



Alehousewells School Newsletter 15

End of June 2019



Alehousewells School
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Head Teacher:
Mrs Carol Hughes

Emergency Contact **Details Update**

Childs Name: _____

Class: _____

Emergency Contact:

Name: _____

Number: _____

Address: _____

Diary Dates:

Wed 3 July – Dress as you please day and Talent Show.

Fri 5 July – Last day of session, Church service at 10am, all welcome.

Wed 21 Aug – P2-7 pupils back to school.

Thur 22 Aug – P1 Gp A starts 9.15am.

Fri 23 Aug – P1 Gp B starts at 9.15am.

Fri 30 Aug – New P1 and parent taster lunch, 11.30.

Mon 2 Sept – P1 start all day from today, 9-3.15.

Mon 7 Oct – Tempest photographer here for individual and family photos.

Fri 11 Oct – School closed to pupils for In service day Start of October holidays for pupils.

Mon 28 Oct – Back to school after October holidays.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Use of Social Media

All school staff were saddened and upset to read the negative posts on the Kemnay Parents page recently about Alehousewells School. This is why I issued the Guidance relating to the use of Social Media on Monday. If as parents/carers you have issues or concerns relating to school, then in the first instance please contact the school through the Office to speak to the Class teacher and/or the Head teacher to enable us to respond as efficiently and effectively as possible. Please do not post your concerns on Facebook where we cannot respond to them.

Installation of Solar Panels

We are to have Solar panels installed on the roof of the school during the holidays. This will mean workmen on site, but the affected areas of the playground will be fenced off so that it remains safe, should the children chose to play here in the summer.

Pupil requirements for August 2019

For the start of term, we would hope that all pupils are equipped with all of the following items:

- Writing pencils
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Glue stick
- Colouring pencils
- Tissues
- Appropriate P.E. kit (i.e. shorts, t-shirt and gym shoes) and taken to school in an appropriate bag.

Thank you very much for your co-operation in this matter.

Libraries summer reading challenge

This year's Summer Reading Challenge runs from Friday 21 June to Saturday 24 August in all Aberdeenshire libraries. Hopefully, lots of our pupils will take part in this and enjoy reading through the summer holidays, especially as our school Library is proving really popular with everyone. Mrs Dack from the library has already been in to speak to us about this at Assembly this week.

Perfect Passport to Excellence

This year we have again decided to award all children who have earned all greens all year a specially designed medal. It is unique and encompasses our values and Houses, as well as the shining achievement of a full set of greens each week. These will be presented by a special guest at a medal ceremony next Tuesday, along with a certificate which explains each part of the design. We are excited by this idea and hope the recipients are as proud of their achievement as we are of them.

We will also be presenting four other certificates in each class for the Four Capacities, which are Successful Learner, Confident Individual, Responsible Citizen and Effective Contributor. Well done to all who receive something.

Parent helper thanks

Many thanks to all the parents and carers who have helped in some way throughout the year here at Alehousewells. This could be helping at Excellence Time, in classes, in the library, on trips or being part of the Parent Council. I would like to see as many parents as possible who would like to, being used more in the classrooms next session, so please have a think over the summer as to whether you may be able to offer us a wee bit of your time. You would need a PVG, and times and days can be to suit you and either on a regular or occasional basis, but we are very flexible.

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 _____

Church service, presentation of awards and silver collection

Our end of term Church service is to be held in Kemnay Parish Church on Friday 5 July at 10am. All parents/carers, friends and relatives are welcome. Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete and return a nomination sheet for our Citizenship Shield. The recipient of this, and our other awards, will be revealed at our Church service. We will also have a silver collection for CLAN, our Charity of the year. If you would like to walk to and from the Church with us, please let the Office know.

Talent Show, Wednesday 3 July

We are looking forward to our annual Talent Show at the end of term. It always proves to be very entertaining so, children, get practising!

Garioch Community Kitchen

Are delighted to be offering our ever-popular Summer Family Kitchen sessions both at the Garioch Community Kitchen as well as in Kemnay, Inch and Port Elphinstone. These are FREE sessions which must be booked for families during the summer holidays where they cook a meal together, get involved in a physical activity and eat together. Please see the flyer on school notice boards for more information.

