



St Cyrus School Newsletter

November 2023



Our Vision

Our school and its family is a happy and successful place. A positive environment where people care for and encourage each other in order to achieve everyone's full potential.



Reach for the Stars



Dear Parents/Carers

The term ahead looks set to be a very busy one!

Staffing

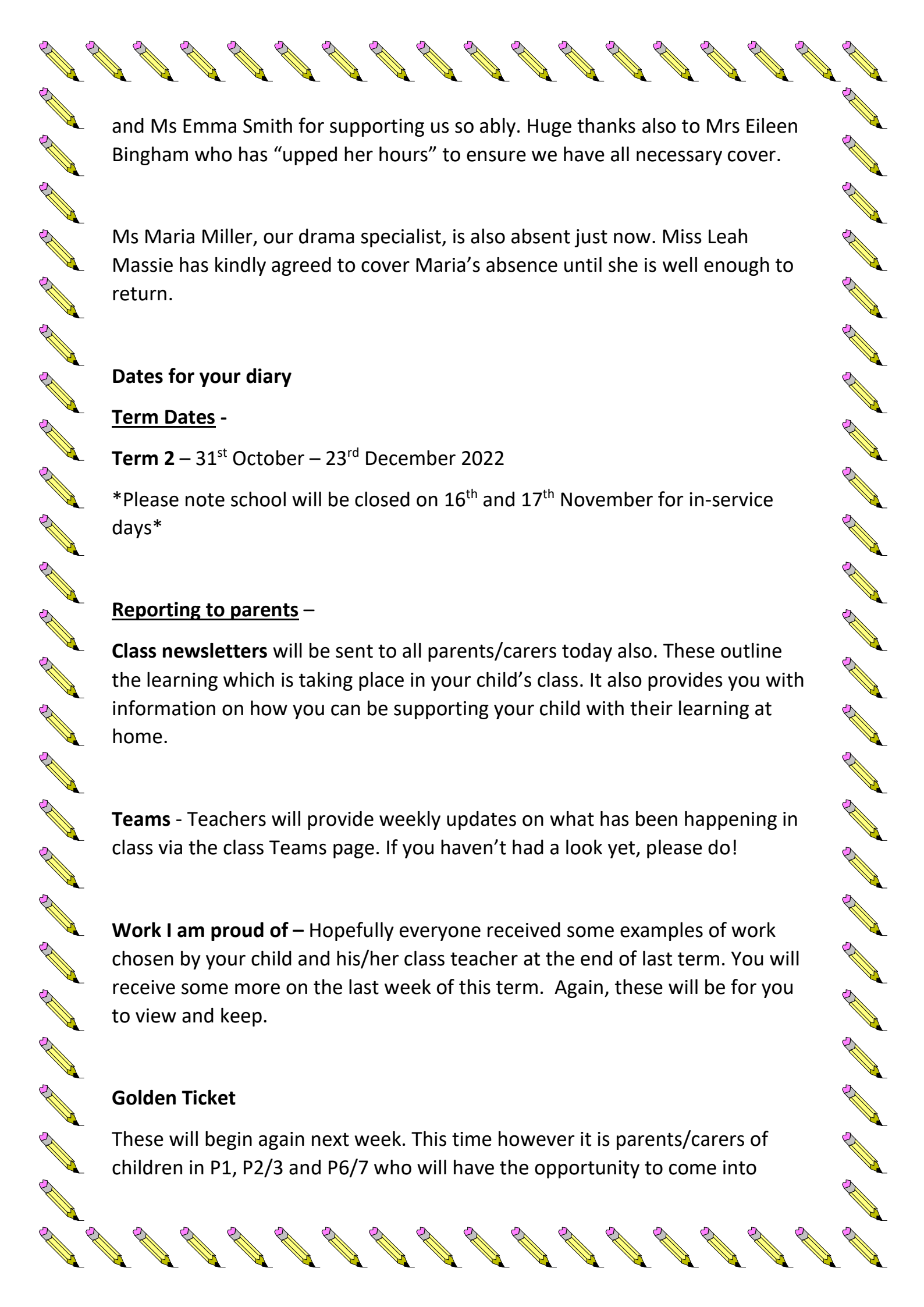
Mr Duncan has made the decision to reduce his working week at St Cyrus School to 4 days as of Monday 27th November. Following interview, Ms Kirsty McMillan was selected as the successful candidate to job-share with him.

