

November 2009

Dear Parent

It is difficult to believe that we are now half way through November. My first term at Kelvinside Academy has been extremely varied - we have had Africa Week, with the whole school raising £7,742, the Intermediate Music Competition, the J4/J5 production, Open Mornings (very successful, I might add), the Calendar launch, a successful Enterprise Week and quite a number of Former Pupil reunions. I have greatly enjoyed attending these events and look forward to many more over the course of the next few months.

I would like to bring to your attention a number of points some of which require your assistance, for which I would be grateful:

### **Balgray Project Progress**

Work on the new sports pavilion is progressing well and remains on schedule for completion by Easter 2010. Suitable events to mark the opening of the new building are now being planned for the summer term. Planning approval to renew the cladding on the spectator stand and replace the benches with new stadium seating has been applied for and it is hoped to complete this work to coincide with the opening of the new sports pavilion.

### **Medical Issues**

As anticipated, we are experiencing a rise in flu-like illness. Children who have symptoms of flu-like illness should stay away from school until they have recovered and are free of symptoms.

Parents should also note that any medicines sent into school should be accompanied by written instructions to the School Nurse.

### **Hooded Tops**

It has been brought to the attention of staff that pupils are wearing the blue hooded tops with school uniform. Parents are reminded that this item of clothing should only be worn when taking part in sporting activities.

### **Rugby/Hockey/Shooting Photographs**

Please find enclosed an order form for team photographs. This should be returned to Mr Wilson no later than: **Monday 7 December**.

## Absence from School

I would like to remind parents of the school rules in respect of notification of absence to the school. We would really appreciate your support in following these. I would especially like to highlight the importance of telephoning the school on the first day of any absence.

- In the event of absence through illness or injury, parents should telephone the school on the first day the pupil is absent and keep the school informed at regular intervals thereafter.
- Requests to attend hospital, doctor and dental appointments must be submitted in advanced to the Form Teacher.
- Requests to be excused, for an exceptional reason, from a Saturday Games fixture must normally be made at least 2 weeks in advance to the Head of Games. When there is a clash between club and school interests, the school has prior claim on a pupil's services.
- Any pupil who is ill on Friday evening/Saturday morning should contact their team captain and/or leave a message on the answering machine at Balgray. This should be supported by a note to the member of staff in charge of their team upon return to school.
- Should there be the necessity for a request for any other leave of absence, this must be submitted to the Rector as early as possible.
- On returning from absence, a pupil must provide a parentally signed note explaining the absence to their Form Teacher during registration.

## Pygmalion

Just a reminder that you are warmly invited to Kelvinside Academy's production of 'Pygmalion'. Join George Bernard in his salon to meet the characters from his play, on which the well-known musical "My Fair Lady" is based. The show will run from **Monday, 23 November until Thursday, 26 November** starting at 7.00pm. Fliers/order forms have already been issued to your son/daughter(s).

## December Concert

The Music Department is organising a concert on **Thursday, 10 December @ 7pm** in the Gilchrist Theatre. Tickets (£3.00 donation) will be available at Reception from the beginning of December onwards. Proceeds from the concert will go towards the purchase of a new upright piano.

## Junior Start

We look forward to Junior Start's Christmas show "Is there a baby in there?" which will take place on: **Friday 11 December at 2pm** in the Gilchrist Theatre. This will be followed on **Thursday 17 Dec**, by their Christmas party in the MMR (10 -11.30am). I am sure a great time will be had by all.

## **Bags in the Mall**

Over the past month there has been a focus on keeping the Mall clear of bags containing games kit, overnight bags and bags which are not used for school books. Many pupils simply abandon these in the Mall at the start of the day and collect them later on in the day. On occasion, bags are picked up in error and reported as 'stolen' only to turn up elsewhere in the school. Regularly, pupils trip over such bags which can be quite a hazard to movement.

Pupils have been encouraged to use school lockers into which they should deposit their bags at the start of the day. There are plenty of vacant lockers around the school, all capable of holding a decent sized bag, and there are a few outside lockers available for those with very large bags.

All that is required is for your son/daughter to see Mr Gilliland with a padlock and he/she will be directed to Mr Balloch who will allocate him/her a locker. Please encourage your son/daughter to do this as we attempt to make the Mall environment a much more pleasant place to be in.

## **Dates for your Diary**

- |                                       |   |  |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Saturday 28 November                  | - | PTA Christmas Fair - Mall  |
| Wednesday 2 December                  | - | S2 Subject Choice Information Evening  |
| Thursday 10 December                  | - | J1 Production "The Bossy King"   |
| Tuesday 15 &<br>Wednesday 16 December | - | J2/J3 Production "Eddie the Penguin Saves the World".  |
| Friday 18 December                    | - | Carol Service, 11am, Hyndland Parish Church<br>(pupils dismissed from church at 11.45am – <u>please note that parking can be difficult</u> ) |

As you can see we have a very busy time ahead of us and I very much look forward to seeing you at one or more of these events over the course of the next few weeks.

Yours sincerely

**Lesley A Douglas**  
Rector