



December 2017

To Parents of all Pupils

Dear Parents

I trust that your daughter has had a successful first term of this academic year. It has been exceptionally busy with many sporting, musical and drama events, as well as a visit from the Education and Training Inspectorate. The visit from the ETI was a very affirming one endorsing many aspects of school life, I will write to you in the new year when the report becomes available.

Next term begins on Thursday 4 January for Forms 1 to 4 but Forms 5 to U6 will be on study leave for their mock examinations. We also begin this term with our annual Open Morning on Saturday 6 January.

Mock Examinations

Mock examination timetables have now been issued to all pupils and these are now available on the school website. Form 5 pupils will be on study leave from Thursday 4 January to Friday 19 January. During this period, girls can opt to attend school for only their examination sessions, however, supervised study will be available in the library and sixth form study hall.

Minibus

You are probably aware of references in the media regarding the new driving requirements to drive minibuses. In Strathearn, as in many other schools, there are no trained staff to drive the buses. We are currently seeking to have several members of staff trained, however, the process is taking a disappointingly long time. As a result of this, we will have to withdraw our minibus service at 4.30pm in the afternoon from the end of this term. We hope to restore this service as soon as our minibuses become operable.

Parents' Association

The Parents' Association have 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 £5,100 being given into Strathearn School funds.

This amazing contribution to our funds is very much appreciated and will, as always, be put to great use for the benefit of the girls. Some of the money has been used to purchase a new school vehicle, a nine seater car and new sports equipment.

Strathearn Parent Forum

I wish to remind you about our desire to set up a Parent Forum. The purpose of the Forum is to provide an opportunity for parents and senior staff to discuss matters of mutual interest, to consult on issues pertinent to the school and to improve communication between parents and the school. The Forum will meet once each term in an afternoon and will be chaired by Mrs Myers (vice-principal pastoral). We would like to have each year group represented and if you think you might be interested please contact Mrs Myers (LMyers563@c2kni.net) for further information.

Important Dates

- Term finishes – Thursday 21 December 2017 at 12 noon.
- Next term begins on Thursday 4 January 2018 at 8.45 am.
- Sixth Form Consultation – Wednesday 7 February 2018 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm.
- Half term break is from 12 to 16 February with an exceptional closure (staff training) day on Monday 19 February 2017.
- Form 5 Consultation - Monday 19 February 2018 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm.
- Form 3 Consultation – Friday 2 March 2018 – (1pm talk) 1.30 to 3.30 pm.
- St Patrick's Day holiday – since publishing the calendar, last year, the St Patrick's holiday has been confirmed as Monday 19 March and not Friday 16 March. School will be closed on Monday 19 March 2018 for an exceptional closure (staff training) day.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Staff and the Governors to wish you and your family a happy Christmas and peaceful and safe new year.

Yours sincerely



N Connery (Mrs)
Principal