

Respect

Kindness

Resilience

Welcome to Term 2!

We hope you have enjoyed the October break and are staying safe and well. We have had a great start to the 2020/21 session - a new outdoor classroom, fantastic support from the community, Christmas Card orders, lots of learning and a fun Halloween themed afternoon!

With winter in the air, can we ask that children come prepared for the weather conditions as we are going to continue our outdoor learning as much as we can. Also, as we are required to keep the school as well ventilated as we can, please do send in warm layers such as hoodies or gilets for your child to wear inside as the weather gets colder. It is a fine balancing act between ventilation and keeping the classrooms at a comfortable temperature! As always, can you please make sure all items such as gloves, hats, etc are clearly named.

PE days remain unchanged and can now be delivered indoors if necessary. However, we will continue to do PE outdoors when possible so warm and comfortable clothing on these days will still be needed.

As communication is a little more difficult in the current climate, I would like to give you the opportunity to provide comments, feedback and ask questions via the form found here:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BpPZ_i1NCUSVndDttzBKC7yhtFQsAIJII3u42zDogUpUNVNBROMONzQwNFBRUDBNODVXTENaTk1ERS4u

We are looking forward to speaking with parents next week as we hold our first 'COVID - safe' parents' interviews. Information about when, where and how you appointment will take place will be issued by the end of the week at the latest.

Kind regards
Lindsey McBride

Safety at Drop Off and Pick-Up Times



The information below was issued via e-mail at the start of term. I would like to thank everyone for their cooperation with the requests. Safety at drop-off time has mostly improved and the new arrangements are working well. We will continue to monitor and adapt plans if necessary.

"As you will be aware, cases of COVID-19 remain on the rise and so we continue to review our safety procedures and risk assessments. In a bid to minimise contact and ensure our children are safe around the pavements and road, we have altered the morning drop-off arrangements slightly.

- Parents of P1-3 children can enter the school field (staying behind the play equipment and socially distanced from other parents/carers) if they wish.
- However, school staff (either Mrs McBride or Mrs Smith) will supervise drop-off from around 8:50am so parents/carers are encouraged to '**drop and go**' as quickly as possible.

- If it is safe and practical for your child to enter the school grounds via the big gate near the container, please do so.
- **Please do not park on double yellow lines or Zig Zags.**
- Please consider parking at the Village Hall or elsewhere (being mindful of local residents) and walk to school.
- Thank you for complying with the new regulations around wearing facemasks.
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The arrangements for pick up remain as they were before the holidays. Again, please remember to stay 2m from others. Your support in managing these tricky transition times is very much appreciated, thank you. Please share with others who may be picking up or dropping off your child/ren."

School Improvement Plan and PEF

Below are our draft_SIP priorities for this session:

- ★ **Priority 1: To support recovery of learning through a focus on core learning (Health and Wellbeing, Numeracy and Literacy), wider achievement and skills development.**
- ★ **Priority 2: To improve pupils' engagement and resilience in learning through embedding outdoor learning in the life of the school.**
- ★ **Priority 3: To improve attainment and achievement in writing and spelling through developing a literacy rich curriculum, fostering a strong reading culture and providing quality feedback which moves the learner forward.**

These have been devised with staff through careful evaluation of feedback from pupils, families and staff, assessment data, self-evaluation and through knowledge of our school, our pupils and our families. A copy of our full Standards and Quality Report and Improvement Plan will be e-mailed later this month once it has been approved by the Authority.

This session, we plan to use our Pupil Equity Funding for funding for:

- 50% of the cost of a three year subscription to Purple Mash (£323.38)
- Chromebook/iPad cases (£50)
- GL PASS assessments for identified individuals (£58.06)
- Outdoor Learning Resources (£500)
- Literacy and Numeracy recovery resources: Power of 2/Plus 1, Nessy subscription (£250)

I would welcome your thoughts and feedback regarding our plans via the link to the Microsoft form (link above).

