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|  | **Alehousewells School**  **Newsletter 01**  August 2017 |  |

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| **Alehousewells School**  Bremner Way  Kemnay  AB51 5FW  Tel: **01467 536910**  **Emergency Phone line 0870 054 4999, Pin no. 021180**  [alehousewells.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:alehousewells.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  Head Teacher:  Mrs Carol Hughes  **Emergency Contact Details Update**  Childs Name:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Class:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Emergency Contact:  Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Number:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Diary Dates:**  Tue 29 Aug – Parent Council meeting, 6.30pm, all welcome.  Mon 4 Sept – P1 start all day school from today, 9-3.15pm.  Wed 6 Sept – P7 Dalguise meeting, 6.30pm, P7 classroom. Please enter via the pupils’ door.  Sat 9 Sept – Duck Race, 11am-2pm, all welcome!  Wed 13 Sept – Parent Council AGM, 6.30pm, School Hall. All welcome. Please enter via the Blue Nursery door.  Wed 13 Sept – P1 parents in class, 1.30-3pm.  Wed 20 Sept – P1 parents in class, 1.30-3pm.  Thur 21 Sept – ‘Buddies’ Disco, for all P1-7 pupils. P1-3 6.30-7.30pm, P4-7.35-8.50pm. Please enter  via the Blue Nursery. | **Dear Parents/Carers,**  Welcome back after the Summer Holidays. I hope that you all had a lovely summer break, even though the weather wasn’t that great, and that the children are suitably refreshed and raring to go for the new session. I would also like to extend a huge welcome to all of our new starts, whether in Nursery or P1, as well as Ryan Buxton in P2 and Riley Stewart in P6. I hope you will enjoy being part of Alehousewells school.  **Staff news**  We welcome back Mrs Kimberley More who has returned from her Maternity Leave and is teaching Health to most classes on a Monday and Tuesday.  **Classes**  All the classes are settling in with their new teachers. Here is a reminder of the classes and their teachers:  P1 - Mrs Bergin and Mrs McLaughlin  P2 - Mrs Gell and Mrs Adam  P3 – Miss Bremner  P4 –Mrs Alexander and Mrs Skinner  P5 –Mrs Brooks  P6 – Mr Swanson  P7 - Mrs Fraser  **Visiting Specialists**  The children will work with visiting specialists throughout the year, the timetable changes termly. This term, we have:  German – Mrs Kaup (Mon), Health – Mrs More (Mon & Tue), ICT – Mr Wilson (Wed), PE – Mrs Bergin (Thurs).  **Nursery times**  Just a reminder that Nursery times are 8.45-11.55am and 12.20-3.30pm, with a 10 minute flexible drop off and pick up time at the start and the end of each session. After this time, the door will be closed for security purposes and you will need to ring to enter. Please try and arrive within this period if at all possible. Many thanks for your co-operation.  **Medication update**  Some pupils will need to take medication (or be given it) at school at some time in their school life. Often this will be for a short period. Short term medication should only be taken to school when absolutely essential **and is prescribed**.  Where possible, parents of children requiring antibiotics should take into consideration dosage arrangements, which will allow the antibiotic to be taken before and after school. Parents should be encouraged to ask the prescribing doctor about this.  Pupils sometimes ask for pain killers (analgesics) at school, including Aspirin and Paracetamol. **School staff will not give non-prescribed medication to pupils**. They may not know whether the pupil has taken a previous dose, or whether the medication may react with other medication being taken. If a pupil suffers from regular pain, such as a migraine, the parent/carer should authorise and supply appropriate pain killers for their child’s use with written instructions about when the child should take the medication.  **In short, we are now only allowed to administer medication that has been prescribed by a GP and has the original label from the pharmacy with the child and dosage details.** | |
| **Wet break times**  It would be helpful if your child had something in their tray that they could use during a wet break time. This could be a colouring in, sticker or puzzle book, not something electronic.  **Labelling**  Please ensure your child’s belongings are clearly labelled. This should save any mix ups with shoes, jumpers, jackets and water bottles!  **Duck Race**  You will be aware from the recent slip that went home that the Duck Race is to happen on Saturday 9 September, from 11am – 2pm. This is great news and hopefully you will support this essential fund raising event in whatever way you can. Remember, any money raised benefits your children at this school in a variety of ways.  **Mobile phones**  If your child wishes to carry a mobile phone to school, we ask that they are switched off and either given to their class teacher or the Office for safe keeping at 9am. They should then collect it again at 3.15pm. We are not encouraging children to bring mobile phones, and they are the responsibility of the child before and after they are handed in to a member of staff, but are aware that some parents may prefer that their child have a phone if they are walking to and from home themselves. