

August/September 2016

Portlethen Primary



Headteacher (Acting):
Mrs Sandra McKechnie
Portlethen School
Cookston Road
Portlethen
AB12 4PT

Severe Weather Line
0870 054 4999

Pin No.
02 2450

www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/closures

Answering Machine for
reporting absences:
01224 780238

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

SCHOOL CLOSES	SCHOOL REOPENS
Friday 7 th October	Monday 24 th October
Friday 11 th November	Wednesday 16 th November

Queries/concerns - Your child's teacher will make themselves available to chat over any queries/concerns you may have. It is often a case of clarification to put your mind at ease. Please feel free to make an appointment via the school office. I know you will understand that teachers are unable to discuss pupils once the class starts at 9am.

Dear Parent/Carer

I feel very privileged and proud to be given the opportunity to be Acting Head Teacher of Portlethen Primary. I trust you all had an enjoyable holiday and it is lovely to welcome the children back to school. We are looking forward to the session ahead and are pleased to welcome Hillside School into the Portlethen family. This transition phase offers lots of opportunities to work together and build positive relationships for the future. Exciting times!

School Uniform - What a good impression our pupils make as they wear their uniforms with pride! In order to minimise loss of property, it would be very helpful if all property is named. Thanks!

Enhanced Provision - Your views are very important! Questionnaires regarding the statutory consultation on the re-location of Newtonhill School enhanced provision centre to Portlethen Primary can be accessed until 16th September via:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Enhanced_Provision_Newtonhill_Portlethen_2

Inhalers - If your child uses an inhaler, please supply two. One will be kept in the classroom and the other in the medical room.

Medication - A permission form must be completed and medication should be in its original packaging. Please do not hand in "as and when needed" medication.

School Lunches - Lunch times for both Portlethen and Hillside pupils are as follows: P4-7 -12-1pm, P1 - 12.20-1.20pm (from 29/8/16) and P2-3 - 12.30-1.30pm. All children in P1-3 are entitled to free school meals. Please ensure children are registered with Ipayment.

ALEC Caravan - The Aberdeenshire Life Education Caravan will be at school from 19th September for two weeks. This resource supports the Health and Wellbeing curriculum.

Volunteers - We are grateful for the invaluable help of volunteers. If you can spare an hour or two during the week we can always find jobs to suit your skills. All new volunteers are subject to Aberdeenshire's volunteer recruitment process and, if you wish to offer your services, a volunteer pack is available on request.

Snack - As part of our Health and Wellbeing philosophy, children should bring a SMALL, healthy snack for break.

RRSA Article 24 "All children have a right to the best health care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food..."^{ell}.



Like us on Facebook!

Reminder: school lunches are now £2.15



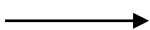
FAIRTRADE



Eco-Schools



PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT GROUPS NEWS



Curriculum - As we continue to develop the Big Writing approach, children will be introduced to "Talk" homework, initially piloted via some assemblies this term. This is an opportunity to chat with your children on a given subject. "If a child can't say it, a child can't write it".

Meet the Teacher - Will take place on Tuesday 6 September between 5 pm and 6pm. This is an opportunity to meet your child's teacher and hear about the children's learning and expectations for the session. The teacher will begin the first presentation at 5pm prompt. The second presentation will commence at 5.30pm. Please have an informal chat and share your views with the Senior Leadership Team who will be around the school during this time.

Staffing - We have a number of new staff that we warmly welcome. Mr Bruce is our new Depute Head Teacher. He has a wealth of experience, particularly with younger children and with enhanced provision. Miss Anderson and Mrs Cowan are our probationary teachers this session. I know they will love working with our children, families and colleagues.

Congratulations to Miss Duguid, Mrs Fraser and Miss Morrison who have successfully completed their probationary year and are remaining at Portlethen Primary.

Congratulations also to Miss Watson who has secured the role of Acting Depute Head until a new Head Teacher is appointed.

Sadly, Mrs Taylor, our clerical assistant will be leaving us in the near future. We wish her well and are in the process of recruiting her replacement.

Calendar of Events - A summary of main events will be posted on the school website shortly.

Finally..... Congratulations to Mrs Turner (formerly Miss Edmunds) who gave birth to baby Torben in July. Both mother and baby are doing well!



If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Yours sincerely

Sandra McKechnie
Head Teacher (Acting)

Portlethen Parent Partnership AGM will be on Tuesday 30th August in the staffroom at 6.30 pm. All welcome.

Parent Staff Association AGM will be held on Thursday 1st September in the staffroom at 6.00 pm. All welcome.

Playground Improvement Project (PIP) - at the time of writing, planning permission for the MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) is imminent.

These groups are an extremely valuable support and contribute to enhancing the learning experiences of the pupils. If you are able to give some of your time, it would be greatly appreciated!

