when you can.

Please note that there are nine recycling bins in the car park beside the school- three for clear glass, two for green glass, one for brown glass, one for shoes, one for food and drink cans and one for clothes.

I do hope you have a very happy, sunny and peaceful Easter holiday.

Yours sincerely,

E CLINTON (Head Teacher)