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.  **Holidays / In-service Days Session 2017 – 18**  October – 16-27 October  Christmas – 25 December – 5 January  Easter- 30 March – 13 April  Summer- 9 July- 20 August  Other holidays: 9, 12 Feb, 7 May, 4 June  In-service – 13, 14 Nov, 13, 14 Feb  **Parent helpers**  Before the summer, I mentioned that I would like to see as many parents as possible who would like to, being used more in the classrooms. If you are able to offer a wee bit of your time, whether this is to help during Excellence time, which will be Friday 2.10-3.10pm, or on school trips or in the classroom, please contact the school office. You would need to complete a PVG but the cost will be covered by Aberdeenshire council. Many thanks.  **Passport to Excellence**  As Excellence time continues to be on a Friday afternoon, your child will continue to bring home their Passport on a Friday. This must be signed by a parent/carer and the child and then returned to school on the **Monday**. Many thanks for your co-operation in this matter.  **Arrival at school**  Parents/carers are advised not to send children to school before 8.40 a.m. Pupils are not supervised in the playground at this time of day, although a member of staff will always be available twenty minutes before the bell to assist pupils if they require support. At Alehousewells, this is a member of Office staff, or in their absence, the Head teacher. Children will have access to toilets but not to the school unless the weather is severe. Parents are reminded that children who come to school earlier than this time remain the responsibility of the parents. During inclement weather, your child should arrive at school just in time for the start of the school day at 9.00am. On these occasions pupils will be admitted to the School and supervised by available staff. Children who go home for lunch should remain at home until 1:15p.m for P1-3 and 1:00p.m for P4-7 especially on cold, wet days.  **Head Lice**  Please remember to check your child’s hair regularly to avoid outbreaks within the school. Please inform the school if your child has head lice.  **Safe parking**  One of our neighbours from Kembhill Park has asked that parents refrain from parking in Kembhill Park right at the junction with Bremner Way. Parking on Bremner Way should be away from the junction. Also, parents should not park in residents’ parking spaces, nor do U-turns in Kembhill Park. There is adequate safe parking in other streets, eg Waterside Court/Craigearn Park. **The school car park is for Staff only. Thank you for keeping our children safe on and near the road.**  **Cycles and scooters to school**  We are happy for children to come to school on their bike or scooter. However, we must insist that all children come off their bike or scooter as soon as they reach the playground and walk to the cycle racks. Also, it is their responsibility to ensure their bike is locked securely for the day. We would expect children to be wearing a helmet and that parents are either accompanying them if they are younger or have given their permission for them to travel by themselves if older.  **Snacks, Tuck Shop and Packed lunches**  We are a Health promoting school and as such try to encourage all the children to bring something healthy for their snack. There will be Healthy tuck-shop this term every Tuesday, being run by P5. Water is readily available from the water fountains and in the lunch hall. We are unable to ensure that packed lunches are kept chilled during the morning, so it might be worthwhile adding a small frozen pack to keep the contents fresh. We would ask that nuts, products containing nuts or nut products are not sent to school in case of allergy. Many thanks.  **Achievements**  We would like to continue to recognise our pupils for achievements earned out with school. If your child has done anything that you feel should get a mention, please let the office know so that we can include these in future Newsletters.  **P.E Kit**  Each class will be getting P.E. this year.  *Indoor PE Kit consists of – T shirt which tucks into shorts, standard length shorts, socks, gym shoes (preferably with Velcro or elastic fastening for younger pupils) all kept in a gym bag.*  *With regard to safety, the wearing of jewellery (which we actively discourage) is not permitted during PE lessons. If your child has pierced ears, please ensure they can remove and replace earrings by themselves. Any child wearing earrings that cannot do this will be asked to put surgical tape over them for PE lessons. (Parents should provide a named roll of surgical tape for this purpose.) Shoe string strappy tops are also discouraged for safety reasons as they can catch on gym apparatus.*  *The school requests that football team tops and designer garments are kept for home use.*  Many thanks for your co-operation in this matter.  **Home Lunches**  All children who are going home for lunch will leave via the front door.  