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15 January 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

A very Happy New Year to you and your family.

I hope that the year has started well. There are several pieces of information to share with you.

Staffing News

We are delighted to announce that Susan Thomson, Department Head for P1 and P2, has returned to us after covering a Head Teacher absence in a local school. Welcome back Susan! We would like to record our thanks and appreciation to Lois Lurinsky who covered Susan's absence. Lois fully committed to this temporary role and was appreciated by staff, parents and pupils alike. Well done and many thanks to Lois!

Social Action

We made a substantial commitment to a range of Social Action initiatives:-

- We managed to sell 450kg of Fair Trade rice. This will ensure that five secondary aged young people will be able to attend their local secondary in Malawi for a year. Well done P7s!
- A group of our P7s organised a huge bake sale and were able to send cheques for £250 to each of the following charities: Ocean Clean-up, Beatson Cancer Charity and Scottish Refugee Council.
- In addition we supported Wear a Jumper Day and have now sent a cheque of £300 to Shelter.
- Finally we organised our Reverse Advent Calendar again and were overwhelmed by the generosity of our families. We have sent many hampers to Action for Children.

None of this is possible without the Social conscience, determination and motivation of our children and the support and kindness of our parents. Many, many thanks to everyone.

School Fund Raiser

Having committed a significant amount of time and money to supporting Social Action we are now changing focus for a while and concentrating on raising money for our own school funds.

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 650 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 Burns Blockbuster. We are in the process of finalising the details and will send them out to you in the next day or two.

The idea is based (very) loosely on the popular TV quiz show where you tried to complete a series of challenges that took you across the board. The children will have a number of challenges to choose, some will be undertaken in school, and we hope they will get sponsored to complete their challenges. More details will follow but we aim to hold the events in the period of time just before and after Burns Day (25 January).

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

Burns Event

We have entered a number of children into an annual competition that takes place in the Trades Hall in the City Centre. The event takes place on Thursday 24 January from 4-6pm. Our children have been practising hard and we wish them every success.

On Sunday 27 January there is a Burns Night at the Museum taking place in the Huntarian. We have been asked to bring along some children to perform. This event is informal and free but you need to book tickets via Bookitbee here <http://event.bookitbee.com/20612/night-at-the-museum-burns-on-stage> (booking is essential). The event runs from 4:30-7:30pm.

Calendar for this term

This is being finalised and will be shared soon.

Upcoming events

- Super Sevens Athletics - 16 January at Emirates
- Burns' Supper in Dinner Hall - 25 January
- Chinese New Year – 5 February
- February Holiday – 11 and 12 February
- In-service day - Wednesday 13 February is an In-service day and the children will be on holiday that day.
- Glasgow Schools Cross Country - 19 February
- Fairtrade Fortnight – Monday 25 February-Friday 8 March
- World Book Day – Thursday 7 March
- British Science Week – 8-17 March
- Book Fair from Monday 18 March-Friday 29 March
- Parents' Evenings Thursday 21 March and Tuesday 26 March 3:40-6:40pm
- Spring Break - School Closes on Friday 29 March at 2:30pm. School reopens on Monday 15 April at 9am.

Please note there is an Easter Holiday on Friday 19 and Monday 22 April.

I think that is all.

We look forward to a productive term!

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francis Donaghy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent flourish at the end of the name.

Francis Donaghy
Head Teacher