

*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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26<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is a strange time for all of us. Christmas is, as you know, a huge deal for us, we love to make it magical for the children so it seems very odd that we have tidied up the nativity costumes when usually they would be just coming out. But we love a challenge, and we will still be bringing the magic and sparkle to school, in no small part thanks to the fundraising brilliance of our amazing PTA.

#### **Covid Update:**

So far we have had one isolated case with no spread of infection in the building. Infection rates in our area are increasing and we need to be super vigilant. As ever strict protocols are in place in school for hand washing and cleaning of materials etc. but it is really important that guidelines are also followed in the community. This means masks and social distancing and following the Tier 2 guidance regarding socialising.

If your child has a temperature or is unwell you must keep them at home. If a child becomes unwell during the school day, they will be settled in the medical room away from their peers until they can be collected. Please follow government guidelines on isolation.

#### **Weather:**

It's getting chilly and decidedly wet sometimes too! Please make sure your child has appropriate outdoor clothing including a warm winter coat that fastens and that everything is clearly labelled. Clothing must be clean on every day and hair that can be tied back, should be. If there are any changes to school transport arrangements due to the weather, the school line and the council web page. Facebook will also be updated.

<https://online.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/Apps/schools-closures/>

Information Line 0370 054 4999 2340 (Please do not use this line to leave messages for the school.)

#### **Facebook:**

We are keen to share as much of our school life as possible with you which means that increasingly we are sharing videos of the children. We have always had a policy of not showing faces but Covid has really changed our approach to communication. If you have concerns with us sharing pictures and films of your child in this way, please contact school.

#### **Christmas Cards:**

If your child wishes to give cards out to their class, please send the cards in to school on a Monday. Cards will be handed out on Fridays so that they have had a suitable time for quarantining.

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### **Panto:**

We are not allowed visiting performers into school, but luckily we are still allowed a school trip, so we will be going to the village hall on the 8<sup>th</sup> December for a covid safe pantomime experience. The show is mainly on a big screen, facilitated by one actor. It is very cleverly done so that the actors on screen interact with the audience. The trailer looks amazing. The performance will take place three times, once for each bubble and we will change the chairs and clean between each performance. Thanks to a generous donation from a friend of the school and the Community shop, the children will all have ice cream (dairy free for those who require it) at the panto.

As if that isn't exciting enough, Aberdeen Arts Centre have also sent us the access link for their Panto – Aladdin so that we can watch it in school, so we will be saving that for an end of term class treat.

### **Christmas Fayre:**

The thread for the Fayre has opened on Facebook and will be added to in the coming days. There is also a link to the order form. Simply complete the form and submit and send you payment to school in an envelope. The children are making some gorgeous items this year and once again we should formally apologise to our already over worked cleaners for the glitter!

### **Christmas Lunch:**

The Christmas lunch is always gorgeous and a real treat. This year it takes place on the 10<sup>th</sup> December. This will also be when we raise funds for Save the Children's Christmas Jumper day. All children can come to school looking Christmassy and any donations to Save the Children will be gratefully received.

### **Christmas Film:**

The footage is now with the production company who are adding effects and making sure everyone will have their moment to shine. We have one of the completed P1 dances and it is just so cute! I think we are in for a treat. The show will be available on you-tube via our Facebook page at 7pm on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December. To make your viewing even more fun we will be selling packs of treats to enjoy during the show – details to follow.

### **Christmas Parties:**

Naturally this is a very challenging year for Santa, but has been in touch and we are optimistic that he will make it to our school grounds during party week so we can all wish him well for his big gig on Christmas Eve.

Children should come to school in their party clothes on the day of their party as we cannot encourage popping home at lunchtime.

P1: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December

P2: Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December

P3 & P4/5: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December

P5/6 & P6/7: Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December

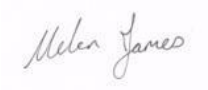
### **Christmas Service:**

We cannot go up to church this year so we will end our term with a school service on Teams. The children will be learning to sign a Christmas carol and each class will perform for the others. We will be joined by Rev. Colin Strong.

If the technology works for me on the day, I will record the event and share it.

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Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Helen James". The signature is written in a dark ink on a light-colored background.

**HELEN JAMES**  
Head Teacher