Kemnay Job Club

There is a new drop in job club held at Kemnay Family Resource centre on the 1st Tuesday of every month. See posters on our notice boards for more information.

Pupil Equity Fund

The Pupil Equity Funding is being provided as part of the £750 million Attainment Scotland Fund which will be invested over the current parliamentary term (2016 to 2021). The Pupil Equity Funding is allocated directly to schools and is targeted at closing the poverty related attainment gap. The funding is to be spent at the discretion of the Head teacher and is allocated on the basis of Free school meal eligibility. However, Head teachers have the discretion to make decisions about which children would benefit from any intervention, whilst also keeping a clear focus on delivering equity. Funding should not be used in a way that stigmatises children or their parents.

Last session, Alehousewells School was allocated £20,400 and used the money on the following:

- *Releasing Mrs Brooks (Wednesdays) and Mrs McLaughlin (Mondays) one day a week to support children and families*
- *Employing a Pupil Support Worker (Mrs Hendrick) 2 days a week. As the year wore on, we were able to increase this up to 3 days a week.*
- *Seasons for Growth training for some staff, which is designed to support children who have experienced significant loss or change.*

This session, we plan to use the £26,400 we have been allocated for the following:

- *Releasing Mrs Brooks again for one day a week to continue with her work supporting children and families. This will be on a Thursday after the summer.*
- *Continuing with Mrs Hendrick working as a Pupil Support Worker 15 hours a week.*
- *Employing a PSA to work 1-1 with pupils, offering daily targeted support with eg reading, spelling, numeracy practise and small group work eg on Motor skills.*
- *Continuing to offer Seasons for Growth sessions.*
- *Purchasing new Phonetic reading books for Early/First level.*

Contact with pupils at breaktimes

If you need to hand something in for your child during the school day, please do so at the Office. We have had occasions when some parents stop and hand

things to their child over the fence at breaktimes. It is the PSA's job to ensure that all children are safe while outside, so if they see children speaking to an adult over the fence, they will come over to see who it is, as it could be a stranger. Your help in ensuring that our pupils are safe while outside is much appreciated.

Improvement Plan priorities for session 2019-2020

1. Literacy

- Embedding Emerging Literacy approaches throughout the whole school eg Foundational literacy skills, Adult/child interactions, supporting phonological awareness, pre-teaching vocabulary in order to improve attainment in Literacy.
- Purchase and implement new phonological reading books.

2. Numeracy

- Numicon. Staff training for all, purchase more Numicon, use in Nursery, and create packs that can be used at home by pupils in order to improve numeracy attainment throughout the school.
- Sumdog. Further staff training to fully utilise this resource.

3. Health and Well-being.

- Use new P E resources recently purchased with Challenge 500 and Parent Council money.
- Staff training on new resources and existing resources in order to improve outcomes for all pupils.
- Continue to provide 2 hours of P.E. a week, which is helped by releasing Mr Swanson 2 days a week to teach every class and supplemented by class teachers where necessary.
- Installation and use of Learning Arena outside, driven by ACORNS (Eco group).
- Continue to offer Seasons for Growth for those suffering from loss and change, as well as support from Mrs Hendrick (Pupil Support Worker) and Mrs Brooks (Family Support Worker).
- Nurturing Schools training for staff.

Lost Property

We have another large collection of Lost Property which will be outside all next week (weather permitting) for you to look through. Anything that is left by Friday will be available on a first come first served basis to anyone who can make use of them. After that, anything left on the last afternoon will be put in the Rag Bag Container. If you have any items of uniform that no longer fits your child, or that you no longer need, you can add them to the Lost Property on the last Friday for others to take if they can use. I hope this may help families and also be environmentally friendly by reusing garments.

Communication

There will be one final Newsletter issued on the last day of the session, which will include the names of all the recipients of the awards given out at the Church that morning.

Many thanks,

Carol Hughes

Carol Hughes.

HEAD TEACHER

Alehousewells school aspires to be a safe and supportive learning community where everyone is respected and can realise their full potential within a friendly and caring environment.

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, End of June 19

My name _____

My child's name and class _____