Dear Parents,

The Easter Break is fast approaching. School will finish for all pupils at 3pm on Thursday 20th March. We return to school for the Summer Term on Monday 7th April at 9.00am. I do hope all our families will have an enjoyable break and look forward to a busy term leading up to summer. School will be closed to pupils on Monday 21st April for staff INSET and on Monday 5th May for the May holiday weekend. School staff will work with Bruce Wilkinson of UNICEF on 21st April as part of our work to become a Rights Respecting School.

A dinner will be held on Friday 14th March to mark Mrs Wyer’s retirement from Culter School. Interviews for a new Depute Headteacher will take place on 14th April in Culter School. The Parent Council has been collecting for a gift for Mrs Wyer on behalf of children and families. They intend to invite Mrs Wyer along to a Parent Council meeting next term to make the presentation.

On Friday 29th February, the School Choir took part in a musical evening at St John’s Church in Crown Terrace. I would like to thank parents and friends who came along to support the choir and also to commend the pupils for a wonderful performance and for excellent behaviour on the night. All money raised on the night will be used for the benefit of the children.

I am sure many of you will be aware of the cuts in budgets for all schools in the city. I do not have final information of how the situation will affect Culter at present but it is likely that class sizes will increase in 08/09. Funds for resources will also be limited. I will of course inform parents as soon as classes and arrangements can be finalised for next year. We are grateful to the Parent Council for their continued support in these difficult times. They provide funding for many of the extras we are able to offer in school.
**Sporting News**

Sport Relief Day takes place on Friday 14\textsuperscript{th} March. We have decided to participate in some fund raising activities linked to this during the last week of term. Details are as follows;

**Tuesday 18\textsuperscript{th} March**
A Potted Sports event has been organised to take place in the gym. Pupils will pay 50p to take part. The class which gains the highest number of points will win an afternoon in the Culter Sports Centre.

**Thursday 20\textsuperscript{th} March**
All pupils may come to school dressed as a sports star or in sporty clothing. A small donation may be paid to Sport Relief.
At lunchtime, we will hols a ‘Beat the Goalie’ competition against members of staff.

Adults and senior pupils can complete a Sport Relief Quiz Challenge for 50p. A mystery first prize will be awarded for the winning entry.
Quiz forms are available from Miss Lints or at the School Fair.

Many thanks to Miss Lints, Mrs Park and Mrs Murphy for their hard work in organising the events.

**School Activities**

Our pupils have been taking part in a range of sporting activities. Well done to the Badminton Team who took part in a tournament at Portlethen. Thanks to Mrs Gillian Moore for her hard work in coaching the team and to parents for supporting the children on the day.
The Basketball team has now taken part in two Basketball Festivals. The have done very well despite the fact that they have only been playing since November. Many thanks to Ms Weighill, Mrs Black and Ms Glass who work with the team after school on Wednesdays.
Our Chess Club goes from strength to strength. Carl Milton took part in a tournament in Stonehaven where he came second equal, playing against much older boys. Many thanks to Mrs Polson and Sean Milton for their work with pupils every Friday.
Football (see Bill)

**Parking**

Parking outside the school is always a problem. I have been asked to remind parents that cars must not park on the yellow lines outside the school. The lines are there to ensure good visibility for children who need to cross the road there and it is extremely important that visibility is clear at the school gates. The Police will be making spot checks outside the school to ensure cars are not parked on the yellow lines. Our School Eco Committee continue to work hard to persuade pupils to walk to school where possible. We would ask all parents to help encourage pupils to come to school on foot where at all possible.
Our Health Week

Our Health Week will take place at the end of April 2008. This year the focus will be on anti Bullying initiatives. We have booked the Livewire Theatre Company who will work with all pupils on an Anti Bullying theme. PC Morrans will present an information evening on Drugs and we are going to trial breakfast in school for a week. Details of all events will be issued after the Easter Break. Many thanks to Mr Grant, Mrs Fiddes and Mrs Robinson for organising the week and to the Parent Council for their financial support in staging the events.

Breakfast in school

Would your child like to have breakfast at school with his/her friends? During Health Week (28th April - 2nd May) we are offering all pupils the chance to join their friends one morning to enjoy a delicious, healthy, energy filled breakfast before classes begin. They will be able to choose from a variety of delicious food including smoothies, cereal, toast and muffins as well as fresh fruit and fruit juice.

And what's more this is FREE!

Watch out for further information after Easter about the date allocated to your child’s class.

Children’s Marathon Challenge

Early in the Summer Term pupils in P1-3 will be given the opportunity to participate in sponsored fundraising challenges for the benefit of the National Charity Children with Leukaemia. Half of all monies raised will go to the charity and half to Culter School. Detailed information will be sent home after the Easter Break.

We hope you will help us support this worthy cause.

Charity Donations

Thanks to all parents and friends who contributed to charity at the Christmas Concerts. A total of £632.09 was raised. Some of the money was used to purchase the t-shirts worn by the pupils in the show. These will be reused for future productions at Culter. The remainder was sent out to charities nominated by the Pupil Council.

Blog Site

Don’t forget to check out our ‘Blog Site’ at www.culterschoolaberdeen.edublogs.org

The majority of classes are now blogging with the remainder due to become ‘live’ after Easter. It is full of general information about what is happening in school and also pupils work and achievements. Content is added on a daily basis.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The photographer called at Culter School on Tuesday 11 March 2008 to take individual and family photographs of the pupils. Should you want your completed order sent by the school please make sure that you return it by 19 March 2008. The school is to receive only one large envelope to return orders. Any orders after the 19 March 2008 should be sent direct to the address as detailed on your order form. Thanks for our help. (School Office)

S. Crossan
Headteacher