



# Alehousewells School Newsletter 04

November 2019



## Alehousewells School

Bremner Way

Kemnay

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**Emergency Phone line**

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Head Teacher:

Mrs Carol Hughes

## **Emergency Contact**

### **Details Update**

Childs Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **Diary Dates:**

Mon 4 Nov – Gritter naming homework due

Mon 11 Nov – P7s to War Memorial for Remembrance ceremony.

Early playtime so that the school can observe a minute's silence at 11am.

Mon 18 & Tue 19 Nov – School closed to pupils for In service days.

Wed 20 Nov – Parent Council meeting, 6.30pm. All welcome.

Fri 22 Nov – Deadline for paying £4 per child for Aladdin.

Wed 27 Nov – Parent Council Christmas Shopping Night. More information to follow.

Fri 29 Nov – Kemnay village lights switch on, Choir singing, 3.30-5. More information to follow.

Sat 7 Dec – School Christmas Fair. More information to follow.

## **Dear Parents/Carers,**

Welcome back to this short (8 weeks) but very busy term. I hope you all enjoyed the holidays. I would like to welcome Joan McLennan, who has returned into P2/3 after nine months in China, Alan Hird who has joined P3/4 and Faye and Julie Craven who have joined P4/5 and P7 respectively this week. I hope you will settle into life here quickly and enjoy being part of Alehousewells school.

## **Dinner Dudes**

We continue to have P4-7 Dinner Dudes in our Lunch Hall every day. Four keen Dudes are on duty and are helping the P1-3s in a variety of ways in order to make the lunch hall experience run more smoothly and calmly e.g. handing out cutlery, pouring cups of water and cutting up food. So far it is running really well and I am delighted that so many pupils volunteered. Thank you!

## **Aldi Stickers**

Many thanks to everyone who has sent in your Aldi stickers. They will be handed out in stores until 3 November and then we must send in our filled posters by 18 November in order to be in the draw for Sports kit and £20,000. We have one completely filled and our second is about two thirds full so we really need your stickers! Many thanks.

## **Active Schools - Clubs**

Term 2 is a busy one in the run up to Christmas, but Active Schools still has a number of sport and activity opportunities on offer for pupils of Alehousewells School.

Fun Fitness with David will be continuing this term on Wednesdays. We have a P4-7 session from 3:30pm-4:15pm, and a P1-3 session from 4:30pm-5:15pm. There are a number of spaces available in both groups so it would be great to see some new pupils join us this term for lots of running around, fun games, and team challenges.

New to the school this term is Skipping and Multi-Sports. Some of you may remember Vanessa who was part of the school health week back in the summer term, and we're very lucky that she is available to do some activity at Alehousewells this term. This club is open to any interested pupils in P1-7 with the sessions being on a Monday after school.

If interested in any of the above clubs for your child, then please contact Lynsey, the Active Schools Coordinator, directly at [lynsey.coutts@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:lynsey.coutts@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) for a consent form or for more information.

## **Improvement Plan**

This session, we will be focusing on the following priorities for improvement:

### **1. Numeracy**

Numicon materials. Ensure we have enough, as well as the manuals and workbooks. Staff training organised for November In service Day. Liaise with Nursery to rollout Numicon there. Set up packs for children to use at home. Organise Parents' information sessions on Numicon. Sumdog. In house training organised for In Service day in November. Desired effect is increased attainment in Numeracy.

### **2. Literacy.**

Emerging Literacy. This has previously been used in P1 only so now looking to roll this approach out across P2-7. Develop foundational literacy skills, importance of adult/child interactions, support phonological awareness, use pre-teaching vocabulary to develop expressive language, review and purchase phonological Reading books for early readers. Desired effect is improved attainment in Literacy over time.

### 3. Health and Wellbeing

Staff training on October In service Day on use of new PE resources bought with Challenge 500 and Parent Council money last session. Resources bought also for outside use. Outdoor Learning arena installed and used. Nurture course attended by some staff. Approach then cascaded throughout school. Desired effect is vulnerable pupils are supported, school is a calmer, more nurturing environment with difficult behavior reduced.

