Dear parents and carers,

This term has flown by and it is difficult to believe that we are fast approaching Christmas 2018. We have had a busy term with teaching and learning taking place on trips, through topic work in class, cross-curricular activities and entering local and national competitions and also from a range of visitors to the school. The children in Nursery and Early Years delighted us with their Nativity plays at the end of term. Their confidence and joie de vivre was evident for all to see and the staff and families were immensely proud of their efforts. Our primary choir and a range of primary and secondary musicians entertained everyone at the Pitlochry Christmas Festival and that same weekend, our Primary 7 entry into the local Christmas Tree Festival won Best Children's Tree. The tree was based around Remembrance and was created by Primary 7 following on from their WW2 topic work in class. In secondary our Junior Rangers have been busy working on a range of local projects at weekends, our S4 have been out on their Work Experience and during that time primary to S3 devoted their week to Developing the Young Workforce in school. We have had our first ever Apprenticeship Evening and our in house Rotary Young Chef competition, with Fione Cruickshank now through to the Tayside finals. We are delighted that two of our S2 girls, Luisadh Leck and Emily Ingham are part of a programme called Weir-Wise, which will be held over 2 days in January at Strathclyde University Engineering Department. This is specifically aimed to encourage girls in Scottish schools into careers in Engineering. The girls secured their places from over 600 hundred applicants. We wish them all every success.

It is lovely when we have the opportunity to go out en masse and we were delighted when we secured a grant from the Pitlochry Youth Fund, administered by the Pitlochry Church of Scotland, for P7-S2 to visit the V&A museum in Dundee. It is a fantastic building, in a stunning setting. We had a great day taking part in creative workshops in the morning, designing our own computer games and then had some free time in the museum in the afternoon. As I write this newsletter, P6-S4 are over at the theatre watching the Wizard of Oz, no doubt seeing if they can spot any of their friends on stage.

There are many more successes and news that we would like to share with you, so please keep looking at the website and start following us on Twitter if you don't already do so.

There is no getting away from the fact that it has been a challenging term for us all, with the Review of School Estate consultation and meetings taking place both in school and in the local community. As ever at school, it is "business as usual" for us and will always continue to be so, as our role is putting the needs of the young people of Pitlochry and their families first. Many thanks for your support in helping us to do this.

We are all looking forward to the Christmas break and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We are back to school on Monday 7 January 2019.

Kind Regards

Elaine Liney