

# November Newsletter



Trust Teamwork Respect Achievement Inclusion Nurture

November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to term 2, we hope you all had an enjoyable break! It is great to see the children settling in well to the new term and working hard in their learning. It was lovely to welcome parents into the school for the "Let's Learn Together" session where you were able to get a snapshot of the learning experiences being offered to your children. Our "Coffee and Tea with SLT" was well attended and hopefully enjoyable for those who were able to come along for a cuppa and informal chat with the leadership team. A huge thank you to our school choir for entertaining our audience with their excellent performance.

## School Communications

Due to ongoing issues with Groupcall Xpressions the office staff will now be sending both an email and an Xpressions message to ensure parents don't miss important school communications. These communications are sent to all parent/carer contacts as per Aberdeenshire Council's policy. We are in the process of updating our database as for some children we have no email address for the 2<sup>nd</sup> parent/carer. Please contact the school office to update this information.

## Staffing

The part time Head Teacher post is currently advertised, and we will be in touch with further information once there has been an appointment made. In the meantime Ms Karen Cormack will assume the role of Acting Head Teacher.

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Lee-Anne Campbell has been appointed Depute Head Teacher at Arduithie Primary. Mrs Campbell is an excellent practitioner and will be greatly missed at Portlethen. We thank her very much for the valuable contributions she has made to our school. The recruitment process is underway in securing a replacement P1 teacher.

## School Christmas Cards

The children designed Christmas cards in class, organised by our parent group PPT. Proofs were sent home earlier this week and orders should be made online at [myfundraisinghub.com](https://myfundraisinghub.com) by 13<sup>th</sup> November to ensure delivery before Christmas.

## Tempest School Photos

A reminder that you can still order school photos on the Tempest website using the link sent via email. If you require the link to be resent, please contact the school office.

## Active Schools

Active Schools are delighted to offer two new cluster sessions within the Portlethen Network starting w/c 13th November. Bookings can be made via the Active Schools website on the following link: <https://lifelifeaberdeenshire.org.uk/.../acti.../portlethen/>.



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## Toast Wednesdays

Wednesday morning toast will recommence on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November. Toast will cost 25p per slice and payment of £7.50 for the 30 weeks until the summer holidays can be made either in cash or into the school bank account. Please pay by Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November to order toast for your child(ren).

## PE Days

PE days will remain the same for term 2 as they were in term 1. Please ensure that children have suitable PE clothing and a waterproof jacket with a hood now that the weather is colder.

## Flu Immunisations

Flu immunisations will take place in school on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. These will **only** be administered to children whose parents have completed a consent form. Please contact the school office if you require a new consent form.

## School Crossing Patroller

We have been advised, that due to illness, there will be no school crossing patroller until further notice later this week. We will update parents as soon as we are advised of Ms Gartshore's return to work.

## First Class of 2023/24 Photo

We are pleased to advise that our primary 1 year group photo will appear in the First Class supplement in the Press and Journal on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November.

## Parents Evenings

We look forward to welcoming you to parents evening on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> or Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November. Appointments can be booked at <https://parents-booking.co.uk/portlethenprimary>.

## Poppy Appeal

Poppies will be available in school until Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November, with the P7 children taking them round the classes. Children who bring in a small donation for the 2023 Scottish Poppy Appeal will receive a poppy.

## P6 Assembly

The P6 pupils in P6/7 presented a fantastic Fire Safety assembly to parents and classes which was very informative. It gave the class an opportunity to showcase their learning through research, Art and Drama. Well done to them and thank you to our parents who were able to attend. Information about firework and bonfire safety can be found at [firescotland.gov.uk](http://firescotland.gov.uk).

## Children in Need Day

Primary 3/4 are planning a range of fun activities for Children in Need which we will celebrate on 15<sup>th</sup> November. In addition to coming to school dressed as they please, children will take part in Children in Need themed activities. A donation of £1 is suggested but this is not obligatory.



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## Pantomime

We very much look forward to our whole school trip to HMT for this year's pantomime on Wednesday 6th of December. Further information regarding arrangements will follow.