From Monday 27th November, Ms McMillan will teach P4/5 on a Monday and Mr Duncan will teach on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

As Ms McMillan is presently in school on a Wednesday, covering for Mrs Sutherland who is on a secondment, she has already met the class and is familiar with the school.

I am sure you will join me in wishing Ms McMillan a warm welcome to St Cyrus and to wish Mr Duncan well in his new ventures on a Monday.

We presently have two PSAs (Mrs McCombie and Ms Edwards) absent, both of whom are likely to be off for the next few weeks. We have been fortunate to date to secure relief PSA cover. Thanks to Ms Jane Bolton, Ms Rachel Anderson



and Ms Emma Smith for supporting us so ably. Huge thanks also to Mrs Eileen Bingham who has “upped her hours” to ensure we have all necessary cover.

Ms Maria Miller, our drama specialist, is also absent just now. Miss Leah Massie has kindly agreed to cover Maria’s absence until she is well enough to return.

Dates for your diary

Term Dates -

Term 2 – 31st October – 23rd December 2022

Please note school will be closed on 16th and 17th November for in-service days

Reporting to parents –

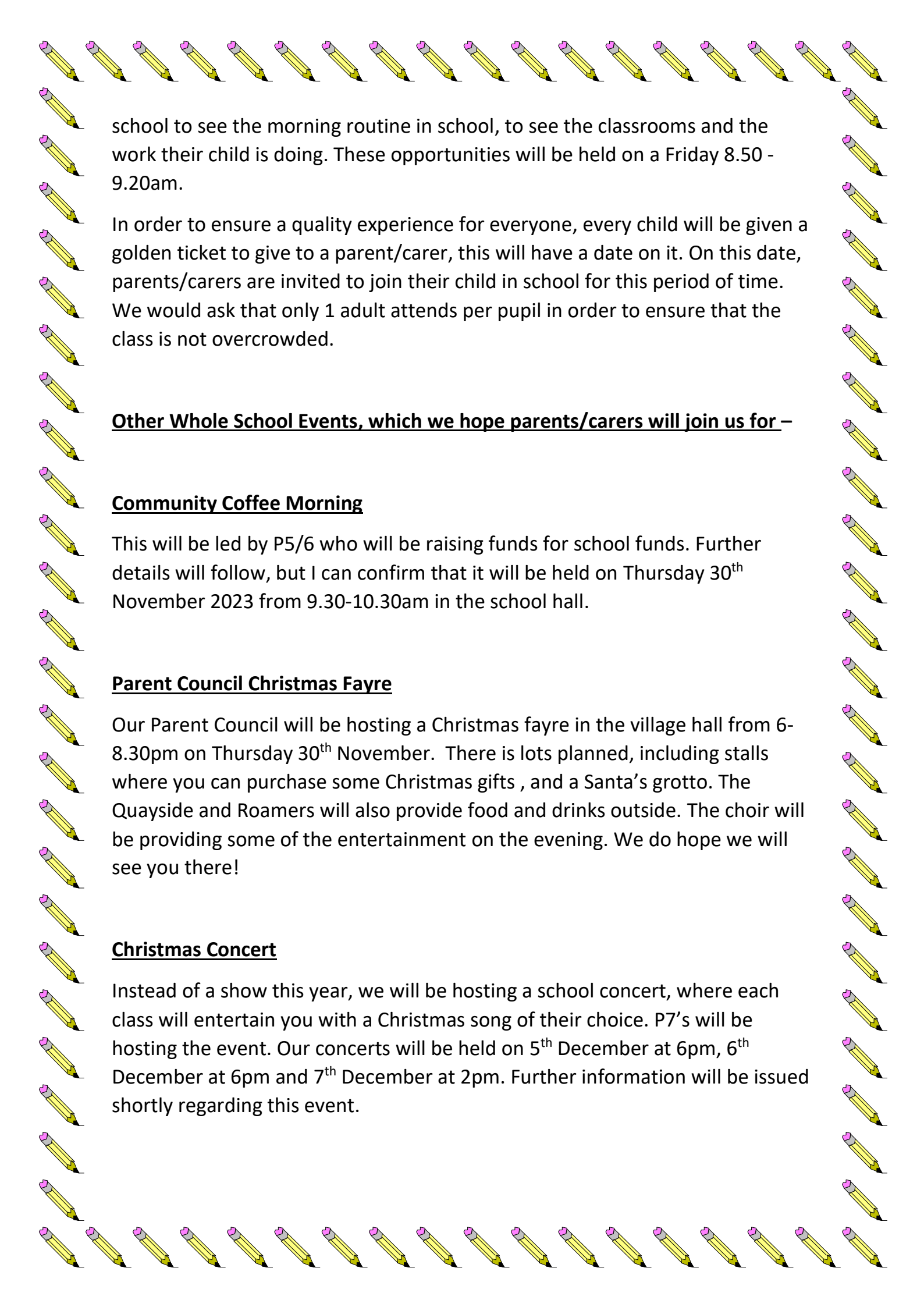
Class newsletters will be sent to all parents/carers today also. These outline the learning which is taking place in your child’s class. It also provides you with information on how you can be supporting your child with their learning at home.

