



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

October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Here we are hurtling towards the end of Term 1 and I am so pleased with how well the children have been working their little socks off. Thank you for attending the virtual “Meet the Teacher” sessions in September and I do hope you enjoy our “Let’s Learn Together” videos which will allow you to see your child(ren)’s learning via Thinglink on Friday.

I ask that parents report pupil absence and test results via Xpressions wherever possible. We currently (understandably) have a higher level of absence and reporting in this way makes it much easier to manage. Please do not hesitate to phone to advise of any emergency or last minute change of arrangements.

Schools are still currently subject to mitigations so we are planning ahead for Term 2 on that basis but all arrangements are subject to adjustment as and when new guidance is published. Our fun Term 2 activities will be going ahead in some shape or form and dates for your diary are noted below. It is intended that, from Term 2, class-led assemblies will be performed in the hall in front of a permitted smaller audience. These assemblies will be recorded via Vimeo to be shared with parents.

Staff and pupils are ready for a well-deserved holiday when we finish on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> and I know that families will be looking forward to some down time so please have fun and relax.

## **Covid Matters**

As you are aware, restrictions still exist within schools and your cooperation in adhering to the mitigations in place is very much appreciated. The school will continue to send reminders of the mitigations in place and we look forward to the day when these are lifted. Please do not send your child to school if anyone in your household is suffering from Covid symptoms. These symptoms are:

- a new persistent cough
- fever
- loss or change in sense of smell or taste

Please self-isolate, the person suffering should take a PCR test and household members should await the outcome of the test and act on medical advice.

## **Harvest Collection**

Thank you for the donations so far. There is still time if you wish to donate. The Pupil Council will be taking the harvest boxes to The Larder on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October.

## **School Photographs**

Tempest School and Nursery individual and sibling photos are taking place on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of October. School pupils should wear full school uniform rather than PE kit on those days. Please reply to the Xpressions message sent on 22<sup>nd</sup> September giving permission for the school to upload



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parent email addresses and phone numbers into our secure Tempest portal to allow the contactless system of payment to take place. The school will not be handling any other forms of payment. We are also in the process trying to secure a date for Tempest to return in Term 4 to take class photos.

## **Guy Fawkes – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November**

A Firework and Fire Safety assembly will take place in the morning and all children will be given the opportunity to toast marshmallows on the firepit at some point during the day.

## **Parents' Meetings – 11<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> November**

These meetings will be held via Microsoft Teams. A correspondence will be sent after the holidays regarding appointments.

## **Remembrance Day – 11<sup>th</sup> November**

The whole school will observe two minutes silence at 11am. Poppies will be available in school from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November. Children who bring in a donation on any day that week will receive a poppy.

## **Children in Need Day – 12<sup>th</sup> November**

Primary 7B is arranging lots of fun activities for this special day. More details to follow.

## **Pantomime – Beauty and the Beast at HMT**

A reminder to parents to please respond to the Xpressions message to confirm your child(ren) is/are attending the whole school visit to the pantomime. Please also make the appropriate payment. A huge thank you to Portlethen Primary Together for paying for the buses for this trip. It is very much appreciated. Now... it's over to PPT!

## **Portlethen Primary Together**

Portlethen Primary Together have had a busy term! All our office bearers have agreed to stay on for another year so we are: Chair, Anne Hingston; Vice-chair, Julia Maitland; Secretary, Denise Main; and Treasurer, Claire Craik. We also welcomed April Cheyne on to the committee and are still open to more folk joining us - we could certainly do with more help as our events ramp up! Get in touch on portlethenpt@gmail.com for an informal chat.

The silver coin collection finishes on Monday 11th, watch this space for the winning class! We're collecting tokens from the evening express for pounds for primaries, we're pushing to sell the remaining numbers for club100, and Christmas card/gift orders are due in by Wednesday 13th October. In lieu of a Halloween disco, as volunteers are still not allowed in school, we are encouraging people to take part in and support the Portlethen Pumpkin Parade, and we'll be having a dress as you please on Friday 5th November. Keep an eye on our facebook page for regular updates, as well as your Xpressions messages. Thank you for all your support!

