Welcome back to the start of another busy year at Culter School. The children are settling well into their classes although many of them were very tired by the end of their first week back in school.

We are introducing a number of new things in school this term, mainly to encourage effort, good behavior and good manners in all our pupils. In the school canteen, we have introduced a new set of ‘rules’ and we have changed some of the seating arrangements for lunchtimes. The rules encourage the children to say please and thank you to kitchen staff, to treat each other with respect and to clear up their own wrappers and cartons and put them in the bins provided when they have finished their lunch. To encourage children to keep to these simple rules, we will have a special table set out with place mats and other surprises every three weeks. This will be called the Culter Top Table. Pupils will be chosen for the Top Table by the staff who look after them in the canteen. Top Table pupils will have their lunch first for that day and will have their photograph taken and displayed in the canteen. A certificate will also be sent home to let you know your child has been chosen.

We now have a Birthday Board in the foyer beside the school office. Birthdays for each month will be displayed there and children can go and have a look for their name in the month of their birthday. We will be holding regular Achievement Assemblies at Culter this year to recognize and celebrate a range of pupil achievements. We will recognize and reward children for success in class work, behaviour, out of school activities, being good citizens and for any other achievement which we feel appropriate. Class teachers will nominate pupils each month and other members of staff will be encouraged to suggest children who they believe deserve to be recognized. I have emphasized to the children that they should not expect to receive an achievement certificate every month. Most children at Culter work hard and behave well all year and I will remind the children of this at Achievement Assemblies. Achievement Certificates will be displayed in the School Foyer and a copy will be sent home. Our first Achievement Assembly takes place on Friday 14th September.

Susan Crossan
Head Teacher
STAFFING

Ms Sarah Lints is currently taking P4 to cover for Mrs Charlton who is on maternity leave. The post has been advertised and an appointment will be made in September. Ms Norma Murphy has joined the staff as a PE specialist and we have two new class teachers in P3 and P5. We welcome Ms Glass and Ms Weighill to Culter and wish them a successful year in our school. School staff are arranging a retirement dinner for Mrs Downie and the PTA will be marking Mrs Downie’s huge commitment at Culter School in some way on behalf of parents. We welcome Susan Fiddes as Principal Teacher and wish her many happy years at Culter School.

Anne Begg MP will be in school on Wednesday 12th September to meet with P7 pupils. We hope they will have some challenging questions for her!

LOST PROPERTY

We have a number of lost items of uniform/jackets in the school. Many are in almost new condition but are not named. Parents may come into school and have a look for lost items until Friday 31st August after which we will donate the clothing to charity.

PTA EVENT

A family ceilidh has been organised at Culter Mill Club on Friday 23rd November from 7.30—10.30 pm. Last year’s Ceilidh was a great success and everyone had so much fun. Your support would be gratefully appreciated and all funds will go to Culter School. Use tear off slip to order tickets.

Quest Club restarts on Monday 10th September at 12.25 pm. All P6 & P7 pupils are welcome. The Quest Club teacher will visit school on Friday 7th to give the pupils further details and sign up sheets.

SCHOOL E-MAIL NETWORK

The majority of parents receive their school newsletter and other information by school e-mail. Receiving it this way saves time, money and helps the environment. If you do not already receive it this way, please sign up by filling in the attached tear off slip and ask your child to return it to their teacher. You will receive the school newsletter, in full colour, before the hard copies are sent home. School news bulletins are also sent this way.

Newsletters will also be posted on the school website at the address below.

www.culter.aberdeen.sch.uk
BINGO

The next Bingo night will be held on Thursday 20th September at 7.15 pm in the school GP room, with further evenings to be held in February and April. This is an enjoyable and well-attended community event organized by the PTA and includes an interval where all can enjoy tea/coffee and home baking. During the evening full house and line prizes are given to successful winners and at the end of the evening a raffle is held. In the past, parents and others have donated all the prizes and raffle items that we give. To help make this coming evening a success, we are asking for a further donation of groceries. Any tinned, bottled and dried grocery items (bags of groceries are given as line prizes), bottles of wine and unwanted gift items are welcome. All money raised during these evenings benefits children at the school. Donations may be handed into the school office.

BUY.AT/CULTERSCHOOL

We have received our first cheque from buy.at culterschoolshop. Eleven families purchased items using this link and earned £32.11 in commission for the school. There are over 100 retailers affiliated to buy.at and commission ranging from 2% to 25% can be earned for the school. Our web shop includes an ever-growing number of retailers such as M&S, John Lewis, Tesco, MFI, Amazon, Asda to name but a few. It is a completely free service. All we ask is that you visit the site and click on the shop you wish to visit. All money raised will go into school funds for the benefit of the children. The link can be found on the home page of www.culter.aberdeen.sch.uk. We have approximately 300 families in school which could generate a lot of money for the school. Please give it a try. Thank you.

PTA PHOTOGRAPHS

‘Catchlites Photography’ are coming to Peterculter Sports Centre on the 30th September from 9.30—5 pm. To book appointments please telephone Gillian Vullinghs on 734983.

CHESS

An international chess conference is taking place in Aberdeen from Thursday 30th August to Saturday 1st September. As part of the conference, a junior programme has been prepared. The 4-times woman’s World Chess Champion Susan Polgar has agreed to give coaching lessons to junior players, and there is also a junior international chess tournament taking place. Carl Milton P6C has been invited to take part in this tournament. We are very proud of him and wish him much success in this highly prestigious event.
PARENT HELPERS
Parent helpers are urgently required for various activities at school. All parents need to complete a Disclosure Check Form prior to assisting. Please contact the school office if you are interested.

WEBB IVORY
Would you be interested in organising Webb Ivory fundraising in school this year? The Christmas catalogues have raised approximately £750 per year for the past 10 years. It is a well-established fundraiser and help and advice is available. Contact the school office for further information.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER AND BULLETINS
I would like to support my school by receiving newsletters and news bulletins by e-mail as they happen in school.

NAME __________________________________ PUPIL CONTACT ______________________
CLASS ________________________________

E-mail address _________________________________________________________
(Please write clearly)

CULTER SCHOOL PTA FAMILY

Dance to ‘GET REEL’
Friday 23rd November, 2007
Culter Mills Club
7.30—10.30 pm

Supper included

PUPIL CONTACT:____________________________________ CLASS:__________
Tickets Required:-  Adult £7  ..........  Child £4  ..........

Please make cheque payable to Culter School PTA and return this slip to the school office in a sealed envelope marked ‘PTA CEILIDH’ no later than Friday 2nd November, 2007.