

October/November 2016

# Portlethen Primary



Children in  
Need  
18/11/16



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

## School Closures

Aberdeenshire council has changed the way parents receive online alerts about school closures and changes to school transport. Sign up for notifications through *myaccount* on the Aberdeenshire Council website - if you already pay for school meals online, you will be registered.

## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

SCHOOL CLOSURES	SCHOOL REOPENS
Friday 11 November at 3.20 pm	Wednesday 16 November at 9.00 am
Wednesday 21 December at 3.20 pm	Thursday 5 January at 9.00 am

Answering Machine for  
reporting absences:  
01224 780238

## Dear Parent/Carer

As we commence this term of celebrations and reflections, our amazing pupils and families have lots to look forward to. Have fun and keep safe at Halloween and Bonfire Night!

## Communication

I hope you have enjoyed sharing your child's learning through the new 2Build a Profile electronic profiling. If you have not yet signed up, please do so as soon as possible.

Feedback from parents has so far been very positive. Your views inform our next steps so please feel free to tell us what you think. Please note that there is a facility to comment on the profile. The children and staff look forward to these responses.

## Concert - Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 7pm

A selection of our children are looking forward to showcasing their wonderful talent at the above event.

The acts range from singers, guitarists, a pianist, drummer and piper. There is no end to our talent! We are also being treated to performances of former pupils and friends of the school. Please come along and enjoy what I anticipate to be a fabulous evening. Tickets can be purchased from the school office, adults £3 and children £2.

## Health and Wellbeing

Primary 1 and Primary 1/2 are enjoying working with Abbie the Asda Champion to taste a range of healthy foods and learn about portion control. Thanks to Asda for this partnership approach to children's learning. It is fab to see such a high number of children bring healthy snacks to school too.

*"I tasted all of the fruits. I really liked the lime, even though it tasted very sour." Mustafa*

*You have the right to get information that is important to your well-being, from radio, newspaper, books, computers and other sources. Article 17, UNCRC*

## Rights Respecting School

An open afternoon will take place on Friday 25th November, 2.30-3.20pm. It would be appreciated if you could join us.

Parents' Evenings

Tuesday  
22/11/16

Thursday  
24/11/16

Christmas  
Enterprise  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>  
November  
5-7pm

P1-P7 pupils  
Panto Trip  
Snow White and  
the Seven  
Dwarves

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>  
December

Christmas  
Lunch &  
Christmas  
Jumper Day

Friday 16<sup>th</sup>  
December

Infant Nativity  
Mon & Tues  
19 & 20 December

Christmas  
Church Service  
Wed 21/12/16  
at 9.45am

**PARENT  
GROUPS  
NEWS**

**Christmas Enterprise**

The pupils of Portlethen and Hillside Schools will be holding a joint Christmas Enterprise event on Wednesday 7th December 5-7pm. The children and staff enjoy creating their crafts/foods for us all to enjoy. A snapshot of items on sale will be available nearer the time. **Can't wait!**

**Playground Improvement**

Many trees have been felled at the rear of the playground. In time, we will plant native species which will grow to an appropriate height. Work on the Multi Use Games Area has begun. I am extremely proud of the commitment, dedication and resilience of the children and everyone who has supported this ambitious project. Eighteen months has passed since the RGU architecture students and our pupils first worked together to design their dream playground models but patience has triumphed!

A huge thank you to the PIP group who have been the driving force behind the project and have managed to raise an amazing £68,000. Playing a key role in fundraising efforts, the current S1 academy pupils will be invited along to the opening of the MUGA as our special guests. **Watch this space!**

*You have the right to play and rest, Article 31, UNCRC*

**Staffing**

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Roebuck and Mrs Kirby. Mrs Roebuck is teaching a range of subjects across classes on Mondays to Wednesdays and Mrs Kirby is part of our support for learning team whilst we await the outcome of the Enhanced Provision consultation. Their expertise has already enhanced our fantastic staff team.

A vacancy in the support for learning team is being readvertised and I feel very privileged that meantime Miss Weston and Mrs Willox have agreed to join us this term to work with the younger classes in the school.

Congratulations to Miss Humphrey on the birth of her baby boy. Rory Joseph weighed in at 8lb 2oz during the October holidays.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards

Sandra McKechnie  
Head Teacher (Acting)

Friends of Portlethen Primary Meeting - Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm  
Parent Partnership meeting - Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm  
PIP Group - 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Dance at Portlethen Golf Club, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November, tickets £12.50 (available from school office) include a sausage/bacon softie.  
Friends of Portlethen and the PIP Group will have stalls at the Christmas Fair. They will be asking for donations of bottles and chocolate for the tombola and unwanted but unused gifts for a pocket money present stall.