ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL – EDUCATION, LEARNING AND LEISURE

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**Head Teacher: Mrs Lindsey McBride**

10th November 2023

Dear Parents,

The first two weeks of term have flown by and we have a busy time ahead of us. There are lots of exciting things coming up, including a sponsored read, enterprise project, and of course the school Christmas shows!

Next week we have two in-service days, so there will be no school for pupils on Thursday 16th and Friday 17th November. We hope you all enjoy the long weekend.

**What are we learning in class this term:**

**P1-3 Class:** The P1-3’s are learning about the Festivals of Light, Diwali and Hanukkah, and will also be learning about Christmas. In maths, pupils will be looking at 2D and 3D shapes, and will also be learning about money through their enterprise project, which will also involve art & craft. Drama and music will be incorporated in practising for the P1-3 Christmas Play ‘The very hopeless camel’, and in PE we are focusing on gymnastics.

**P4-7 Class:** Like P1-3, we will be learning about different celebrations and learning songs which will form part of our Christmas show. We will be developing lots of skill through our enterprise project and working through six P’s: Possibilities, Public Preference, Planning, Production, Promotion and (hopefully) Profits. We will continue to develop our understanding of multiplication and division along with understanding money. In Literacy we will be focussing on the skills of persuasive writing, note-taking and scanning. We are also going to be learning some Gaelic, with six ‘live’ lessons from an expert. We are looking forward to hearing how they get on.

**What has been happening:**

**Rotary Shoe Box Appeal:** Thank you to everyone who has returned a shoe box for the appeal. We have had 14 boxes donated which is fantastic and they have been very gratefully received by the Rotary Club.

**Halloween Craft Morning:** Many thanks to the PTA for organising a creative morning of Halloween Crafts for all the pupils. These sessions are enjoyed by all the children.

**Lunchtime Clubs:** Lunchtime Clubs are running this term with a different activity on each day of the week. Most of them are being organised and run by the pupils and they are proving to be very popular. The clubs this term are: Chess, Arts & Crafts, Minecraft, Choir, & Lego. Pupils who have signed up for the Choir will be singing at the Craigievar Hall Christmas Craft Fayre.

**What is coming up:**

**Sponsored Read:** To celebrate Scottish Book Week and encourage a lifelong love of reading at home and school, our older pupils are taking part in a sponsored reading event between 13th – 20th November. Details have been sent home with pupils.

**Beyond the Panda:** Pupils in P4-7 are having three online interactive lessons called ‘Beyond the Panda’ where they learn about pandas, their habitats and endangered species, as well as learning some Mandarin. This is followed by an in-person visit from an expert which will also include a stand alone session for pupils in P1-3.

**ALEC visit (Health & Wellbeing)**: We are looking forward to our annual visit from ALEC where both classes will have a session in the LifeSpace Tent. P1-3 pupils will be learning about ‘My Wonderful Body’ and P4-7 pupils will be doing the programme ‘bCyberwise’.

**Enterprise / Christmas Craft Fayre:** Both classes are taking part in an Enterprise project this term. They are making things to sell at the Craigievar Hall Christmas Craft Fayre on Sunday 10th December, from 1 – 4pm. We hope to see you there.

**Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day:** Christmas Jumper Day will be on Thursday, 7th December, the same day as our Christmas Lunch. For a £1 donation, pupils can come to school wearing their loudest, most sparkly, most reindeer filled jumper! Money can be handed in to the school office that morning. We kindly ask that pupils do not wear a Christmas jumper to school before this date.

**School Shows: T**he school will be putting on two shows this year. The P1-3 class are performing ‘The very hopeless camel’ and the P4-7 class are doing a show called ‘Let’s Celebrate’. The performances of the school shows will be on Thursday 14th December, starting at 6.30 pm, at Craigievar Hall. More information will be sent home nearer the time.

**Christmas Party:** The children’s Christmas Party will be held on the afternoon of Thursday 21st December. Pupils can bring party clothes to school to change in to at lunchtime. We are hoping to get a visit from a special person at the end of the party, and as you know, this year the PTA are organising the presents for each child. Parents are invited to come in to school at 2.40 pm.

**Parent Council / PTA:** The next meeting will be held in school on Monday 13th November at 6.30 pm, to which you are all warmly invited. There will also be link to attend the meeting online if you are not able to come in person. This will be sent out with the Agenda.

**End of Term Assembly:** Parents are warmly invited to come to our end of term assembly which will be held on Tuesday 19th December. Tea/Coffee will be served by the PTA from 1.30pm, with the assembly starting at 2.00 pm.

**General Information:**

**Outdoor clothing:** As the weather is turning colder, please make sure that your child has a warm coat, hat and gloves to wear at playtime. They will also need waterproof over trousers if they want to play on the grass.

If you have any queries regarding your child and would like to speak to me, or a class teacher, please do not hesitate in getting in contact with the school.

Kind regards,

**Lindsey McBride**

Mrs Lindsey McBride

Head Teacher

**Dates for your Diary**

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| **NOVEMBER** |
| Monday 13th | Parent Council / PTA meeting at 6.30 pm at school |
| Thursday 16th | In-Service Day – School closed to pupils |
| Friday 17th | In-Service Day – School closed to pupils |
| Thursday 30th | ALEC visit |
| **DECEMBER** |
| Wednesday 6th | School Show Rehearsal at Craigievar Hall, 1.15 – 3.15 pm |
| Thursday 7th | ‘Beyond the Panda’ - expert for the day |
| Thursday 7th | Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch |
| Sunday 10th | Craigievar Hall Christmas Craft Fayre, 1 – 4 pm |
| Thursday 14th | Christmas Shows Dress Rehearsal at Craigievar Hall, 9 – 11 am |
| Thursday 14th | Christmas Shows |
| Tuesday 19th | End of term Assembly, 2pm, with tea / coffee served from 1.30 pm by the PTA |
| Thursday 21st | Christmas Party |
| Friday 22nd | End of term 2 |
| **JANUARY** |
| Monday 8th | Start of Term 3 |
| Thursday 11th  | Open afternoon for pre-school pupils starting in August 2024 |
| Thursday 25th | Burns Celebration Open Afternoon |
| Monday 29th | Whole School Photo |