### **Strathesk Primary SchoolC:\Users\donalv86\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\HZWI8O57\cfry-Holly[1].png**

**Newsletter - December 2018**

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***URGENT MESSAGE***

There will be maintenance work being carried out on the Midlothian schools telephone system with effect from **10am tomorrow - Wednesday 19 December 2018**. At present we do not know how long this work will take but will keep you informed.

As a temporary measure you will be able to phone Strathesk using the following number : **0131 444 9079**

***Staffing***

*Thank you to Mrs Wilson who is continuing to support Strathesk with cover requirements, we are looking forward to Mrs Carr starting with P5a soon in the new year and will keep you posted. We are welcoming some new Learning Assistants to Strathesk;*

*Julie Perret (who also works in the dining room)*

*Chloe Mitchell (Mrs Mitchell’s daughter!)*

*Julie Mckenzie & Michelle Gillies*

*Welcome to our happy team!*

***Congratulations***

*Many congratulations to Mr Armstrong whose wife Mary gave birth to little ‘Tomos’ on Wednesday 12th December at 7.22pm. He weighed 7lbs 10oz.*

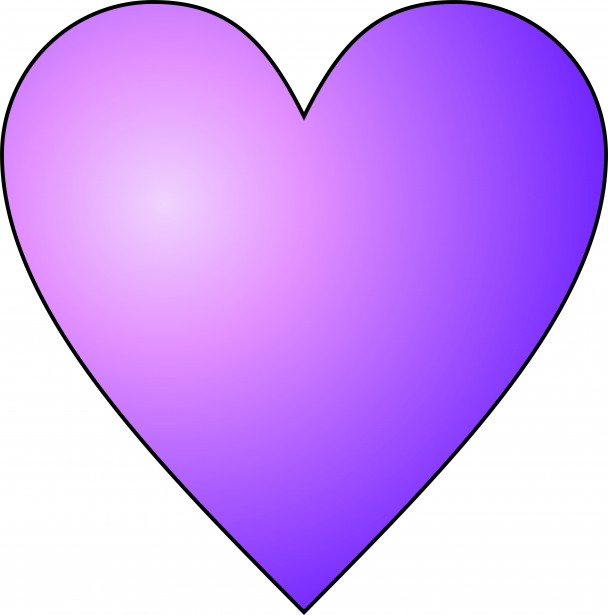
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***Parking***

*The local police have had a number of complaints about unsafe parking on and around the school campus. We know this is an ongoing issue and we hope to roll out regular plans next term to try to keep our school parking areas safe.* ***Please remember that the drop off zone at the front of the school is only to be used for speedy drop off or collection. It is not for extended periods of parking or for parents wishing to walk their child into school****. We have also been struggling with staff being trapped in the car park, unable to leave for urgent events or meetings. In addition we have on-going issues with buses being unable to enter and exit the drop off zone. We will be asking our* ***Junior Road Safety Officers*** *to support safe use of the area in the near future. Currently the police are trying to be present at key times to support safe parking. Thank you.*

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***A special thought for school staff who work tirelessly especially at this busy time of year, with the children at the heart of everything they do. A very big thank you to the wonderful staff at Strathesk Primary School and Nursery.***

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***Dear Parents***

*This term has gone so quickly with so many exciting events and super learning going on in school. The P6 children had an amazing ‘Victorians Day’ and really got into the role play to enrich their learning. Classes have been entertaining us by sharing their learning at assembly and we have seen some lovely themed learning going on around school. The P2-3 Nativity was wonderful again this year with many positive comments from parents and carers. They certainly brought some ‘Starlight’ into our lives.*

***May I take this opportunity to wish everyone in our school community a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas and Very Best Wishes for 2019! We look forward to seeing you all next term.***

*Ms Donaldson*

*Head Teacher*

***Strathesk Christmas FairC:\Program Files\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\CAGCAT10\j0183290.wmf***

*Many thanks to everyone in our school community who came along to the Christmas Fair. It was so busy!! With such a lovely atmosphere as usual.* ***The total raised was £1969.*** *Many thanks to the Parent Partnership and helpers who made this such a brilliant event.*

***Nursery Expansion***

*Our nursery class are moving steadily forwards with plans for the expansion pilot providing 1140 hours of high quality child care and education to flexibly meet families’ needs. We already have many families interested in our 16 place full time model and we aim to get started towards the end of January.*

***Strathesk Support Hub***

*Our Support Hub staff are very busy at this time of year delivering Christmas hampers and presents. I know you join me in thanking the Hub staff for this dedicated work supporting our children and families. Don’t forget, you can pop in to school any time to chat to - Mrs Turbitt or Mrs Black 0131 271 4705 or Mrs Turbitt on 07825 054 017*

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***Scots Night 2019!***

*In the last few years our fabulous Scot’s Night has been struggling to be the huge success it used to be – either due to bad weather, low ticket sales etc. This year we are hoping to revive Scot’s Night to its former glory with a wonderful Ceilidh for our school community. We are looking at our plans again to try to make this a great night and are very much hoping you will all come along to support Strathesk. Our fabulous caller Annabel Oates and Bill on the accordion are all booked and raring to go on:*

***Wednesday 23rd January 2019!***

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**Diary Dates**

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| **Date** | **Event** |
| **Friday 21st December** | Break – school ends at normal time |
| **Monday 7th January 2019** | In-service day for school staff |
| **Tuesday 8th January** | Pupils resume |
| **Tuesday 15th January** | Sharing Learning 9-10am |
| **Tuesday 15th January** | PC Cassidy to visit P1/2 |
| **Tuesday 22nd January** | P6/7 (approx 20) Sports Hall Athletics - Newbattle |
| **Wednesday 23rd January** | Scots Night |
| **Monday 28th January** | Penicuik Learners at Cornbank PS |
| **Tuesday 22nd January** | P7 STEM Session |
| **Monday 11th February** | February break commences |
| **Monday 18th February** | Pupils and Staff return from break |
| **Monday 4th March** | ‘Sleep Week’ |
| **Tuesday 5th March** | Nursery, P1 & P7 Vista Photos |
| **Thursday 7th March** | World Book Day |
| **Monday 11th March** | Penicuik Learners at Cuiken PS |
| **Thursday 14th March 4-7pm**  **Friday 15th March 1-4pm** | Parent Consultations |
| **Friday 5th April**  **Tuesday 23rd April** | Break for Easter  All resume |



Merry Christmas Everyone! 