Headteacher’s News

I hope all our families enjoyed the break in October. It seems a long time ago already and preparations are already ongoing for Christmas at Culter.

PARTIES

Parties will all be held on Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th December. We have organised a disco in the hall for all pupils in P4 – 7. P4 and P5 pupils will have their party on the afternoon of Wednesday 17th December with all P6 & 7 pupils having their party on Thursday 18th December. The disco will be organised with party games and activities suited to the age of the children.

Parties for younger pupils will go ahead in the Canteen. Traditional party games and activities will be organised by class teachers.

P1 pupils will have their party on Wednesday 17th December with P2 & 3 pupils having their fun on the afternoon of Thursday 18th December. The Nursery Team will issue arrangements for nursery pupils.

Party food will once again be provided by the school kitchen for the cost of a lunch ticket. Details of when and where to purchase tickets will be given nearer the time.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The concert will follow a new format this year. Mrs Brockley, our music specialist, and Mrs Cowie have organised pupils into two separate casts who will perform at different shows. This is to provide a better opportunity for pupils to play a part in the shows. Performances will take place on Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th December with one performance in the morning and one in the afternoon on each of the two days.

We will send home a letter to all families to indicate which performances your child is involved in and I hope this will enable parents to plan ahead if they wish to attend the shows. Full details of performance times and where to get tickets will be issued soon.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

This will be held on Thursday 11th December. Pupils will require a lunch ticket, which can be bought from the canteen as usual.

GIFT FAIR

The Parent Council will hold their Annual Christmas Gift Fair on Friday 5th December. Details of prices and gifts will be issued by the Parent Council nearer the time. Thanks to the ladies who have been busy as usual preparing and wrapping gifts for the Fair. If you can offer help with wrapping, the ladies will be in school on Thursday 28th November and would welcome offers of help from any parent. Please contact any member of the Council or the School Office if you wish to come along.
CHRISTMAS POSTAL SERVICE

Our in-school Christmas Postal Service begins on Monday 8th December, with the post box situated in the Infant Hall. Classes 5L & 5/6I will arrange for all cards posted with a 2p ‘Culter School’ stamp to be delivered to the appropriate room in school. Please ensure that full name and class name are clearly written on the envelope. Classes 5L & 5/6I will further arrange for all profit from the stamp sales to be sent to a local charity. It is not necessary for pupils to come into school before the morning bell to post their cards.

PARENT INTERVIEWS

Interviews have now taken place for all pupils in both Nursery and school. It was good to see so many parents in school over the four nights. School staff appreciate the time parents take to come along and discuss progress. The children really do enjoy the opportunity for you to see all the exciting things they have done in school. Many thanks to all of you for your interest in the work of the school.

TOILETS

I would like to thank all parents who helped out by taking children home early on Tuesday 18th November. The pupil toilets were blocked and as a result, only staff toilets were in use for the afternoon. Unfortunately the company called in to unblock the drains discovered that a large amount of paper towels had been pushed down the toilets. The drainage system in the school is old and clearly is not designed to cope with this!
I would be very grateful if parents could reinforce the problems caused by this behaviour. We are of course reminding children in school and we hope to avoid any further blockages in the toilet drains. Thanks also to Councillor Marie Boulton who is working to upgrade the facilities at Culter School.

ECO NEWS

Culter School Eco Bags are currently on sale in the school Office. They are made of cotton and are very useful for visits to the supermarket. The bags have been sponsored by Aberdein Considine and we are grateful to them for their support. Bags cost £2 and would make a good Christmas present for mums, aunts and grannies!
Our Eco Council continue to work hard to encourage us all to save paper and recycle in school. This Friday, they will be planting bulbs in Coronation Park with members of Culter Community Council.
The collection of old and broken jewellery raised £258.85 for the school and the Eco Group will be collecting old mobile phones until Christmas, which will also raise money. Another ongoing venture will be to recycle old stamps. All stamps collected will be sent to RNIB who will earn money from the stamps we send them. Please help us by collecting stamps and sending them into school with your child.
Well done to all involved, they are doing a great job and really making a difference in school.
HEALTH COMMITTEE

We have recently submitted our bid to achieve Commended Level as a Health Promoting School. One of the suggestions from the committee was that we should have more display space for pupil work and for Health related issues in the School Foyer. We have now had some new wallboards put up and hope to have some interesting displays there soon.

STAFF CHANGES

Mr Grant, our Depute Head Teacher, is to retire at the Christmas holidays. He has been at Culter School since 1985 and has worked hard to support pupils, staff and parents of Culter School throughout this time. Mr Grant will be a huge loss to us all however we wish him a long and happy retirement with many leisurely games of golf and time with his grandchildren. We hope to appoint a new Depute Head in the New Year. Mrs Gillian Romanes leaves on 28th November to await the birth of her second baby. We wish Gillian and her family well and look forward to meeting the new arrival after Christmas. Interviews will be held next week to appoint a teacher for the Nursery.

POPPY SCOTLAND

The school raised £107.30 with the sale of Poppies. We have received a letter of thanks from the Poppy Convenor, Ian Shepherd. Thank you to all the pupils who purchased a poppy in school.

ABERDEENSHIRE PRIMARY SCHOOLS BADMINTON TOURNAMENT

The above singles tournament was organised for P5, P6 and P7, boys and girls. I would like to say well done to the following pupils who represented Culter School:

Rachel Summers  P7P
Jemma Stein     P7P
Kieran Fowler   P7P
Jack Yule       P7P
Mark Nicholson  P7P
Scott Main      P7C
Zack Griffiths  P7C
Sophie Reid     P6C
Toby Veale      P6C
Adam McBain    P5/6I
Thomas Stein    P5/6I
Calum Brown     P5L

All the players, played brilliantly and they all showed excellent sportsmanship. Most of the above players won 2 out of 3 matches in their pools. Well done to Thomas and Toby who got into the quarter-finals. Congratulations to Jemma who reached the semi finals. Jemma received a trophy for her success.

Gillian Moore, Coach