

21st March 2017

Dear Parents,

The term continues to fly by and so this newsletter brings you up to date with events, news and important information.

Events

Happy Puzzle Challenge Day

This took place just before half term as part of our work on developing the Melrose Growth Mindset philosophy. The girls from Pre-Prep upwards took part in a fun puzzle challenge day. Working across year groups in teams, they had to work collaboratively on a range of tasks designed to stretch and challenge them, encouraging them to be reflective and persevere, with some amazing results. The staff also 'had a go' and found out that the challenges were very tricky! We hope to follow this up with another challenge event next term, which parents will be invited to join in with!



Lieutenant Governor's Visit



We were thrilled to be visited by The Lieutenant Governor and Lady Corder. Although a whistle stop tour, they gained an insight into life at Melrose and, as a follow up, our Pre-Preparatory girls are going to visit Government House to see the bee hives.



Eisteddfod

May I take this opportunity to congratulate all the girls who have and will be taking part in the Eisteddfod. Our choirs, music groups and choral speakers should be incredibly proud of the performances they have given and the standards that they achieved. As I said to the girls in Assembly, whatever the outcome they should embrace the challenge of being on stage and, above all, enjoy it. May I say a huge WELL DONE to all who have taken part in both groups and solo performances and wish all who are still to perform the very best of luck. We look forward to the French Eisteddfod on Friday.

Strictly Come Dancing

I hope that many of you will be able to support, what promises to be, a fun filled event at The Ladies' College, this Friday. We wish Mr Lewis, Mrs Morris, Miss Coubrough-Barnett, Mrs Loveridge, Miss Kinley and Madame Watts the very best of luck as they 'strut their stuff'. We will be routing for them.

News and Information

Please refer to the Weekly Bulletin for day to day information. This is emailed out on a Friday. Please ensure that we have your current email address so that you receive this useful information.

Comic Relief

Just to remind you that, due to the French Eisteddfod, we will be celebrating Comic Relief this Thursday 23rd March, instead of Friday 24th March and girls are able to wear mufti for a £1 donation to this worthwhile cause.

Staff News

As you are aware that we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Ailsa Beebee as Deputy Head and Lower Prep teacher at the end of the academic year. She is returning to Scotland, where Rev Beebee is taking up a new post. Mrs Beebee has been at Melrose for 13 years and throughout that time has shown exceptional commitment and dedication to the school. The recruitment process has now begun and we will inform you as soon as a replacement has been appointed.

This term has seen Mrs Zola Saunders joining the Pre-Preparatory Department as a part time practitioner and also lunch time supervisor and Mrs Margaret Brookes has replaced Mrs Michelle Roussel, who left this term, as a lunch time supervisor. Both have settled very well into the Melrose team.

Uniform

Dresses and Blazers

Although it does not feel very warm at the moment, I wanted to remind you about changes to the Summer uniform. There is a new Summer dress which should be in stock at Fletchers from the end of this month. The new dress is made from the same material as the old but has a more comfortable collar style, and no piping or belt. The cost of Summer dresses has increased significantly, apparently due to Brexit, so by making these minor alterations we have managed to reduce the cost on the original style by at least £10 per dress.

The original badged blazers will still be worn by girls from Lower Prep to Form II. In Forms II and III the new Senior School Blazer can be worn as this will be required for Remove at the Senior School. We hope that this will reduce the expense for parents of Upper Junior girls.

Girls may return to school after Easter in their Winter or Summer Uniform. However, from May half term girls must wear Summer Uniform and this may be worn until October half term. The Summer Uniform is as follows:

Lower Prep up to Form I (inclusive)

New style - Summer Dresses, White ankle socks, Green V- Necked Pullover, Original Badged Blazers

Form II and Form III

Tartan Kilts and Short Sleeved Blouses, White ankle socks, Green V Necked Pullover, transition to New Style Senior School blazer during Upper Juniors.

Trainers

It is increasingly difficult to buy predominantly white trainers, therefore suitable coloured trainers will be accepted.

Hair

Please ensure that your daughter's hair bands are brown, green or checked to match the Summer dress. Hair accessories should be plain and not flamboyant. If hair has been braided or decorated in any way for a special occasion this may be worn at school for a week and then must be removed.

Please ensure that your daughter has the correct uniform and P.E. kit in school and that all items are clearly named. A full uniform list is available on the website - www.ladiescollege.com.

Trinity Term Menu

The lunch menu for Melrose and the Pre-Preparatory Department for Trinity Term 2017 is available on the school website www.ladiescollege.com. Please complete the reply slip at the end of this letter if you would like your daughter to have cooked lunches next term. **Slips should be returned by Tuesday 28th March.**

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E Ozanne
Head Teacher

Trinity Term 2017 – Melrose Cooked Lunch Reply Slip *(not required for Pre-Preparatory)*

I would like my daughter to have Cooked Lunches at school during Trinity Term 2017.

Name: Form:

Signed:

Please return by **Tuesday 28th March**