Teams - Teachers will provide weekly updates on what has been happening in class via the class Teams page. If you haven’t had a look yet, please do!

Work I am proud of – Hopefully everyone received some examples of work chosen by your child and his/her class teacher at the end of last term. You will receive some more on the last week of this term. Again, these will be for you to view and keep.

Golden Ticket

These will begin again next week. This time however it is parents/carers of children in P1, P2/3 and P6/7 who will have the opportunity to come into



school to see the morning routine in school, to see the classrooms and the work their child is doing. These opportunities will be held on a Friday 8.50 - 9.20am.

In order to ensure a quality experience for everyone, every child will be given a golden ticket to give to a parent/carer, this will have a date on it. On this date, parents/carers are invited to join their child in school for this period of time. We would ask that only 1 adult attends per pupil in order to ensure that the class is not overcrowded.

Other Whole School Events, which we hope parents/carers will join us for –

Community Coffee Morning

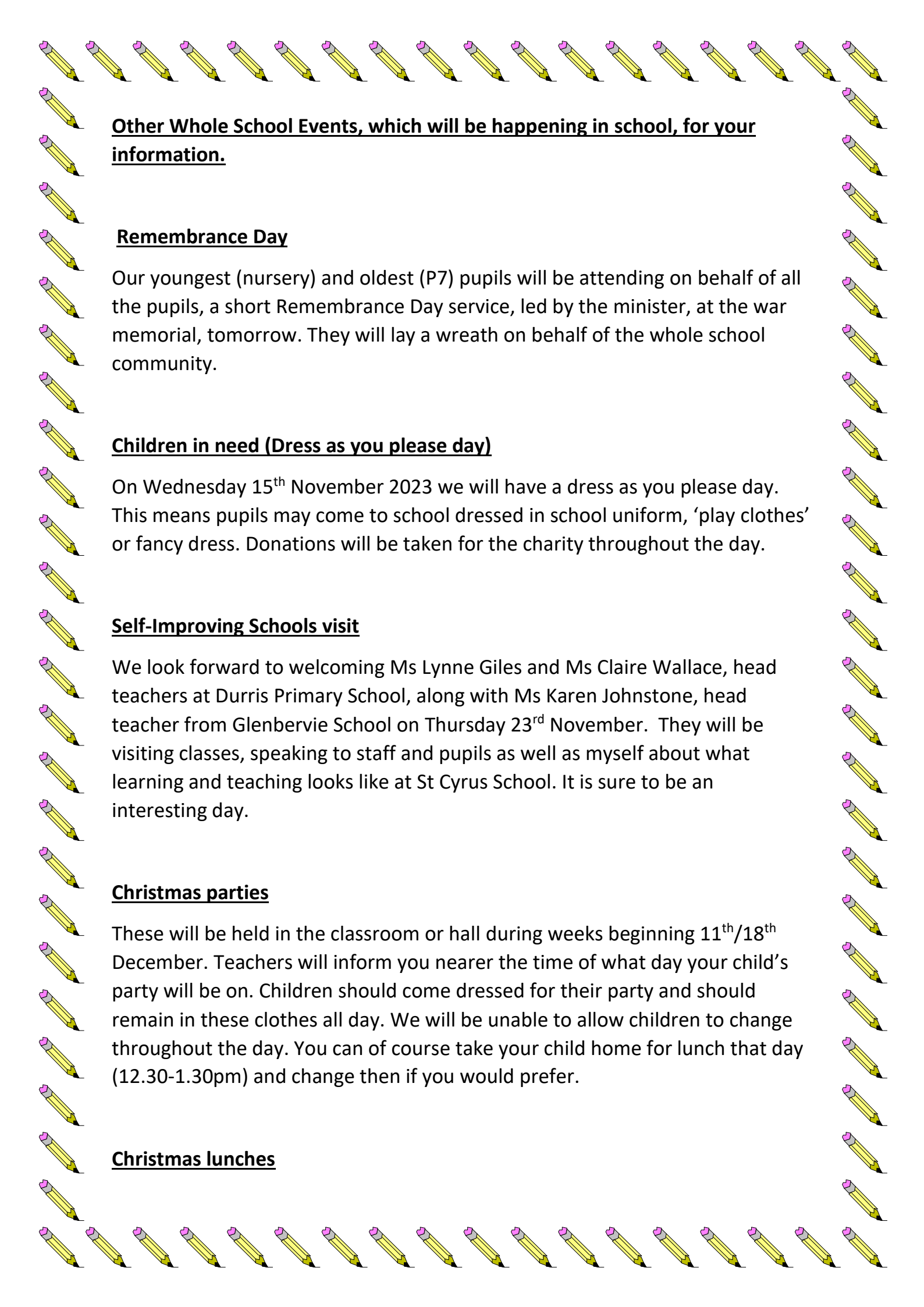
This will be led by P5/6 who will be raising funds for school funds. Further details will follow, but I can confirm that it will be held on Thursday 30th November 2023 from 9.30-10.30am in the school hall.

Parent Council Christmas Fayre

Our Parent Council will be hosting a Christmas fayre in the village hall from 6-8.30pm on Thursday 30th November. There is lots planned, including stalls where you can purchase some Christmas gifts, and a Santa's grotto. The Quayside and Roamers will also provide food and drinks outside. The choir will be providing some of the entertainment on the evening. We do hope we will see you there!

Christmas Concert

Instead of a show this year, we will be hosting a school concert, where each class will entertain you with a Christmas song of their choice. P7's will be hosting the event. Our concerts will be held on 5th December at 6pm, 6th December at 6pm and 7th December at 2pm. Further information will be issued shortly regarding this event.



Other Whole School Events, which will be happening in school, for your information.

Remembrance Day

Our youngest (nursery) and oldest (P7) pupils will be attending on behalf of all the pupils, a short Remembrance Day service, led by the minister, at the war memorial, tomorrow. They will lay a wreath on behalf of the whole school community.

Children in need (Dress as you please day)

On Wednesday 15th November 2023 we will have a dress as you please day. This means pupils may come to school dressed in school uniform, 'play clothes' or fancy dress. Donations will be taken for the charity throughout the day.

