

December 2009

Dear Parents

This has been a very busy and productive term with a number of superb events taking place. We have enjoyed "Pygmalion", the J4/J5 show "The Vikings", the Young Enterprise group "Hype" fashion show, the junior and senior ceilidhs, the Christmas Fayre, and a number of Junior School Christmas-themed productions, to name but a few! Our fund-raising efforts throughout the whole school, in aid of our projects in Africa, have raised almost £9,000. Thank you to parents, too, for all your support in aid of Africa. As we approach the Christmas holidays, our girls and boys have enjoyed a very successful term and are now looking forward to their well-deserved holidays.

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find a copy of Minerva which offers the highlights of this term's events.

### **Refurbishment of roofing and stonework**

The first phase of the school restoration was successfully completed in October. It was originally planned for the remaining work to be carried out over the next two years during the summer holiday periods but, following advice from our architect and Historic Scotland, it has been decided to undertake the remaining work in a single phase in 2010.

The restoration work has been planned to reduce disruption to the school, with all roofing works scheduled for summer 2010 when the school is closed. Work on the old gym and stonework on the front of the school, however, will commence in January 2010. Tackling the remaining areas to be restored in one phase will save a significant amount of money and will prevent any further damage occurring to the beautiful and important historic building which we occupy.

### **Lunchtime security**

I should like to remind parents that only S5/S6 pupils are allowed out of school at lunchtimes, when they can frequent the Botanic Gardens, Byres Road and Churchill's etc. You may be aware from your children that there have been one or two incidents reported in the area involving pupils from other schools or local youths. We have been in touch with our local police who have advised us that they have personnel in the area, including community police, working undercover. Although we took the decision to restrict, in the short term, senior pupils' access to Byres Road, the police say that this is no longer necessary. They advise, however, that our pupils are watchful when they are out of school. I would be grateful if you would also remind your son/daughter of the importance of reporting any incident seen.

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## **PTA**

The PTA would like to thank all parents for their support at the Christmas Fayre especially with regard to the Tombola. The event was extremely well attended and over £1500 was raised.

## **Dates for Spring Term 2010**

Please find enclosed a copy of next term's key dates for your information.

I would like to thank parents, both those in the PTA and the wider parent body, for your support this term.

Finally, may I take this opportunity of wishing you and your families a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

With best wishes to you and your family for the festive season.

Yours sincerely

**Lesley A Douglas**

Rector

Enclosures: Minerva  
Dates for Spring Term 2010