



# November Newsletter



Brrrrr it's chilly outside! Winter is well and truly with us - cold days, dark evenings and frosty mornings! It's warm and cosy in school though and we are all very busy in our learning and preparing for the excitement of Christmas!

With winter upon us, it is inevitable that colds, coughs and sniffles will be on the rise. Please help us all stay as healthy as we can by sending your child to school with tissues if they need them. We are encouraging the children to **'Catch it - Kill it - Bin it'** to stop our germs spreading!

## Diary Dates

(New items in red)

### DECEMBER

Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	Concert - Dress rehearsal (am) (timings to follow)
Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup>	Concert - pm and eve performance
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Dress as you please day - Christmas theme (£1 donation please)</b>
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Nursery Sharing the Learning Day</b>
Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup>	School Christmas lunch Church Service (1.45 pm)
Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>CHRISTMAS DISCO!</b>
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery Christmas Party
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	P1,2,3 Christmas Party
Tues 20 <sup>th</sup>	P4/5 Christmas Party
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>	P6/7 Christmas Party Last day of term 2

## Bad Weather Arrangements

Please note that we are not using previous Storm Contacts lists for informing parents of school closures etc. If you still have a previous list, please return to school so these can be shredded.

Hopefully everyone will have signed up for online alerts through **my account** on the Aberdeenshire Council Website. If you have not done so, please see the information and guidance at the end of this newsletter. When available I will also contact parents through email if the school is to be closed for any reason. Hopefully we will not need these this winter!



## Reminders ...

- Please ensure your child has a warm and waterproof coat each day for school as we will try as much as possible to get them outside for breaks/lunchtimes. This fresh air and exercise makes for a much better learner!
- Please name all hats, scarves, gloves etc to allow misplaced items to be returned to their owners.

## Lunchtime Clubs Reminder

Flutes -	Mon - Beginners Tues - P6/7 Wed - P5s
Knitting	- Thursday @ 12.45pm
LEGO	- Thursday @ 12.45 pm (P1-4)
Choir	- Friday @ 12.45 pm (P4 - 7)



## Parent Council

Huge thank you to everyone who came to the Christmas Fayre and particular thanks to those parents who were there helping whether it be in the stalls or in the kitchen with the teas. Also well done to our P6 and P7 pupils who offered to help on the evening too.

The Fayre was very well attended and it was great to see the raffle prizes and lucky dips mount up in the office before the event. Your support is amazing and we really appreciate it. The Fayre raised an impressive **£1106** which will be a great boost to the Parent Council Funds and benefit all of our pupils throughout the school year.

## Digital News!

### PROJECT PADZ

- We have purchased an additional 4 iPad Mini's for P1-3 classes. This now means that **each class has 2 iPads each** to use in their learning.
- We have also purchased one for Mrs Edwards and the staff to use throughout the school to capture the learning experiences of our pupils.

## App of the month!



Remember we would welcome parent/pupil suggestions for this too. Let us know if you use one that you feel is worth sharing.



This month, try out... Book Creator

The staff have been using this with the children in class to create either a class book to highlight their learning or individual books. Perhaps the children could show Mums and Dads how it works?

## Christmas Activities!

### Come as you please day

We will be having a 'come as you please' day on **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December**. This will be Christmas themed. The children had many different ideas during assembly time on Wednesday so I am looking forward to seeing what they come up with.

*(Please note that these days should not be an added expense to parents as children who wish to dress up should be encouraged to use the resources around them and use their imagination. There is not an expectation for parents to buy specific clothing for these days.)*

### Christmas Disco

We are having our Christmas Disco on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Following feedback from the children last time, we have decided to do the music ourselves. The children are currently creating lists of songs they like and I will compile a playlist for the evening. I may have to brush up on my DJ skills!



Christmas Disco cont...

Timings for the disco are slightly different from previous discos due to dark nights and cold weather! All children will need to be collected by an adult from school after the disco.

Nursery - Primary 3  
5.00 pm - 6.00pm

Primary 4 - Primary 7  
6.30pm - 8.00pm

Tickets £2.50 (pay at the door)  
Includes juice and crisps

Any parents wishing to help for the discos, please contact the office. Thank you!

## Lights Camel Action!



Preparations are underway for our annual Christmas Concert. Children and staff have all got songs going around in their heads and dance moves a plenty to practice! We hope you can come along to see the show!

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December**  
**2pm and 6pm**

Normal arrangements will be in place in terms of seating and teas/coffees in the afternoon and details of these will be sent home next week.

If you cannot manage on Thursday and would like to come to watch the **dress rehearsal** instead on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30 am**, please contact the office so we can arrange appropriate seating.

### NURSERY PARENTS

Having asked your views regarding the concert, almost all parents wanted the children to be part of the main concert. Therefore children have been learning a few short songs to perform alongside Room 1 which will be on just after the flutes and choir before the main part of the show. Session A will be at nursery during the afternoon concert anyway but if boys and girls from Session B wish to take part they can be brought in by their parents to do so and can leave once their songs are finished. Both sessions are invited to take part for both concerts. I appreciate that this was not everybody's view so please speak to nursery staff if you would rather your child did not take part in the concerts. They will also be performing these songs to their parents during the Sharing the Learning Day (Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December). Details of this will be sent by email next week. It looks like it will be a very busy but fun-filled session!



Online Alerts (information from Aberdeenshire Council)

Aberdeenshire Council has changed the way parents receive on-line alerts about school closures and changes to school transport. You can now sign up for these notifications through **myaccount** on the Aberdeenshire Council website - if you currently pay for school meals online, you will already be registered.

**myaccount** is a simple, secure way of accessing a range of Scottish public services using just one username and password and 13000 parents across Aberdeenshire are already enjoying the benefits of it.

As well as being able to sign up for alerts, your home page will automatically give you handy information such as your bin collection days, where your nearest recycling centre is and the names of your local councillors. So if you want to stay up to date and take advantage of the other **myaccount** benefits, sign up to the new system by going to the Aberdeenshire Council website and clicking on the **red register button** in the top right hand corner.

As always if you have any suggestions or information which you would like to share through this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact myself at the school.

*Mrs Edwards*