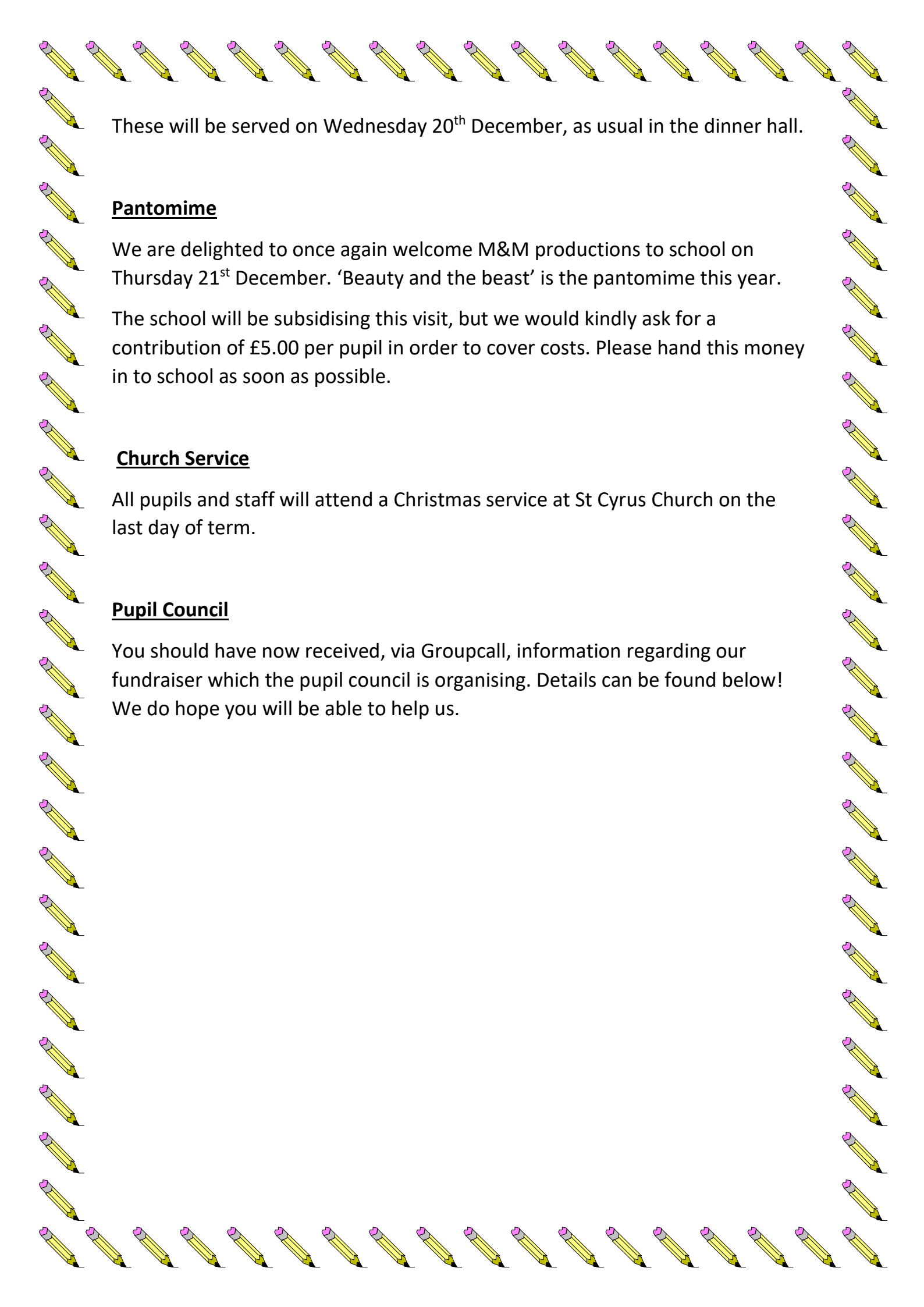
Self-Improving Schools visit

We look forward to welcoming Ms Lynne Giles and Ms Claire Wallace, head teachers at Durris Primary School, along with Ms Karen Johnstone, head teacher from Glenbervie School on Thursday 23rd November. They will be visiting classes, speaking to staff and pupils as well as myself about what learning and teaching looks like at St Cyrus School. It is sure to be an interesting day.

