ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL – EDUCATION, LEARNING AND LEISURE

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**Craigievar Newsletter 11 – Term 3 2022/2023**

March 2023

Dear Parents,

Only 3 more sleeps to go until the end of Term 3! We certainly hope that we get through this week without any more snow or bad weather closures!

**Staffing news**

We are delighted to let you know that Mrs Kate Dennison was successful at interview for Ms Morley’s maternity cover. We are just waiting for all the checks to go through and hopefully she will start with us on 25th April. Some of you may remember Mrs Dennison from when she worked at the school previously. She brings a wealth of experience with her to the post, including Additional Support Needs and Support for Learning. We wish Ms Morley all the very best for her maternity leave and look forward to hearing news of the new addition to their family when the time comes.

**Week-in-a-jotter**

As part of our reporting to parents we completed our second Week-in-a-Jotter last week. Thank you for all your positive comments and feedback. We hope that you enjoyed having the opportunity to talk through some of the work that has been completed in class this year. Here are some of the comments which we got back:

* *More lovely work to look through. It’s lovely to see how much her writing has come on since the last time. Thank you.*
* *Love seeing his work. He is doing so well.*
* *It is great to see how well he is doing in class. He really enjoyed the healthy mind work and he is proud of his picture and poem - I can see why. Great job!*
* *He enjoyed the worksheet about making predictions because he found it the most challenging and he feels proud for completing it.*
* *Lovely to see some of the activities and to see the progression in her work. Thank you.*

**Thank You’s**

Many thanks to everyone who offered to help at our Forest School session this term. We couldn’t run them without you. Our helpers this term were Mr Denham, Dr Lynch-Gibbs, Mr Richards and Mrs Brocklehurst.

A very big Thank You to Mr Lynch-Gibbs and Mr Robertson for making a start on repairing the roof of the storage shed which sits opposite the pupil entrance. This is going to enable us to have some more much needed storage for outdoor learning materials which we will use in that outdoor area.

We are looking for some volunteers please to help remove all the old things which we found in the shed and take them to the dump. Please contact Mrs Nichol if you can help and arrange a suitable time to pick up some of the items.

Thank you also to Mrs Robertson, Dr Lynch-Gibbs and Mrs Steadman for giving up their time and again running a very popular Easter craft afternoon this week.

Thank you to Simon Crouch for coming to join us at all of our end of term assemblies this year.

**Music Initiative workshops**

We hope you have all enjoyed listening to the musical composition that was emailed to you which the P4-7 pupils created at their workshops with Jenny and Adam via the Youth Music Initiative. The experience was very enlightening for all the pupils.

**Rotary Primary School Quiz**

We entered two teams in the annual Rotary Primary School Quiz which was held at the Alford Campus. It was great to have the quiz back again after it being absent for three years due to Covid restrictions. Well done to our teams for taking part.

**Easter activities**

We are looking forward to welcoming parents and families in to school on Thursday morning for our end of term Easter assembly at 9:30am. Simon Crouch will also be with us. Tea, coffee and fine pieces will be served by the P7 pupils afterwards (donations of homebakes welcome!)

We have had some super entries in our Easter Table Decoration competition. Winners will be announced at our End of Term Assembly where they will all be on display for you to see.

Thank you also to Mrs Nichol who is busy planning an Easter Egg hunt for Friday afternoon, so we look forward to deciphering her clues!

**P7 Transition**

The P7 pupils have enjoyed a number of transition events so far this year, with a few more still to come! They have visited Tullynessle, Keig and Echt so far and enjoyed an outing to the Alford campus for the very energetic Tree of Knowledge event where they got lots of tips and ideas to support them with their move to the Academy in August.

**Netball & Football Training**

Mrs Nichol has been running the Netball training for P3-7 pupils on Mondays at 3.15pm to 4pm. These sessions will continue next term and the netball players will be busy practising in readiness for all the forthcoming netball tournaments.

Football training, which is open to all pupils, will start on Wednesday 19th April from 6-7pm on the school football pitch. Many thanks to Mr Alastair Robertson and Mr Oliver McMillan for giving up their time to coach the football squad.

It’s going to be a busy term of tournaments, with the first one being the Craigievar School Football and Netball Tournament on Saturday 13th May.

**School Improvement Plan review**

The School Improvement plan is still on display in the corridor for parents to review. We would appreciate you taking time to come into school to read this and then leave a post-it comment for our next steps, prior to writing our plan for next session. The School Improvement Plan can also be viewed on the school website.

**Dates for your Diary:**

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| **Date** | **Action** |
| 30th March | Easter Assembly 9.30am, with tea/coffee |
| 31st March | Easter Egg Hunt - pm |
| 31st March | Last day of Term 3 |
| 17th April | Start of Term 4 |
| 17th April | Netball training resumes |
| 19th April | Football training starts |
| 22nd April | Cluny Netball Festival |
| 23rd April | PTA Jumble Sale at Cushnie Hall, 11am – 3pm |
| 24th April | Parent Council / PTA 6.30pm |
| 28th April | SSPCA visit to school in morning |
| 1st May | May Day Holiday |
| 6th May | Coronation Day |
| 8th May | Coronation Holiday  |
| 13th May | Craigievar Tournament 10am – 4pm |
| 19th May | P7 Link Day at Alford Campus |
| 20th May | Midmar School Football & Netball Tournaments |
| 26th May | Forest School for P3-7 pupils |
| 26th May | Cluster P7s 9.30 – 11am |
| 27th May | Keig School Football Tournament |
| 3rd June | Skene School Football & Netball Tournaments |
| 5th June | Occasional Day |

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

Yours sincerely,

Valerie Stoddart

**Mrs Valerie Stoddart**

Acting Head Teacher Head Teacher

Craigievar Primary School Tullynessle Primary School

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