Children's University and Pupil Led Clubs



We are excited to get our Children's University up and running for P3-P7. We already have 30 children signed up and we have a number of school activities available on Aspire. I have already contacted various local clubs asking them to sign up to the Children's University (including Huntly Swimming Club, ETKO, Strathorn Stables, Colony Football club, Garioch Rugby Club, Donside Gymnastics). A number of these clubs have already submitted the paperwork and so should soon be listed on the App. Please let me know which out of school clubs your child/children attend and I will endeavour to get them on board too! We are going to be busy this term as we have several pupil led clubs - participation in these will earn the children credits. Below is the timetable for Term 2's lunchtime clubs:

Day	Club	Leaders	Location
Monday	Jog Club	Active Schools	Outside
	Dance Club	Olivia and Lottie	Outside
Tuesday	Reading	Emily and Ruby	Hall/outside
Wednesday	Football	Bruno, Emma, Luke	Pitch
Thursday	Computing/Coding	Digital Leaders	P6/7
Friday	Arts and Crafts	Penny and Lily-Ann	P1/2

Club leaders have the added responsibility of ensuring their club can be delivered in a 'COVID safe' manner and will be supervised by a member of staff.

Well done to pupils who have already earned and logged credits!

Garden Schools

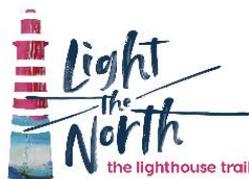
We are very proud to be the only Aberdeenshire school taking part in One Seed Forward's Garden Schools initiative. The project runs throughout the year and will be led by P6/7 with the whole school taking part. We've already had three (outdoor and socially distanced) visits from Bob Donald and begun making plans for the spring, including surveying and measuring the school grounds, making garden designs and planting bulbs. Over the winter we will be learning about soil and composting and preparing the ground for planting. The project will help us deliver lots of science, technologies, maths, literacy and health & wellbeing outcomes from the curriculum.

Celebrating Success: Rotary Photo and Art Competition



We are delighted that last term we were able to present framed copies of successful entries in the Rotary Photo and Art Competition. Well done to Ruby (P7), Peter (P7) and Willem (S1).

Lighting the North: Little Lights Trail



Our design for our 'Little Lights' Lighthouse Sculpture has been submitted and we will start painting soon! The children in P1-5 worked really hard and we are really pleased with the final design which is based on our school values of kindness, respect and resilience and our beautiful local environment.

Learning Update P1/2/3

Welcome back to term 2. The children have settled back into the routine of learning and have created positive relationships within the class.

An overview of learning the children will experience in term 2.

Numeracy and Maths

The children will be learning about time, days of the week, months, o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past etc. We will also learn about shape and symmetry.

We will be focussing on addition and subtraction - using our concrete resources, bar modelling and moving onto the written method. P1 will also continue to work on counting on and back, number sequences. P2 and 3 will be working hard on learning their target times tables!

Literacy

Writing - We will be using lighthouses and the story of 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' as our contexts for developing our writing skills. We will be writing instructions and even some diary entries.

Reading - We will focus on the skills of reading (decoding, fluency, comprehension, etc.) We will also encourage Reading for Enjoyment.

Spelling - We will continue to learn sounds and common words appropriate to the children's level. Our interdisciplinary learning will stem from our involvement in the Light the North project. The children have shared their knowledge of lighthouses and what they would like to learn. This will include finding out about our local area and where the nearest lighthouse is and learning about energy! We will also be looking at Developing the young Workforce skills as we plan and manage fundraising for CLAN. Our learning will be recorded in our class Floorbook.

Learning Update P4/5

Welcome back to another busy term for P4/5. Last term all the children worked very hard and we managed to cover a lot of the work we had been unable to teach during lockdown, in addition to new topics and great opportunities for outdoor learning.

In Term 2 we have lots planned and are taking this opportunity to share our main areas of learning with you.

- ☺ **Maths** (Number): continue learning about place value; rounding and estimating; Addition and Subtraction.
- ☺ **Writing** - taught writing will focus on imaginative and personal writing. There will be frequent opportunities for children to "free write" to encourage a love of writing.
- ☺ **Reading** - we will use mainly fictions texts with groups this term, focusing on skills in comprehension, summarising and learning to express opinions using evidence to justify what we think. Reading for Enjoyment will also be encouraged.
- ☺ Spelling, handwriting and grammar lessons will continue.

