

24<sup>th</sup> August 2011

## **START OF TERM**

Dear Parents,

May I take this opportunity to welcome back everyone to the school after the summer holidays and remind you of a few things about the running of Atholl?

### **WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

Usually, on a Wednesday, pupils wear tracksuits to school for PE. However as this is the first day back, pupils should wear school uniform and bring gym shoes with them.

### **SCHOOL TIMES**

Breakfast Club is available from 8.00am. Children who are not at Breakfast Club should not be in the school building before 8.30am. At this point, teachers have an opportunity to collect homework and focus on their first lesson. You might feel that you need to discuss something with the teacher and we shall give you Parent/Staff meeting times, during the Information Meetings at the start of term. Prep 4s should be encouraged to go into the school by themselves. This is good practice in increasing independence.

### **PREP 3 & PREP 4**

Starting Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September, pupils in Prep 3 and Prep 4 travel to Kelvinbridge by coach at 12.30 pm, returning to Atholl at 3.10 pm. At Kelvinbridge they participate in Music and P.E. This year, all three sites will be integrated. The children should wear their tracksuits and trainers in the morning and carry their gym shoes and raincoat in their gym bags. Pupils can be collected from Kelvinbridge Terrace playground at 2.20 pm but please let the class teacher know in advance. The teachers cannot wait for late collections, as they have to get back to Atholl on the bus with the children. The pupils may also attend After School Care at Kelvinbridge. Please organise this through Mrs Thompson in After School Care.

### **STAFFING**

Mrs Gillian Dunn is covering Mrs Jones's classroom assistant time. Mrs Thompson, the Child Care Manager, is organising the staffing for ASC.

## **INFORMATION / "AT HOME" MEETINGS**

Class information meetings, where you will have the opportunity to meet your child's class teacher will be held on the following dates:

Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> August	Prep 1	2.30 – 3.10 pm
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> August	Prep 2	2.30 – 3.10 pm
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	Prep 3	2.30 – 3.10 pm
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	N/K	2.30 – 3.10 pm
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	Prep 4	2.30 – 3.10 pm

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**

Pupil individual photos and family groups will be taken on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September in the morning. Any afternoon only Nursery pupils may be brought to school in the morning to have their photographs taken, if you wish.

## **SCHOOL LEARNING**

We are keen to involve parents in the school. If you have a skill you can offer, please let us know. Grandparents are also very welcome.

## **WEEK OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY**

This year, our week of cultural diversity is week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> September. We are looking for any parent, grandparent or friend of the school who would like to come and talk to the pupils about another country, different cultures and beliefs, customs, food or interests. In the past, the children have really enjoyed these talks and have continued to discuss the events throughout the year.

## **ROAD TRAFFIC**

There is a parking area for two cars just outside the school gate. This is a private car parking space belonging to a Mugdock Road resident. The parking area beside the school is used by staff during the day. However, there is a Disabled Space and a space for Authorised Visitors.

Milngavie police would like all parents to park on the pavement side of Mugdock Road. They do not feel the moor side is safe when a child is exiting or entering the car. Apart from the zig-zag lines and a flashing speed restriction sign, there are no other parking restrictions on Mugdock Road or the surrounding roads. However, may I ask you to take care where you leave your car and be aware of blocking residents' driveways; parking cars where another driver's vision might be restricted from an exit road; parking opposite the school entrance; and putting the car so far onto a pavement that pedestrians might be unable to walk on the pavement.

The driveway into the school is shared with the residents of Tannoch House. They have their own car parking area at the back of the flats. Please keep on the pavement if they are exiting from the car park. The grassy area with the wooden

fence belongs to the Tannoch House residents and pupils should refrain from entering this area to retrieve balls etc. Alert the Atholl staff who will do this.

Our school calendar will be sent to you by e-mail. Mrs Macaulay and I shall update this during the term and I hope that it gives you enough information, in advance, of our school's activities.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, if you have anything you wish to discuss.

Yours sincerely,

Jean McMorran  
Head of Atholl