Wishing you all a very happy holiday and thank you for your continued support.

Kindest wishes

Sandra McKechnie  
Head Teacher



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## School holiday dates:

School closes	School re-opens
Friday 15.10.21, 3.20pm	Monday 1.11.21, 9am
Tuesday 21.12.21, 3.20pm	Wednesday 5.1.22, 9am
Friday 1.4.22, 3.20pm	Monday 18.4.22, 9am
Friday 29.4.22, 3.20pm	Tuesday 3.5.22, 9am
Friday 1.7.22, 3.20pm	Tuesday 23.8.22, 9am

## In-Service and occasional dates:

In-Service	Occasional	Mid-Term
Thursday 18.11.21 and Friday 19.11.21		
Tuesday 15.2.22 and Wednesday 16.11.22	Thursday 10.2.22 and Friday 11.2.22	Monday 14.2.22





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# Portlethen School News



## Dates for your diary:

 Change or additional information  Parent Helpers Required

Date	Event/Item
8.10.21	Assembly P4MM
<b>12&amp;13.10.21</b>	Tempest Photography – Individual and sibling group photos.
15.10.21	Assembly P6C
2-7.11.21	Dyslexia Awareness Week (Scotland)
<b>5.11.21</b>	Dress as you Please – Portlethen Primary Together
<b>11.11.21</b>	Flu immunisations
11 & 16.11.21	Parents' Evenings
12.11.21	Assembly P7B (Remembrance and Children in Need)
12.11.21	Children in Need Day
15-19.11.21	Anti-Bullying Week
26.11.21	Assembly P5A
24.11.21	Portlethen Primary Together
8.12.21	Panto HMT – Beauty and the Beast. Whole school attends.
9.12.21	Christmas Fayre <b>(online shopping only)</b>
10.12.21	Christmas Jumper Day
13-17.12.21	Christmas Carol singing in the community, P4-7
13.12.21	Nativity Dress Rehearsal, P1-3
15.12.21	Nativity, P1-3 Family and Friends Performance
16.12.21	Christmas Lunch
17.12.21 & 20.12.21	Christmas Parties
21.12.21	Christmas Church Service led by Rodolphe, 9.45am
10-24.1.22	Scottish Poetry Recitals Competition
26.1.22	Scottish Poetry Recitals Judging
28.1.22	Assembly, Scottish Poetry Recitals Winners
31.1.22	Portlethen Primary Together Meeting, 6.30-8pm
31.1-3.2.22	Techfest Planetarium Dome (as part of whole school Space topic)
4.2.22	Coffee and Tea with SLT (Senior Leadership Team), 8.50am Let's Learn Together, 9.15-9.45am
7-13.2.22	Children's Mental Health Week



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4.2.22	Assembly, P7CR
21.2-6.3.22	Fairtrade Fortnight
25.2.22	Assembly, P5/6R
3.3.22	Abernethy Information Evening
4.3.22	World Book Day Celebration and Assembly, P2LI
11.3.22	Inclusion Day Assembly, P1/2L
28-3.21-1.4.21	P7 Abernethy Trip
31.3.22	World Autism Awareness Day (Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April)
1.4.22	Easter Assembly (Bonnet/Egg Box Decorating Competition)
29.4.22	Assembly, P3/4A
3.5.22	Pupil annual reports to parents
10 & 12.5.21	Parents' Evenings, 3.30-6pm
16-20.5.22	STEM Week
20.5.22	Coffee and Tea with SLT, 8.50am Let's Learn Together STEM, 9.15-9.45am
25.5.22	Portlethen Primary Together Meeting, 6.30-8pm
27.5.22	Assembly, P3V
8.6.22	Primary 7 School Show
9.6.22	Sports Day New P1 Parents' Evening
10.6.22	Assembly, P1C
15-17.6.22	P7 – 3 day academy visit
21.6.22	Sports Day (if original postponed due to adverse weather)
W/C 27.6.22	P7 treat this week
29.6.21	Volunteers' Afternoon Tea
1.7.22	End of term assembly, including Rodolphe, 9.45am



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