

Our vision is to ensure all our pupils are safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included, so that each individual can be fulfilled and reach their potential within a supportive and proactive community.



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21.1.16

Dear Parents,

In the last few days we have been discussing the plans for learning this term. It's going to be packed with learning and challenges.

Topics:

- P1 People Who Help Us
- P2 An Island Home
- P3 Children Around the World
- P4 Water and 'Inside Out'
- P5/6 Natural Disasters
- P7 Polar Regions

During the term some classes may go on visits or have expert visitors in to school to enhance their learning.

Weather:

Any information regarding transport or school opening during inclement weather can be accessed on the school phone line

0870 054 4999 enter the school pin: **02 2340**

Or the Aberdeenshire website:

www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/closures

It is possible to set up email alerts at the above address so that you are emailed automatically if the school status is updated.

Glow:

Most pupils are now able to access Glow and will be able to show their parents the school site. There you will be able to see what is happening in school and in class.

Grow Well:

Nursery have been learning about how to stay healthy through the Grow Well project which is supported by the NHS. They have been exercising, enjoying the outdoors and experimenting with different snacks. P5/6 are also embarking on a Grow Well project to highlight healthy choices.

Parent Council:

Thank you to the parents who came along to our recent meeting. If you were unable to attend but wish to join the parent council please let us know.

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I am delighted to announce that Jill Murray has accepted the role of Chair of the Parent Council. If you wish an item to be added to the agenda please email Jill. The Parent Council does not discuss individual pupils or families, it looks at the curriculum and school policies in general. As ever, please arrange to speak to a teacher or Mrs. James if you have any particular concerns. Jill's email address is: **purplejill57@yahoo.co.uk**

The next meeting of the Parent Council is Wednesday 2nd March at 2pm.

PTA:

The next meeting of the PTA is on Monday 25th January at 2pm with the main agenda item being to plan a summer fundraiser. All welcome to come along and share good ideas. There is a vacancy for a secretary and a volunteer will be voted in on Monday.

Flood Fundraiser:

On the day of the floods the staff and pupils were overwhelmed by the kindness of the school community. We had offers of help with everything from teaching to making sandwiches and we realised that we are so lucky to be part of such a close and kind community. Others have not been so lucky and we are keen to help to raise funds for those who have suffered flood damage. Join us if you can for a Beetle Drive in the Village hall on Thursday 25th February. Tickets will be available from the school office for £3 and include the game and refreshments. Doors open at 6.30pm with a 7pm start.

Messy Church:

The Messy Church invite you to come along to the village hall on Sunday 31st January at 4pm for some family fun. You can experience some interesting stories, active games, creative crafts and interactive songs whilst enjoying time with your loved ones. Food will also be provided. Everyone is welcome but all children must be accompanied by an adult throughout the session.

Staff Development:

Just as the children continue to learn and develop so do the staff. This term the Pupil Support Assistants will be developing skills in Positive Play and Visible Learning. The teaching team are continuing to look at skills development in the classroom and will be working with teams from New Deer and Mintlaw Schools as part of our ongoing professional learning.

Reporting to Parents:

As you know we have slightly changed our approach to reporting to parents by having our more formal parents evening in term four, this was a decision based on parental feedback. Our Improvement Planning group are now looking at further improvements and have prepared a questionnaire for parents to complete. Please return your questionnaire to the school office.

Bags to School:

Bags will be distributed mid-February for Bags to School. The collection is Friday the 18th February.

World Book Day:

On Thursday 3rd March we are going to celebrate World Book Day. Pupils can come to school dressed as a character from a book (not a film). Please do not buy in anything especially, the more creative the better.

We are also going to launch our book swap initiative that day. Pupils can bring in an old book and swap it for one they have not read.

Race for Life:

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On Wednesday 11th May we are all taking part in the Race for Life (schools version). This will be down on the sports field and will be tailored to age and ability. Details to follow.



HELEN JAMES
Head Teacher