Dear Parents/ Carer

Inservice Day
School will be closed to pupils on Monday 19th November and will re-open on Tuesday 20th at 9am.

School Photographs
Please return photograph orders as quickly as possible. Orders were sent to the photographer on Friday and it will take approximately 3 weeks for photographs to be returned from the printer.

Parent Council
The parent council held their AGM on the 9th of October and welcomed new members. Anyone else who is interested in joining should contact Carol Longmuir (Chair Person). Next meeting is Tuesday 6th November at 7pm.

Halloween Disco
The parent council are holding a fancy dress disco for all pupils on Tuesday 30th October. P1-4 will be held from 6-7.15pm and P5-7 from 7.30-8.45pm. Children should be collected from school after each disco. Tickets are £2 and can be purchased from the school office.

Treasure Island
Last Monday all the children in P1-7 enjoyed an M&M Production of the classic tale Treasure Island. Audience participation, costume and scene changes and lights for a dramatic effect made it a thoroughly enjoyable production.

P.E.
We ask for safety that all pupils remove their jewellery including watches prior to any PE lessons. If ear-rings cannot be removed, then plasters need to be worn. (Plasters to be provided from home.) Should your child be unable to participate in PE, then a letter must be provided.

Parking
The safety of our pupils is paramount therefore our school carpark is closed each day at 2.40pm and re-opened at 3.10pm. Anyone choosing to park in the staff carpark will be unable to exit before this time. When parking vehicles close to the school, please park your car with consideration for our neighbours. Please keep driveways clear and be aware that a Road Traffic Order is in place outside the school and parking on the yellow lines can result in fines being issued.

Vikingar
Room 4 travelled to Largs on Thursday 25th October to visit Vikingar. The children had an exciting day learning about the history of Vikings in Scotland and looking at the weapons they used to fight. They also invited family members into the classroom on Friday 12th October to share their learning and participate in Family Learning with their relatives. A homework project produced amazing long boats. Well done Room 4!

Sports Council Obstacle Course
The Sports Council organised a very successful sponsored obstacle course. Room 12 showed their competitive nature and triumphantly won the classroom competition by completing 31 circuits of the obstacle course. Everyone had lots of fun keeping active and developing their gross motor skills. Thank you to everyone who sponsored the children. We have managed to raise more than £1500 so far. This money will be used to cover the cost of athletics, netball, football, cross country and subsidise other sporting events throughout the school year. Many thanks to everyone for their support.

Staffing
We are delighted to welcome two new staff members to the Machanhill team in our nursery. Mrs Aitken and Mrs McGrath will be joining us while we say goodbye to Mrs Lawson and Ms Gray who are leaving to take up posts in other early years establishments. Miss Gavin is now working in the nursery as the nursery teacher while Mrs Forrest is on maternity leave.
**PETS**
Please note that dogs are **NOT** permitted on school property whether they are tethered to a lead or not. School property includes the playground, MUGA and car park area of the school.

**School Meals / Packed Lunches**
Pupils in P1-3 receive a free school lunch. Lunches for pupils in P4-7 are £1.65 unless they are in receipt of a free school meal entitlement. Water is the only drink offered free at lunch time therefore your child can bring a carton of juice for lunch or purchase a carton of milk for 20p. No glass bottles or fizzy juice are allowed. Water bottles should have sports lids and contain only plain water. Juice and flavoured water, if spilled on books and jotters is sticky and ruins them.

Please note pupils are asked **not to bring NUTS** or products containing nuts e.g. Nutella into school because of allergies.

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**Book Fayre**
There will be a book fayre at Parents’ Evening on Thursday 22nd November. Children will get the opportunity to browse the books on the Wednesday and Thursday and books can be purchased on the Thursday during Parents’ Evening or on the Friday during the school day only. It is not possible to reserve books but should a title be sold out we will endeavour to order it from the supplier.

**Wet Mornings**
When dropping your children off at school please leave them at the gym hall next to the main entrance. To ensure security and safety for pupils and staff, should you need to speak to an adult, we ask that all parents report to the school office and enter the school by the front door.

**SCHOOL ABSENCE**
If your child needs to be off please telephone the school.
Could you please ensure that a note is sent to school with your child on their return from any absence they may have. If no note is sent to school the absence will be recorded as unauthorised (even if a phone call has been made earlier). Absences below 90% will result in the attendance officer being contacted.

**Dates for the diary**
- Tues 30th Oct – Halloween Disco
- Wed 31st Oct P4 Mutli Sports 3-4pm
- Thurs 1st Nov – R7 & R8 Chef Workshops 2pm R3 Showcase of Learning
- Mon 5th Nov – Nursery / P1 Healthy Family Workshops
- Wed 7th Nov – Scottish Schools Swimming Championships @ Leisure Centre 6pm
- Fri 9th Nov – Room 12 Showcase of learning @1pm
- Mon 12th Nov – Flu Immunisation day
- Wed 14th Nov – Rag Bag Collection day. Please send in any old clothes, textiles, shoes, bags.
- Mon 19th Nov – Inservice Day – School closed to pupils
- Tues 20th Nov – Netball Team at festival
- Thurs 22nd Nov – Parents’ Evening
- Fri 23rd Nov – Road Safety Day P6 @ Curling Dress Down Day (Tombola)
- Donations please
- Mon 26th Nov – Healthy Families Workshop P1
- Tues 27th Nov – 2pm R8 Showcase of learning

**Clothing**
Across the session we are left with high volumes of jackets, sweatshirts, lunch boxes, gloves, scarves and water bottles. **PLEASE CLEARLY LABEL ALL YOUR CHILD’S BELONGINGS** so that we can return lost items quickly and easily to their owner.

At our Parents’ Evening please check the lost property for anything your child has lost. Any items left will be given to a local charity shop.