ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL – EDUCATION, LEARNING AND LEISURE

Craigievar

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##### Acting Head Teacher: Valerie Stoddart

8th September 2022

**Craigievar Newsletter 2 – Term 1 2022/2023**

September 2022

Dear Parents,

What a very damp start to September - much as though we know plants and crops need the rain, we really would like the showers not to be quite so heavy! Autumn is definitely starting to make an appearance and the nights are certainly starting to draw in.

**House Captains / Vice Captains**

We have great news as we have been able to appoint our new set of Office Bearers for this year!

Mrs Middleton and I were pleased to be able to interview a number of our Senior Pupils over Wednesday and Thursday for the roles of House and Vice Captains. We were really impressed by the very high standards which all the pupils set and the great ideas which they came up with. This has created a set of jobs for which they will be responsible for such as litter pickers/monitors, library monitors, resource officers, event helpers etc.

It was so close in the Pine martens that we decided to appoint 2 Vice Captains who will have specific roles to look after, as well as support their House Captain.

The results are as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Foxes** | House Captain | Abbie |
| Vice Captain | Otis |
| **Wildcats** | House Captain | Linda |
| Vice Captain | Joseph |
| **Pine martens** | House Captain | Connell |
| Vice Captain | Livia |
| Vice Captain | Freddie |

The first task of the House Captains was to collect the weekly House Points and add them onto our running total display in the hall.

**P7 Senior Pupils Award**

The P7 pupils met this week and have set up the P7 Craigievar Superstars Award where they are looking out for 2 pupils each week who they think deserve the award. This may be for being kind, helpful, doing a good job, modelling good behaviour etc.

This week’s awards went to James in P6 and Abigail in P3.

**Craigievar Values Certificates**

Each week staff nominate a pupil who they feel have demonstrated working towards the Value of the Week Certificate. This week the awards went to Cameron and Andrew.

Thank you to Mrs Nichol for preparing, printing and laminating these awards every week. The certificates are very much something to be proud of.

**Pupil birthdays**

We also celebrate birthdays in the school by presenting a birthday card and singing “Happy Birthday” at assembly every week. Last week we had quite a number to give out as several pupils had celebrated their birthdays during the summer holidays. We also learned how to sign the Happy Birthday song to everyone.

**Parent Council/PTA**

The Parent Council/PTA held their first meeting of this session on Tuesday evening in the school. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend. Minutes of the meeting will follow shortly. There are a number of exciting activities planned between now and Christmas which the PC/PTA are organising so thank you to the members for giving up their time to organise these. We also appreciate the donations such as our annual Book Prizes and annual monetary donations for each class/the school from the PC/PTA. We will let you know what each class decides to buy with their money.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 10th November at 6.30pm, to which you are all warmly invited.

**Wet weather clothing**

Now that the weather is becoming more wet and autumnal we would appreciate if you can ensure that your child has appropriate wet weather clothing in school every day such as rain jackets, waterproof over trousers and wellies. Please make sure that these are all labelled with your child or family name, thank you. A change of clothing (spare socks!) in their PE bags, especially for the younger pupils, is also a very good idea**. If your child comes to school wearing wellies, please make sure that they also have trainers in school for PE**.

**Parents evenings**

We will be sending out invites shortly for our settling in parents evenings to be held in the school on Tuesday 27th / Wednesday 28th September where you are invited to come for a 10 minute slot to have an informal chat with your child/children’s teacher. A more formal meeting is planned next year after the report cards come out.

**Classroom upgrades**

We are currently investigating the costs of replacing the aging (and dusty!) curtains in the P4-7 class and the hall, and the old vertical blinds in the P1-3 class with new roller blinds as part of Health and Safety within the school.

We would also like to replace the pupil tables in both classrooms and buy some new storage cupboards and drawer units to brighten up our spaces.

**Pupil Entrance upgrade**

Plans are afoot to clean up and brighten up the pupil entrance into the school to make it a much more welcoming area and also to repaint the fluorescent strips onto the steps. Thank you to those who have offered to be involved with this – we will be in touch with a date soon.

**Library Session**

Thank you to all the parents who have offered to help sort out the books at our first library session this coming Monday, 12th September, 9:30 – 10:30 am. We look forward to seeing you in school.

**Garden Bash**

We are looking forward to our Garden Bash next Thursday, 15th September, 3:15 – 4:30 pm, where we hope to give the Wildlife garden and the shed a good clear out. Tea and coffee will be available and children are welcome along with their adult helper. Hopefully the weather will be fine!

**Dates for your Diary:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date | Action |
| Fri 9th September | Tempest Photography – individual photos |
| Mon 12th September | Scottish Schools Hands Up Transport Survey |
| Mon 12th September | Parental Library session 9.30am – 10.30am |
| Thu 15th September | Garden Bash 3.15pm – 4.30pm |
| Sat 17th September  | Tullynessle Netball & Football Tournament 10am start |
| Sat 24th September | Cluny Football Tournament |
| Tue 27th September | Informal settling in Parents Evening 3.30 – 5.30pm |
| Wed 28th September | Informal settling in Parents Evening 3.30 – 5.30pm |
| Thu 13th October | Joint Harvest Assembly at Craigievar 9.30am |
| Fri 14th October | End of TermPC/PTA Halloween Party 6 – 8pm : More details to follow |
| 15th October  | October Hols start |
| 31st October | Start of Term 2 |
| 31st October  | PC/PTA Halloween crafts afternoon at school |

**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.

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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