



19<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Dear Parents,

Preparations for Christmas have now begun and the girls are working hard both in class and in rehearsals for special events. There is much to look forward to and so this month's newsletter celebrates both recent events and aims to inform you of the excitement to come. As the second half of term is a busy one I encourage you to keep an eye on the Weekly Bulletins as these will give you up to date information on forthcoming events along with some highlights that happen at school each week.

## News and Events

### Walk on the Wildside

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported our 'Walk on the Wildside' by making cakes or dressing up and sending in donations for this very worthwhile cause. We had a fantastic morning at school just before half term and it was an amazing sight to see a parade of superbly dressed animals, from 2 ½ to 11, walking around the school grounds. This was followed by a range of animal activities including finding out more about the Born Free Charity, creating anti-cruelty animal posters, researching endangered animals, matching paw prints and animal skin prints, making 3D lions and decorating bear biscuits amongst many others. As well as having a really enjoyable morning we managed to raise a terrific £857.54. I also received a letter from Lady Le Cheminant who was a key organiser of The Walk for Wildlife thanking the school for our continued support. Well done, everyone.



### De Putron Challenge

The Melrose Masterminds, otherwise known as Beattie Glynn-Riley, Eva Redelinghuys, Polly Gilligan and reserve Lily Taylor-Milroy, represented Melrose at the De Putron challenge, competing against thirteen other Primary schools on the island. They had been practising hard with Mrs Morris, their parents and the rest of



Form III to hone their skills in the various areas including General Knowledge, Maths, Science and Literacy. The team made it to the final, finishing in third place. We are **so** proud of them all, they put all of the Melrose Mindsets into practice – Risk Taking, Resilience, Collaboration, Curiosity, Initiative, and Reflection. Outstanding effort, girls!

### **Rotary Shoe Boxes**

Thank you to all those who sent in Rotary Shoe boxes. The Rotary Club have sent 4,485 boxes this year, 1,538 were received from the schools on the island which will make Christmas a little more special for some needy children.

### **Children In Need**



Thank you to Form III and Mrs Morris for leading a fantastic assembly for Children in Need on Friday. It was really informative and a great deal of fun. All the girls looked so bright and colourful and there was a super atmosphere in the hall. We also raised £380 for Children in Need so thank you again for your support.



## **Diary Dates and Information**

### **Reading Material**

Some parents have requested ideas for suitable reading material for their daughters. The Guilles Alles librarians now have a link to a super website that has a fantastic selection of recommendations. <https://www.lovereadng4kids.co.uk/>

### **Social Media**

It has come to our attention that some girls in the Upper Juniors are trying to set up WhatsApp groups outside school. Whilst we have no control of the use of Social Media outside school we would like to remind parents that the legal age for using WhatsApp is 16 years and we do not recommend the creation of, possibly divisive, groups on social media.

### **Appointments**

As stated in our Parent Handbook please can you do your utmost to book medical or dental appointments outside the school day. We do appreciate that with some appointments, including specialist appointments, this is not possible. In these cases we request that you give the school 48 hours' notice of these appointments wherever possible.

### **Grass**

The grass on the Prep Playground is depleting and is in urgent need of attention. It will therefore be re-seeded and roped off until the start of the Lent Term so that we are able to have some grass to play on in the spring!



## Upcoming Diary Dates

Please see some important dates for your diaries below.  
More information will be sent nearer the time.

**4<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> December - Preparatory Department Nativity – 1.45pm**

**14<sup>th</sup> December – St Stephens Church – 2.00pm**

**15<sup>th</sup> December – PTA Christmas Fayre 10am-12.00pm**

**17<sup>th</sup> December - Pre-Preparatory Department Nativity Play - 1.45pm**

**18<sup>th</sup> December – Melrose Christmas Party Day**

**End of term – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

Term ends at **12 noon** for **Junior girls**. The **Preparatory Department** may start to leave at **11.45am** and the **Pre-Preparatory Department** may leave from **11.15am** to ease congestion in the car park.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Elaine Ozanne  
Head Teacher