

Newsletter

March 2000

Dear Friend

One of the great challenges in being Head Teacher (Rector) of Harris is to balance the needs of pupils in the year 2000 and the constant and every quickening demands of change, with a tradition established over a period of more than 100 years. One of the things which assists me in doing this is the regular opportunity to meet with generations of former pupils and listen to your recollections of the school.

At social evenings such as the Burns Supper, and at reunions in the school, each one of you is able to tell me what Harris was to you – everyone talking about the same school but each story showing that the school moves on over time. What is constant in every story however, regardless of the era from which it comes is that the fundamental values contained within it are consistent and have survived across the generations. A real, meaningful and worthwhile tradition is one which does not hinder change but ensures that necessary change takes place in a manner which is consistent with, and supportive of, the fundamental values from which it was established. I have every confidence in the ability of the Harris tradition to assist me, as I am sure it has assisted the previous occupants of my office, in ensuring that the education experienced by today's pupils prepares them to take a full part in tomorrow's world.

This term's most exciting news is that we have reached our target to install new front doors on the school. During the second week of the Easter break council workmen will remove the existing glass and aluminium doors and replace them with oak and engraved glass – a fitting entry to our new front hall. I thank all of you for your most generous pledges and will be in contact with you in the near future. We will in due course arrange an official inauguration to which I will extend an open invitation. Thank you all on behalf of the school!

I look forward to meeting those of you who will be attending the Annual General Meeting of the Association and wish you all a restful Easter Break.

Yours sincerely

James Thewliss

Head Teacher