Christmas parties

These will be held in the classroom or hall during weeks beginning 11th/18th December. Teachers will inform you nearer the time of what day your child's party will be on. Children should come dressed for their party and should remain in these clothes all day. We will be unable to allow children to change throughout the day. You can of course take your child home for lunch that day (12.30-1.30pm) and change then if you would prefer.

Christmas lunches



These will be served on Wednesday 20th December, as usual in the dinner hall.

Pantomime

We are delighted to once again welcome M&M productions to school on Thursday 21st December. 'Beauty and the beast' is the pantomime this year.

The school will be subsidising this visit, but we would kindly ask for a contribution of £5.00 per pupil in order to cover costs. Please hand this money in to school as soon as possible.

Church Service

All pupils and staff will attend a Christmas service at St Cyrus Church on the last day of term.

Pupil Council

You should have now received, via Groupcall, information regarding our fundraiser which the pupil council is organising. Details can be found below! We do hope you will be able to help us.



St Cyrus School Colour Hampers Fundraiser

We are once again running our colour hamper fundraiser. We, the pupil council are going to organise it. We hope you will be able to help us!

Each class has been allocated a colour (see below). We are asking for donations of new and unopened items such as sweets, alcohol, pamper products, stationary etc. to be handed into school in

Class colours

Nursery – Pink

Primary 1– Red

Primary 2/3 – Yellow

Primary 3/4 – Orange

Primary 4/5 – Blue

Primary 5/6 – Purple

Primary 6/7 - Green

These items will then be collated into 'Colour Hampers' and raffled off later in the term.

We will have a grid of 100 squares and sell numbers for 50p per square. Numbers will then be chosen at random, and the winners will be announced (and the hampers sent home) before we begin

Squares will be available to buy from the school office from Monday 20th November and during the Christmas concert performances.

We would appreciate your support with this fundraiser, no matter how small the donation.

Thank you!

St Cyrus School Pupil Council

Cycling Champions

We are very excited to start our own cycling champions at St Cyrus School. Information about the champions was shared with all classes and the following children were interested in joining the group, led by Mrs Lauren Strang, our EYSP - P3/4-Rhuaridh & Niamh, P4/5- Erin & Millie, P5/6 -Leah & Ember and P6/7- Amelia & Olivia.

The group have been successful in securing a grant of over £11,000 to spend on improving cycling within the community. The group will be helping with the development of a borrow bike scheme at St Cyrus, a new bike/scooter shelter and receiving the school's own cycling award. More information will follow throughout the session.

I hope this provides you with an idea of all that we have planned throughout the coming term. Should you have any queries regarding any of the above please do not hesitate to contact the school office –



01674 902470 or stcyrus.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

If your query is regarding a class matter, teachers can also be reached via the following email addresses –

P1– Mrs Simpson and Mrs Keith - gw09simpsonlisa01@glow.sch.uk
and gw08keithlaura@glow.sch.uk

P2/3 -Mr Walker and Miss Murray gw23walkereuan@glow.sch.uk and
gw11murraykellyanne@glow.sch.uk

P3/4 – Mrs Jamieson and Mrs Greig - gw09abbeykerri@glow.sch.uk
and gw10greigsandy@glow.sch.uk

P4/5 – Mr Duncan - gw17duncanandrewedwi@glow.sch.uk

P5/6 – Mrs Bandeen - gw14bandeenkathleen@glow.sch.uk

P6/ 7 –Mrs Abdou and Mrs Boyd–gw17abdouamy@glow.sch.uk and
gw14boydmaria@glow.sch.uk

SFL – Mrs Carmichael - gw08carmichaeljanet3@glow.sch.uk

Best wishes

Isla Mann

Head teacher

St Cyrus School