Our topic, like the P1/2/3 class, is linked to the 'Light The North' project. The children have already helped plan their learning by suggesting questions that we can explore and answer. We have chosen to learn about The North Sea. The learning will be recorded in our Floorbook which we hope we will be able to share with you if Covid restrictions allow.

Learning Update P6/7

It's been great to see everyone back again after the tattie holidays. Term 2 is always busy, with lots of events to mark. Our other planned learning for this term includes:

- ☺ **Numeracy & Mathematics:** Number and calculation topic: place value, rounding and estimating, addition & subtraction and multiplication & division.
- ☺ **Literacy & English:**
 - Reading - Our class novel this term "The Secret Garden" was chosen by the children. Pupils will also have group reading books as well as their own chosen books for personal reading.
 - Writing- Focus on narrative stories with children developing description of setting and character as well as working on spelling, grammar, punctuation and extending vocabulary.
 - Listening and Talking - We watch Newsround daily - which often sparks interesting discussions- and communication skills will be further developed through class talks, group work and drama.
- ☺ **Topic:** In discussion with the class, we've decided to use the first few weeks of this term to finish off our Wolf Brother/Stone Age topic before we get into Christmas preparations. We will continue work on our Garden Schools project and we will shortly begin a series of Forest School sessions. Further information on this will be sent out soon.

A Huge Thank You: Community Generosity



We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our community - support has been coming from many sources and in many different forms. We would like to say a huge thank you to:

- ★ All of our parents and families for supporting our fundraising over the last year - we are delighted with our new Outdoor Classroom. It needs a few finishing touches to be 'class ready' but we are excited to start using it soon. Thank you to all involved in the construction of the classroom. Your time and hard work are very much appreciated!
- ★ Harpers Contracts in Inch for the donation of Woodchip
- ★ Asda, Tesco and Morrisons for the donation of Halloween goodies.
- ★ Additional Tesco Funding which will be used to purchase 2 new iPads
- ★ Funding from a local source of £3700 which will also be used to purchase iPads.
- ★ We are very grateful to the Oyne Community Association for the donation of our bell tent and now, the OCA have generously agreed to fund lamp post banners which the children will design with road safety messages to try to tackle the issue of speeding in the village.
- ★ We received £400 from Rev Gauld from the very successful Inch Scarecrow Festival

School Nurses on Facebook

Aberdeenshire School Nurses have a new Facebook page which is available for parents and families to access advice and support.

https://www.facebook.com/Aberdeenshire-School-Nurses-115580890312630/?ref=page_internal

Allergy Reminder

Just a reminder that we have a pupil in school who has a severe dairy allergy. We would appreciate your help in avoiding snacks containing dairy if possible, especially those crisps which are very hard to wash off hands like Quavers and Wotsits. We are reminding the pupils regularly about hand washing, especially after they have eaten a snack containing dairy. Thank you for your help!

Charity Fundraising

In addition to raising funds for CLAN (information to follow) we will also be involved in:

Poppy Appeal - poppies will be sold in classes this week. Children can bring money on any day to buy their poppy - please support this appeal and help us raise lots to help the veterans who are supported through this.

We will have a come as you please day for Children in Need on Friday 13th November - children can bring a donation.

Christmas Jumper Day will take place on Thursday 10th December - donations this year will again go to St Kizito Schools and Community to support the work

JRSO

The Junior Road Safety Officers this year are Penny, Lily-Ann and Ava who are celebrating this week having successfully secured funding from OCA to purchase banners to encourage drivers through the village to watch their speed. The JRSOs are planning to run a competition in school to come up with a slogan to be used on the banners. Additionally, PC James Stewart is planning a visit to school in the next few weeks to discuss all aspects of road safety with the children.

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Times and arrangements
Fri 20 th November	Inservice 3	School closed to pupils
Fri 18 th December	Final day of Term 2	
Mon 21 st Dec - Mon 4 th Jan inclusive	Christmas holidays	School closed to everyone
Tue 5 th January	First day of Term 3	

Many thanks for all you help and support in these challenging times!
Stay safe!