

October 2017



Portlethen Primary



Newsletter

School Values

- **T**rust
- **T**eamwork
- **R**espect
- **A**chievement
- **I**nclusion
- **N**urture

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

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	
SCHOOL CLOSURES	SCHOOL REOPENS
13.10.17 at 3.20pm	30.10.17 at 9am
22.12.17 at 3.20pm	8.1.18 at 9am
29.3.18 at 3.20pm	16.4.18 at 9am
IN-SERVICE/ OCCASIONAL DAYS	
13.11.17 and 14.11.17	
8.2.18-14.2.18 (inclusive)	
7.5.18 (May Day)	

Answering Machine for reporting absences:
01224 780238

*Children in Need
17th November 2017
Organised by P7s
Details to follow*



Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of our first term of the session I continue to wonder where time goes. We have had a very busy and productive term and enjoyed a whole school topic finding out about the local area, community and local organisations. We are all very proud to be Porty! Happy holidays to all pupils and parents!

Nursery

We had a recent visit from the Care Inspectorate which gave very positive feedback about the quality of our nursery provision. The full report will be published within the next week or so.

Facebook pictures and comments now relate specifically to the learning that takes place to ensure we share more valuable information with parents.

Whole School Topic

Classes investigated the topic in a variety of fun and engaging ways. P1 and P1/2 - investigated the topic via the theme of "The Gruffalo". P2/3 - looked at the different types of buildings within the community and took an eco-perspective of looking after our community. They also made a MASSIVE 3-d model of Portlethen! Although the children enjoyed their community walks, sadly they had to be careful to avoid dog mess on the pavements. Everyone should look after our community. P3/4, P4 and P5 - Porty Adventurers explored the local community, visiting the moss and community woodland. They delivered Portlethen Primary's first ever Facebook live broadcasts where we tracked their route and enjoyed the live learning reports from the pupils. P5/6, P6, P6/7 and P7 have been learning a range of skills including mapping skills using physical and Google maps. Conservation work at the Moss has been carried out and Porty Planners have considered areas of Portlethen that they could regenerate, the costs involved and how they might raise funding.

Attendance and Punctuality

It is so important that children attend school and arrive on time so that they can reach their full potential. We want to avoid children feeling upset and frustrated because they arrive late.

Our attendance stars this month are: P1 (twice) and P1/2. Pupils who have achieved 100% attendance for this term will receive certificates at the end of term assembly. Well done!

All of our achievements are shared on Twitter first! Don't miss out!



@Portyschool

863 tweets, 563 followers and 947 likes.

Parents' Groups

News

Parent Partnership Meeting
Wednesday 29th
November at 6.30pm

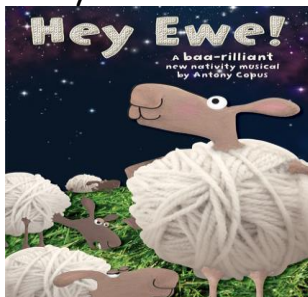
FOPP Meeting:
Date to follow

FOPP

Hallowe'en Disco -
Thursday 9th
November. Helpers
required!



Our P1-3 Nativity
this year will be...



Health and Wellbeing

Snack

I have been teaching in classes this term and am pleased to see that some children are bringing healthy snacks. As part of our Health and Wellbeing philosophy, children should bring a *SMALL*, healthy snack for break.

"All children have a right to the best health care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food..." Article 24, UNCRC

Macmillan Coffee Morning

On Thursday 28th September, P5/6 pupils organised a fantastic coffee morning! This talented group created an amazing selection of cakes. Judging the best cake was a very difficult task for me but someone has to do it! £530 was raised for this very worthy cause. Well done pupils, staff and volunteers!

"I was really surprised when my cake won." said Eva, P5 winner. "It took me about an hour to make but it was quite hard because I was trying to make cupcakes at the same time."

Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. Article 29, UNCRC

T TRAIN 31 Time

We have changed "Golden Time" to link with our school's vision, values and aims and the Promoting Positive Behaviour Policy. Children now sign up for a six week block of an activity of their choice. We are able to offer a wider range of activities that help develop skills for learning, life and work. Pupils may still have sessions where they can bring in their own activities. The next session where pupils can bring in their own activities is **Friday 13th October**.

Literacy Drop-In Session and First Minister's Reading Challenge

As part of our school priority to improve reading, the challenge will be launched at the school's literacy drop in session on the afternoon of Thursday 12th October between 2.15pm and 3pm, with additional reading activities available until the end of the school day. An Expressions message with more detailed information was sent yesterday. Please come and join us!

Staffing

Miss Morrison has now left to take up a post in Aberdeen city and Mrs Philp (support for learning) will be leaving at the October holidays to take a two year career break as she heads off to Stockholm. Best wishes to them both! Christine Vivier will replace Miss Morrison and will join us on 18th December. We will be interviewing for Mrs Philp's replacement after the October break.

Mrs Campbell gave birth to a baby boy, Ollie, last week and Mrs McArthur had a little girl on Monday who is yet to be named. Congratulations to both!

Kindest regards

Sandra McKechnie

Dates for your diary: (any additions/changes from last newsletter are highlighted)

6.10.17	P6/7 Assembly (parents welcome)
12.10.17	Literacy Across the Curriculum drop in session (2.15-3pm)
31.10.17	P1 Emerging Literacy information session (6pm-7pm)
9.11.17	FOPP Halloween Disco
16 & 21.11.17	Parents' Evenings
17.11.17	Children in Need - led by P7s
29.11.17	Parent Partnership Meeting (6.30pm)
30.11.17	Pupil reports to parents
11-15.12.17	Church Christmas Tree Festival
24.11.17	P7 Assembly (parents welcome)
12.12.17	"Aladdin" - Panto at HMT (P1-7)
13.12.17	Christmas Fair (3.30-5.30pm)
14.12.17	Christmas lunch
W/C 18.12.17	Christmas parties
18.12.17	Parent Partnership Meeting
18/19.12.17	P1-3 Nativity performances
21.12.17	Christmas jumper day
22.12.17	Christmas Church Service
8.1.18-25.1.18	Burns poetry recitals and competition
19.1.18	P4 Assembly (parents welcome)
25.1.18	Burns Supper
30.1.18	Parent Partnership Meeting
2.2.18	P3/4 Assembly (parents welcome)
6.2.18	Safer Internet Day
16.2.18	Numeracy Drop-In Session (9.15-9.45am)
21.2.18	Abernethy Information Evening(6-7pm)
23.2.18	P5/6 Assembly (parents welcome)
26.2-9.3.18	Fairtrade Fortnight
2.3.18	P2/3A Assembly (parents welcome)
12.3.18	British Science Week
W/C 26.3.18	World Autism Awareness Day (day tbc)
26.3.18	Parent Partnership Meeting
26-29.3.18	Abernethy
17.4.18	Pupil reports to parents
24.4.18	Parent Partnership Meeting
26.4.18 & 1.5.18	Parents' Evenings
18.5.18	P2/3B/F Assembly (parents welcome)

25.5.18	P1/2 Assembly (parents welcome)
30.5.18	Parent Partnership meeting
31.5.18	New P1 Parents' Evening
1.6.18	P6 Assembly (parents welcome)
W/C 4.6.18	New P1 visits
6.6.18	Sports Day
8.6.18	P4/5 Assembly
13.6.18	P7 School Show
15.6.18	P1 Assembly (parents welcome)
20-22.6.18	P7 academy visits
25.6.18	Parent Partnership Meeting
29.6.18	P7 treat
4.7.18	Volunteers' Afternoon Tea
6.7.18	End of session church service