## Primary 1 Literacy Workshops

We look forward to welcoming primary 1 parents/carers from Mrs Campbell and Mrs Morrice classes on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 9.15am for our Literacy workshop. This will be an opportunity for you to find out about ways in which you can support Literacy development at home, including homework.

## Celebrate Aberdeen Awards 2023

One of our pupils, Brodie Smart P6, was runner-up Young Supporter of the Year at the Celebrate Aberdeen Awards at TECA on Saturday evening. Brodie has been promoting Sunrise Partnership and the charity is grateful for Brodie sharing his story on national radio and fundraising. Sunrise Partnership supports young people in Aberdeen City and Shire who are affected by bereavement and loss. Brodie wanted to give back so that other young people could also benefit from the charity's support.

## Lost Property

Please ensure that all items of clothing are labelled with your child's name and class. Named property can be returned but, unfortunately, we do not have the capacity to retain lost property for long periods of time.

With best wishes,

Christina Hardie and Karen Cormack  
Head Teachers

## **Pupil school holiday dates:**

<b>Holiday</b>	<b>School closes</b>	<b>School re-opens</b>
November in-service	Wednesday 15.11.23, 3.20pm	Monday 20.11.23, 9am (to pupils)
Christmas	Friday 22.12.23, 3.20pm	Monday 08.1.24, 9am
February mid-term	Wednesday 7.2.24, 3.20pm	Thursday 15.2.24, 9am (to pupils)
Easter	Thursday 28.3.24, 3.20pm	Monday 15.4.24, 9am
May Day	Friday 3.5.24, 3.20pm	Tuesday 7.5.24, 9am
Summer	Friday 05.7.24, 3.20pm	Tuesday 20.8.24, 9am (to pupils)



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## Dates for your diary:



Change or additional information



Parent Helpers Required

	Event/Item
to 13.11.23	Poppies available in school for a donation to Poppy Scotland
03.11.23	Flu immunisations (only for children with consent forms)
08.11.23	P1 photo in Press & Journal
09.11.23	Parents' Evening
14.11.23	Parents' Evening
15.11.23	Children In Need Assembly - led by P3/4, 9.15am Children In Need dress up
22.11.23	World Children's Day Assembly - led by P5 Mr Drennan and Mrs Law (Academy) to visit P7s
29.11.23	Portlethen Primary Area Santa Run
03.12.23	Choir Evening Performance, Evening Express Concert
05.12.23	Christmas Fair, 3.30pm
06.12.23	Whole School HMT Panto Trip (afternoon performance)
11.12.23	Carol Singing in the Community begins
14.12.23	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
19.12.23	Family and Friends Nativity Performance, 9.30am
22.12.23	End of term Christmas Service, 9.45am
24.01.24	Scottish Poetry Recitals Assembly, 9.15am
07.02.24	Assembly - led by P4/5, 9.15am
07.02.24	Coffee and Tea with SLT in school hall, 2.30pm Let's Learn Together, 2.45pm
28.02.24	Assembly - led by P1/2, 9.15am
07.03.24	World Book Day Assembly - led by P2, 9.15am World Book Day dress up
13.03.24	Inclusion Day
15.03.24	Red Nose Day
01.05.24	Pupil Reports Issued
02.05.24	Parents' Evening



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07.05.24 - 10.05.24	P7 Residential trip
14.05.24	Parents' Evening
15.05.24	Assembly - led by P6, 9.15am
20.05.24	STEM Week
22.05.24	Assembly - led by P3, 9.15am
24.05.24	Coffee and Tea with SLT in school hall, 2.30pm Let's Learn Together, 2.45pm
29.05.24	Assembly - led by P1
05.06.24	P7 Show
06.06.24	Sports Day
11.06.24	New P1 Parents' Evening
12.06.24 - 14.06.24	P7 3 Day Academy Visit
18.06.24	Alternative Sports Day
05.07.24	End of Session Assembly, 9.45am



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We are a  
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