

Dear Parent/Guardian,

### **OPEN AFTERNOON**

This will be held on October 1<sup>st</sup> from 1.30 - 2.30pm. You are invited to visit your child's class/classes where they can tell you more about their activities and work in school. The children really enjoy an opportunity to do this, so please come if you can - even if just for 10 minutes. Should you be unable to attend yourself, it is OK for a grandparent or aunt etc, to attend.

### **SCHOOL GROUPS**

All class representatives have now been elected and are as follows. From time to time you may receive a Newsletter from some of the groups.

#### **School Council**

P1	Caitlin Sheridan	P5	Cameron Lisle
P2	Jack Brown	P5/6	Chloe MacKintosh
P2/3	Isla Dowling	P6	Jemma Buchanan
P3	Erin Phillips	P7T	Ryan Nelson
P4	Andrew Rollo	P7W	Joanne Kennedy
P4/5	Megan McColm		

The Council discusses a wide range of issues of importance to the pupils and has influenced a range of improvements in school and in the playground. The Minutes of the School Council meetings are posted on the notice board outside.

#### **FAB (Food at Balloch)**

P1	Callum Haspell	P5	Scott Lisle
P2	Elle Fraser	P5/6	Amy Mackay
P2/3	Jack Murray	P6	Caris Simpson
P3	Jamie Carson	P7T	Ross Alexander
P4	Megan Cattanach	P7W	Aaron Nicol
P4/5	Faye Black		

School Cook

Mrs. Macdonald, Mrs. McKenzie + Mrs. MacGowan (parents)

Mrs. Vernal (school nurse)

Mrs. Asher (Active Schools Co-ordinator)

The group suggest ideas and organise health promoting events in the school.

### Eco School (B.E.S.T)

P1 Christopher Watson      P5 Finlay MacNeill  
P2 Jed Scott                      P5/6 Matthew MacKinnon  
P2/3 Kirsty Thomson          P6 Iain Crush  
P3 Neil Crawshaw              P7T Matthew Mackay  
P4 Calum MacPherson        P7W Beth Mackay  
P4/5 Rhona Martin  
Mrs. Green and Ms Spalding (parents)  
Stephen McKeand (Janitor)

Miss Campbell will be organising and supporting the group this year. We hope to be able to achieve our Green Flag Award during the current session.

### House Captains

<b>BIRCH</b>	<b>FIR</b>	<b>LARCH</b>	<b>OAK</b>
Cameron McKay - C Erin Grant - VC	Sam Johnstone - C Lucy Camerson - VC	Susan Smith - C Samuel Gilfillan - VC	Darren Jamieson - C Nicki Sculthorpe - VC

### JRSO's (Junior Road Safety Officers)

Josie Brown P7T  
Megan Morrison P7T

Congratulations to you all and good luck with your jobs!  
Your contribution to improving the school is much appreciated.

### PHOTOGRAPHER

The Photographer will visit the school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September to take individual and family photographs of pupils from P1-7. The proof photographs should be available either before the October break or immediately after and photographs ordered will be back in school in plenty time to send off for Christmas gifts.

### SCHOOL COOK

As you will probably have heard, Vanessa Innes our 'cook in charge' has left us to take up a new career. Vanessa has worked in the school for a long time and will be missed - especially for her speciality dishes such as Wellington Fudge Cake and Chicken Curry! She has also been a great support to the FAB group in working towards providing healthy snacks and school meals. We wish her the best of luck for the future.

### **PARENT HELPERS**

There has been an excellent response this session to our request for a list of parent helpers. Thanks to all those who have volunteered and we hope to be able to make use of your offers during the session. Some volunteers are already involved in supervising the borrowing of reading books, in running the chess and rugby clubs and in playing the piano for us at Assemblies.

### **SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**

We will be holding an Autumn book fair on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Parents are invited to come along on these days between 2.30pm and 3.30pm. As usual, there will be a wide range of books on sale for all ages. A good opportunity for some early Christmas shopping!

### **TESCO VOUCHERS**

Tesco Sports for Schools vouchers has started again. Collecting these has been really successful for us in the past so please remember to ask all your family and friends to start collecting. P7's are doing a great job as usual counting and sorting all the vouchers.

### **LOST PROPERTY**

We have a ring which was found in the playground and has never been claimed. It might be an engagement/dress ring. If anyone has lost this type of ring, please contact the school office.

### **PANTOMIME - EDEN COURT**

We are planning to take all pupils from P1-7 to see 'Peter Pan' at the newly refurbished Eden Court Theatre. This will be on the afternoon of December 19<sup>th</sup>. The cost will be £8 per child. The school will pay £3 and we will be asking parents to pay the balance of £5 per child. The PTA will pay for the transport which will be approximately £500. We will send you more details later.

### **P1 PARENTS TO LUNCH**

Parents of new P1 pupils are invited to join their children for lunch in school on Thursday October 4<sup>th</sup>. Further details will follow.

### **CLUBS**

If your child has signed up to an after school club, please let us know in writing or by calling the school if they intend leaving the club or if they

do not intend to go to the club on a certain day. Our volunteer leaders need to know who is attending and who is not.

### **WET WEATHER**

A reminder once again about wet weather jackets. The children will be expected to be outside for breaks unless the weather is very bad, so please ensure your child brings a suitable jacket to school every day.

### **BOOK AMNESTY**

Over the past couple of years it seems we have lost quite a few school books which may have been left at home. Therefore, we plan to hold a 'book amnesty' during the week starting October 1<sup>st</sup>. Please search book shelves, bedrooms and bags for any books which may not have been returned to school but are the property of Balloch School. A box will be available to return all books outside the school office - no questions asked!

### **PARENT COUNCIL**

The new Parent Council has now been formed and has held its first meeting. I would like to thank everyone who has worked towards setting it up successfully and we look forward to enjoying the support of even more parents in furthering the success of the school.

### **CONTACT WITH SCHOOL**

Formal parent's nights are coming up in November when you will all have an opportunity to talk with class teachers about your child's progress. However, I would remind you that you are welcome to contact the school at any time should you have a query or concern.

Also, if you have any ideas about improvements to any aspect of school life, we are keen to hear your views. Just send a brief note to me and we will certainly take your opinion into account in any future planning and decision making.

### **REMINDER**

- ❖ October holidays - school closes on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October at the usual time and re-opens on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October.
- ❖ Teacher's In-Service Training Days - 26<sup>th</sup> + 27<sup>th</sup> November 2007.

Yours sincerely,  
Head Teacher