



# Newsletter – January 2023

Vision – A place where we all work together to be the best we can be.

**Happiness Friendship Respect Honesty Responsibility Keeping Healthy Being Safe**

## Dates for your Diary

**Mon 9th Jan**—start of Term 3

**Tues 10th Jan**—strike day

**Wed 18th Jan**—P7 Academy parent meeting (TEAMS)

**Fri 27th Jan**—P2/3 class assembly

## P1 Enrolment—Session 2023/24

Registrations for children starting primary one open next week.

Parents and carers will be able to register their child for a primary school place - for the new school year starting in August - between January 16 and 20.

The year children start depends on when they turn five-years-old - if your child's fifth birthday is between March 1, 2023 and February 29, 2024, you can register them.

For more details and to register, visit [www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/applyForSchoolPlace](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/applyForSchoolPlace)

Please spread the word!

Dear Parents,

We are delighted to welcome you all back to school for Term 3 and hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year with your families.

On behalf of the staff, we thank you all for your many cards and gifts given to us for Christmas.

Term 3 will be a busy one for all learners as we continue to make progress in all areas. We are in the process of revisiting and revising our school's Vision, Values and Aims in line with our Improvement priorities for the session and our P7 pupils will shortly be starting their SNSA national tests.

Pupil interim reports were issued just before the Christmas holidays and we hope that you were pleased with the progress that your children are making. Our new spelling scheme is working well to date and there is now consistency across the school. Homework is now structured to allow more family time, something which as working parents ourselves, we were keen to promote.

We also remind parents as we start this new term that Teams continues to be used in all classes.

## P4/5

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs Youngson as our new class teacher for P4/5.

Mrs Youngson is a familiar face to our pupils, as she already works with us on Wednesdays and Thursdays as our non class contact teacher.

She will officially take up her role on Monday 16th January and we look forward to her being part of our permanent team!



### Colder Weather

Now that the weather is colder, all pupils are asked to bring a suitable coat to school every day and to come to school dressed for the weather conditions.

All items of clothing should be clearly named. Thank you.

If the weather is wet, pupils are more than welcome to come to school in boots etc and to change into PE shoes when they get here. We've had a few incidences of wet socks etc so we'd much rather that our children were dry and comfortable.

Also, if pupils borrow items of clothing from school these must be washed and returned to school .

Thank you.

### Aberdeenshire Council Adverse Weather Line

Please note that the previously issued adverse weather line telephone number is now no longer operational. In the event of a school closure for adverse weather, information will be available on the Aberdeenshire Council website (details below.)

### Parking

We remind all parents to be considerate and not to park over neighbouring driveways. Please, where possible, park away from the school and walk the remainder of the way. Thank you for your co-operation.

### Charter Champions

Well done to our Charter Champions since the last newsletter:

Rhys, Evelina, Charlie, McKenzi, Lexi, Clodagh, Marley, Eden D, Bethan and Brogan.

We are delighted for you all!

*Charter Champions are selected by class teachers on a weekly basis (full school weeks only) and are based on attitude, work ethic and following of their class charters.*

### A message from Miss Walker

3 and a half years ago I arrived in a small, tiny school in the middle of the Buchan countryside not sure what I had decided to do. I had previously taught in inner city schools and was thrown into a very different way of life. I remember being shocked that every teacher knew every pupil's name in the school and that every child sat and listened during assemblies. Soon though I settled into the way of country life and enjoyed the level of engagement the pupils provided with each different taught subject. Before we knew it though we were working from home and we all had to embrace a new way of life, my days were not filled with the joys and laughter of the pupils and staff. Suddenly, we returned back to school and a very different school life. It was of great delight last academic year when restrictions were eased, and it has been lovely seeing parents and the school community return into the school building for a variety of things this year. I would like to thank everyone for embracing and including me into the school and for all the lovely leaving gifts that you have given to me. I will miss all the staff, pupils and parents and wish you all the best for the future.

### School Values

Our shared values are: Happiness, Respect, Responsibility, Keeping Healthy, Being Safe, Friendship and Honesty

Our 'Values Tree' in the school hall promotes our school values and we focus on one per month. Children can write on a leaf if they are demonstrating them, eg, I asked xxx to join in my game (Friendship).

Anyone can be nominated for any of the school values but certificates are issued monthly for the value that we are focussing on for the month.

Our value for the month of January is 'Keeping Healthy'.

### Good News!

Good news is celebrated at school with a focus on achievements, no matter how small! Wider achievements such as gaining medals, certificates etc are included in assemblies and newsletters.

Evelina has moved up to level 2 in swimming!

Olivia and Connor gained a medal at a judo competition!

Toby has achieved 3rd Kai (orange belt) at judo!

Well done to all of these pupils!

### Maud Kids' Football

Football training starts back on Tuesday 10th January with P1-2's in the village hall from 6.15 to 7pm. P3-7's up at New Deer Astro from 6-7pm. Please keep an eye on the Facebook page for any updates to training.

The Strathythan League continues in January with the B league on 14th Jan and the A league on 28th Jan.

**Adverse weather school closures:**

**[www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures)**