Children, who are deemed old enough to walk home and back on their own, will be asked to sign themselves out in our Home lunch book at the Office. We would suggest P4-7, as a rough guide.  The adult who is collecting younger children will be asked to sign them out in the Home lunch book at the Office. This would apply to P1-3, as a rough guide. We will not let a P1-3 child leave without an adult, unless you have made prior arrangements to say you are happy for your child to walk home themselves.  Children should remain at home until 1pm for P4-7 and 1.15pm for P1-3, especially on cold and wet days. (P4-7 lunchtime is 12.15-1.10 and P1-3 lunchtime is 12.30-1.25).  On their return, children should enter via the Office, in order for their return time to be added into the Home lunch book. They may then join their friends outside in the playground until their bell rings.  **Free School Meals**  If you think your child may be eligible for Free school meals, please either call 08456 080149, email [benefits@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:benefits@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) or ask for a leaflet from our school Office.  **Online payments for school meals**  Parents and carers of school pupils in Aberdeenshire can pay for school meals via the Aberdeenshire Council website ([www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk)). Simply click PAY and then School Meal Payments. Once registered, you can pay securely and access a range of services including notifications of school closures and school transport changes, using a single name and password via your myAberdeenshire account.  **Communication for parents**  Aberdeenshire council has changed the way parents receive online alerts about school closures and changes to school transport. You can now sign up for these notifications through *myaccount* on the Aberdeenshire Council website – if you currently pay for school meals online, you will already be registered.  *myaccount* is a simple, secure way of accessing a range of Scottish public services using just one username and password and 13,000 parents across Aberdeenshire are already enjoying the benefits of it.  As well as being able to sign up for alerts, your home page will  automatically give you handy information such as your bin collection days, where your nearest recycling centre is and the names of your local councillors.  So, if you want to be kept up-to-date and take advantage of the other *myaccount* benefits, sign up to the new system by going to the Aberdeenshire Council website and clicking on the red **register** button in the top right-hand corner.  **Preschool gymnastics**  Preschool gymnastics classes are available at Inverurie led by fully qualified club and preschool gymnastics coaches. To book a place or taster session email [inveruriegymtastix@hotmail.com](mailto:inveruriegymtastix@hotmail.com) or tel 07563526421  or facebook  Inverurie GymtastiX  I’m sorry that this first newsletter has been so long but there were many items I wanted to share with you. I will continue to try and put out a newsletter every fortnight so this should keep them to a more manageable length!    Carol Hughes  **HEAD TEACHER**  ✂\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  You are invited to comment on the return pro-forma on any aspect of school whether as a comment/ suggestion, compliment or concern. These are responded to as and when necessary.  Comment/Suggestion, Compliment or Concern, August 17  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  My name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  My child’s name and class \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | Mon 25 Sept – Folder of work sent home (more information to follow).  Tue 3 Oct – Parent Council meeting, 6.30pm, all welcome.  Wed 4 Oct – Parent information session on Internet Safety at **Kemnay Academy, 6.30-8pm.** More information to follow.  Tue 10 Oct – Photographer here for individual and family photos, more information to follow.  Wed 11 Oct – Parent/teacher settling in interviews, 4pm onwards. More information to follow  Fri 13 Oct – Last day of term, dress as you please day.  Mon 30 Oct – First day of new term.  Thur 2 Nov – Hallowe’en Disco.  Mon 13 Nov & Tue 14 Nov – In Service days, so school closed to pupils.  Sat 2 Dec – School Christmas Fair, 10am-12 noon.  Thur 21 Dec – Dress as you please day.  Fri 22 Dec – Last day of term.  Mon 8 Jan – Back to school.  **Medical Information Update**  Pupil:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Class:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Medical Condition:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Newsletter Via E-mail**  At Alehousewells Primary we like to save paper and the environment as much as possible. If you do not receive newsletters by e-mail at the moment, please provide us with an e-mail address so we can add you to our mailing list.  Child’s name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Class\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  E-mail address  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |