ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL – EDUCATION, LEARNING AND LEISURE

Craigievar

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##### Acting Head Teacher: Valerie Stoddart

25th August 2022

**Craigievar Newsletter 1 – Term 1 2022/2023**

August 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the very first newsletter of the new session. I really hope that you enjoyed the longer summer holidays this year. We have all been looking forward to coming back to school and meeting up with everyone again after the lovely summer break.

I am absolutely delighted to be joining Craigievar as the new Acting Head Teacher this term. I am very much looking forward to getting to know all the children and the families in the school and working together as a team with both you and the staff over the coming weeks.

I feel that I have come full circle into this role as, not only did my children attend the school, but I was involved with both the Parent Council and the PTA for 11 years and I worked as a PSA in Craigievar for 4 years prior to doing my PDGE at Aberdeen University a few years ago.

**Newsletters**

My intention is to send out a fortnightly newsletter to you with any updates from school. We will be endeavouring to ensure that the school website is updated on a regular basis and that information about what we are up to in school is also posted on Seesaw and the Craigievar School Facebook page.

**School Roll / Staffing update**

This session we have 2 composite classes of 33 pupils in total at Craigievar.

We welcome Miss Emily Christie to P4/7 for this academic year. Ms Jenny Morley will also be teaching the class on a Mon/Tues/Wed pm.

Mrs Caroline Robertson will be teaching P1-3 Mon/Tues/Wed am and Miss Catriona Pittendreigh will be teaching P1-3 Wed/Thurs/Fri.

Mrs Claire Middleton is our PSA and will be supporting pupils Mon to Fri.

Mr Ian Gilliland our ASN teacher will be in weekly on a Thursday morning.

We are very pleased to say that Ms Leshem has not moved far away and has joined the staff team as a PSA at Tullynessle.

**Contacting the school**

Should you wish to pass on any information to either myself as Acting HT or any of the staff then we would be grateful if you can email the school on craigievar.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Please do not use the personal email for the Administrator as Mrs Nichol is not in school on a Wednesday and important information can get delayed.

**End of Day**

If you are collecting your child at the end of the school day you should wait by the new gate on the top path next to the wildlife garden. Please make sure that you are there by 3:15pm. If your child is being picked up instead of them getting the bus home, please make sure that you email the school to let us know of the change. As it is a new school year, any previous arrangements have been deleted, so you will need to let us know the current arrangements for your child.

**Football & Netball After School Clubs**

Consents forms will be sent home this week for the football and netball clubs. If your child would like to take part, please make sure you complete the relevant form and return it by Monday 29th August. Netball for pupils in P4-7 will start on Monday 29th August, 3.15 – 4.00pm, and Football for all pupils will start on Wednesday 31st August, 6 – 7pm. We are very grateful to our football coaches, Mr Robertson and Mr McMillan, and our netball coaches, Mrs Nichol and Mrs Middleton, for giving up their time to run these clubs.

**HWB**

We are continuing to follow the good hand sanitizing and washing routines that we have had in place for the last 2 years as we found that it certainly made a difference to the number of colds and tummy bugs which are normally in school. Please encourage your child to continue to wash their hands when appropriate at home.

**Parent Council**

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the school by being a part of the Parent Council. This is an invaluable role and I look forward to working closely with you. Meeting dates will be sent out shortly and we hope to have as many parents attend as possible.

**Personal Clothing items**

It is very important that everyone comes to school with the correct items each day. Every child should have a pair of indoor shoes with them in school which they will change into when they come in after any time outside. This will help to cut down on bringing dirt and wet grass into the school. These shoes will remain in school by their pegs in the corridor.

It is also important that everyone brings the correct clothing kit to school. We are out in all weathers so please make sure your child is dressed appropriately – jackets, waterproof trousers, hats, gloves, boots etc.

I would request that your child does not bring in any additional personal toys or accessories from home that are not necessary, thank you.

**Labelling personal items**

Despite the fact that we do not have a large number of pupils it is amazing how easily things can get lost or remain unclaimed at the end of each term. To that end, I cannot emphasise strongly enough that you ensure **ALL** your child’s personal items are named or labelled – sweatshirts, polo shirts, fleeces, jackets, PE kit, bags, water bottles, lunch bags etc. It is amazing how many things have no names and no-one claims them!

**PE Kit**

PE kit should be brought in on a Monday, left in school until Friday then taken home for washing over the weekend.

PE kit should consist of: suitable trainers for outdoor PE and black gym shoes or similar for indoor PE, t-shirt, shorts, joggers, socks, and a sweatshirt. Ear studs must be taped if not removed. Long hair must be tied up.

**School Uniform**

I look forward to seeing all the pupils wearing their uniform with pride as we go through the year. School uniform can be ordered from [www.myclothing.com](http://www.myclothing.com). We occasionally have second hand uniform available from the school office.

**Dates for your Diary:**

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| Date | Action |
| Monday 22nd August 2022 | Inservice Day 1 |
| Tuesday 23rd August 2022 | Start of new term – welcome to P1 pupils |
| Monday 5th September 2022 | Informal Open Afternoon for parents, 2-3pm |
| Friday 9th September | Tempest Photography |
| Saturday 10th September  | Cluny Football Tournament |
| Saturday 17th September  | Tullynessle Netball & Football Tournament |
| Saturday 15th October 2022 | October Hols start |
| Monday 1st November 2022 | Start of Term 2 |

Should you have any questions about your child’s academic progress then please do not hesitate to contact the school to arrange an appointment.

The staff and I are looking forward to an exciting term of learning ahead and we will be sharing more plans with you in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Valerie Stoddart

***Mrs Valerie Stoddart***

Acting Head Teacher Head Teacher

Craigievar Primary School Tullynessle Primary School

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