#### Christmas Cards

The closing date for ordering is **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November** so please ensure all orders are placed online **prior to this**. Full instructions for ordering and the unique artwork code are on the pupil artwork form. Please tick the box to show that an order has been placed for your child. All artwork must then be returned to the school in their original condition by **5<sup>th</sup> Nov** at the latest to be packaged and sent away for printing.

#### Photo orders

Thank you to everyone who has ordered photos from Tempest. They are now being processed in order that you can have them in plenty time for Christmas.

#### Staffing

We welcome Miss Park, an MA4 student, to P7 until 6 December. She will be back to join P7 again in the New Year. Also, Miss Wardle, an MA3 student, who is in P2/3 for just now, returning in February to join P5/6 then.

#### Parent Council News

It was disappointing that the Hallowe'en Disco had to be cancelled due to timing and lack of Parent Council members available. However, it meant that children who wanted to, could go out Trick or Treating on Hallowe'en instead.

#### Support available

As part of our approach this year using our Pupil Equity Fund (PEF) money, Mrs Brooks is available on a Thursday should a parent or carer feel that they would like someone to talk to or sign posting towards someone or an organisation that could offer some help. Mrs Hendrick is our Pupil Support Worker and works Tuesday – Friday mornings. If you think these services are something that you or your child could find useful, just contact the school office and your message will be passed on to these ladies to deal with.

#### Jackets to School

As the weather is turning much colder, it is expected that ALL pupils come to school each day with a jacket and suitable footwear. Your co-operation is appreciated.



#### Inclement weather

If the weather is particularly wet, snowy or stormy, we will let children into school from 8.55 onwards. They will be asked to go to their cloakroom or pegs, hang up their jacket, change their shoes and wait there for their teacher to collect them once the bell rings at 9am. We would appreciate your co-operation in keeping children at home until the last minute when the weather is inclement. This also applies to home lunch children, who should not return until 1pm or 1.15pm, depending on when their lunch is. Many thanks

#### Gritter naming homework

All Aberdeenshire Primary schools are being asked to contribute a name to go into a draw to name each of the 32 Gritters in Aberdeenshire. Therefore, we are asking the pupils to come up with a suitable name in one of the following themes and return their suggestion below by Monday 4 November. Good luck!

- Film
- Music/Artists
- TV
- Punny names

Mon 9 Dec – M and M Productions here to perform Aladdin (instead of a whole school trip to the Panto at HMT).

Tue 10 Dec – 1.45pm P3/4-7 Christmas Show Dress rehearsal to OAPs, 6.30pm P3/4-7 Christmas Show to parents and family

Wed 11 Dec – 9.45 P1/2 & P2/3 Nativity to parents and family. 1.45 P3/4-7 Christmas Show to parents and family.

Thur 12 Dec – 9.45 P1/2 & P2/3 Nativity to parents and family.

Fri 13 Dec – School Christmas Lunch. Further information to follow.

Tue 17 Dec – P4 & P5 party pm.

Wed 18 Dec – P1-3 party pm.

Thur 19 Dec – P6 & P7 party pm.

Thur 19 Dec – Dress as you please day.

Fri 20 Dec – Last day of term, Church service at Kemnay parish Church at 10am, all welcome.

Mon 6 Jan – Back to school after Christmas holidays.

Thur 13 Feb – School closed

Fri 14 Feb – School closed

Mon 17 Feb – School closed

Tue & Wed 18 & 19 Feb – School closed for In Service Days.

#### Medical Information Update

Pupil: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Condition:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- Doric
- Aberdeenshire Landmarks

We would like the children to come up with the best name that they can, so we have only two rules when creating a name:

1. Names can be no longer than 20 characters (so the name can fit on the gritter).
2. No rude names.

**Kemnay Bonfire Guys**

We were delighted to be asked to provide Mrs Fawkes to go on top of the Kemnay Bonfire, beside her husband, provided by Kemnay primary. Thank you to the Butterfly Nursery for creating her. She looks lovely!



Yours Sincerely

*Carol Hughes*

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, November 19

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_

My child's name and class \_\_\_\_\_

**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 \_\_\_\_\_