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10 January 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

A very Happy New Year to you and your family!

The children have settled well after their holidays and we are geared up for a very busy and productive term.

There are several pieces of information to share with you.

### **Reverse Advent Calendar**

On the last day of last term two charities, Spirit Aid and Action for Children, arrived to collect an incredible 48 hampers of goods for distribution to local families. The range and quality of the content of each hamper were amazing and the level of generosity, which led to double the amount of hampers we had anticipated, was beyond belief.

This truly was a whole school effort and once again demonstrates the kindness, thoughtfulness and awareness of our children, their families and the staff. Our sincere thanks to everyone for their contributions.

### **Staff Changes**

Ms Fiona Roberts, class teacher in P6a, resigned her post in order to return home. We interviewed for a permanent replacement just before the end of the year and have appointed Ms Sharon Lancaster to the class. We are very pleased to make this appointment and look forward to Ms Lancaster joining us towards the end of the month. In the meantime we are pleased that Ms Elaine McManus will work with P6a. Ms McManus covered Mr Sean Rankine's class, P6d, and has very good experience of working with this age group. We are glad to report Mr Rankine is now fit and well and back with his class.

### **School Fund Raiser**

Every year we have an event to try to raise money for our school funds. School funds are used to pay for a range of activities including educational class trips, (other than the one major class trip) to pay for visiting performers, authors and entertainers, to pay for parties and other events. With over 660 children you will appreciate that our school funds need to be topped up regularly if we are to continue to provide the quality and range of experiences we are committed to providing for our children.

This year our annual fund raiser will be a Ceilidhthon. We are still finalising the arrangements for this but believe it fulfils our criteria – it is active, it is inclusive and involves all age ranges, it is fun and hopefully it will raise money.

We will write to our parents separately with more details but we are aiming to hold the event at the beginning of February.

We look forward to your continued support when this fund raiser takes place.

## **Bake Sale**

Many, many children came forward with suggestions of holding a bake sale to raise money for a variety of worthwhile causes. This is another example of their thoughtfulness and their ability to look beyond their own needs and interests. We plan to have one big event this term where children from P4, P5, P6 and P7 can contribute to a bake sale for the whole school. We will ask the children to suggest several charities (five or six) and will distribute the money raised by the bake sale to these worthwhile causes. We will be discussing the initiative very soon at a forthcoming assembly.

## **Burns Event 18 January 2018**

Ms Lurinsky, Principal Teacher, and Mr Sinclair have organised for over twenty of our pupils to participate in a competition organised by The Trades House of Glasgow on 18 January from 4pm until 6pm. We have been extremely impressed with the quality and range of the contributions of the children and wish them good luck with this event. Many thanks to all of the staff who have offered to accompany our children and many thanks to the parents who have practised with their children at home. A range of events, in school to celebrate Burns Day on/around 25<sup>th</sup> January will also take place.

## **Up to Date Information**

If anyone received/purchased a new phone over the holiday period and has a new number please let our school office know. We recently sent out our procedures for inclement weather/emergency procedures. Current numbers will be very important if we are faced with this situation but clearly are essential for any contact we require to make with a parent.

Thank you for your cooperation with this.

## **Jim McCann, Janitor**

Cordia has undertaken a major restructuring of janitorial services recently and we have now been informed that Jim (the janitor) McCann has been successful in his application for a promoted post.

Jim will be leaving our school on Friday 19 January to start in a new position in the East End of the City. We are very sad to see him go but are pleased for his success.

Jim has contributed significantly to our school not only by developing a considerable partnership with Beatrice ensuring our school is very well maintained, operational and safe for our children but also through his involvement with the coaching of our football team and his willingness to accompany the children to our pitch every lunchtime. Jim also arranged to take annual leave when our P7s go to Ardentenny so that he could volunteer to accompany them – a fantastic and much appreciated gesture.

We are losing more than a janitor, we are losing a person, a friend who deeply committed to our school and our community. Thank you Jim – we wish you well.

I think that is all. We look forward to a successful new term and through to summer!

Best Wishes

Francis Donaghy  
Head Teacher