



December 2010

To Parents of Pupils in Form 1

Dear Parents

I trust by now that your daughter is well settled into school, is making good progress in her studies and has involved herself in other areas of life at Strathearn.

Reports & Parents' Evening Tuesday 7 December 2010

Please find enclosed a copy of your daughter's first report from Strathearn. As you will see, this Short Report gives an indication of the level of Effort and Attainment reached in each subject and an additional comment is given by the teacher if deemed necessary. A Full Report with marks and a teacher comment for each subject will be issued after the summer examinations in June.

We would now invite you and your daughter to attend a consultation evening on Tuesday 7 December at which we use an appointment system. It may not be possible for you to meet all your daughter's teachers but you should, with your daughter, prioritise those teachers you would most wish to meet. Your daughter should then make appointments with her teachers and we would ask you to allow no more than five minutes per interview. Clearly it would be helpful if your daughter could arrange your interviews with a minimum of waiting time between each but allow some travelling between teachers as necessary.

School Inspection

Shortly you will be receiving a copy of the report of the Inspection by the Department of Education. We are delighted that the Inspectorate endorsed the many strengths of the school including the very good levels of achievement and excellent opportunities the pupils have to engage in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. The team commented most warmly on the welcoming atmosphere within the school and on how well they were received by staff and pupils alike. They particularly noted the high levels of motivation and engagement of the pupils towards the school and their learning. I hope in reading the report you will take pleasure from all that we offer and achieve in Strathearn.

New Build

Seven contractors have been short-listed to tender for the work with an estimated cost of £17 millions. That process is on-going and we now have a start date of early March. We continue to be excited at the prospect and are preparing for the necessary alterations to routine for when the work starts. Further details will follow in the new year.

Parents' Association

The Parents' Association have again much planned for the coming year and thank you to all who support their great work and who have contributed to their funds. Their dedication and your co-operation led to a cheque for an outstanding sum of £10,000 being given into Strathearn School funds. This is an amazing sum and one achieved in the context of financial constraints so this

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makes us doubly delighted. With this money we will be able to purchase portable lighting equipment for Drama as we lose the stage in the Assembly Hall and also equip further classrooms with digital projectors. This equipment will greatly enhance the provision for the girls and please do continue to help the school by supporting the Parents' Association.

Study Room (after school use)

For your information, pupils who wish to remain for a time after school may wait for transport home on the school premises in Room 8. However, I would like to emphasise that pupils who choose to use this facility will be unsupervised and in the interests of safety it is advisable that all pupils are collected in the evening by 5.00 pm at the latest.

Access to School

Thank you to parents who have been adhering to our request earlier this year, not to leave pupils off inside the school grounds in the morning or to park on the double yellow lines around the school gates. However, over the last week we have noted a number of parents using the driveway and making things difficult for other users. Please do adhere to our request to leave your daughter off outside the school grounds.

Term Dates 2011-2012

A copy of the term dates are enclosed and are also available from the School website www.strathearn.org.uk under the link 'Parental Information' 'School Holidays'.

Important Dates

- School Christmas Dinner – Friday 10 December 2010
- Carol Service – Thursday 16 December 2010 at 7.30 pm in Stormont Presbyterian Church
- Term finishes on Wednesday 22 December 2010 at 12 noon
- Next term begins on Tuesday 4 January 2011 at 8.45 am.
- Friday 21 January - all pupils will finish school at 12.50 pm in preparation for Open Day on Saturday 22 January 2011.
- Half term break is Monday 22 to Friday 25 February 2011

I look forward to meeting you on 7 December and I take this opportunity on behalf of the Staff and Governors to wish you and your family a happy Christmas and a peaceful and safe new year.

Yours sincerely

D Manning
Principal