



# Alehousewells School Newsletter 07

End December 2020



## Alehousewells School

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Kemnay

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Head Teacher:

Mrs Carol Hughes

### Emergency Contact Details Update

Childs Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

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

Emergency Contact:

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Fri 18 Dec – P4 and P2 parties.  
Dress as you please day. Last day of term.

Mon 4 Jan- Holiday.

Tue 5 Jan – Back to school after Christmas holidays.

Fri 12 Feb – School closed for mid-term break.

Mon 15 Feb – School closed for mid-term break.

Tue 16 & Wed 17 Feb – In service days so closed to pupils.

### Dear Parents/Carers,

Just a quick update with a few pieces of information before the end of term....which is today!

### School values awards

At Assembly last week, the latest round of children received our CARES school values badges. It was a lovely celebration even though it was done virtually, with the children shocked, surprised, delighted and proud to receive a badge. Our pupils are showing in many different ways how they demonstrate our school values eg showing a growth mindset, emptying the recycling bins weekly, helping their classmates when they are stuck or hurt and excelling in their learning.

#### P1

Caring- Lily Coull  
Achieving- Aleksander Barcikowski  
Responsible Rhiannon Black  
Encouraging Lucas Sangster  
Supporting- Giulia Sanchez-Carlier

#### P2

Caring- Alasdair Moynagh  
Achieving- Zac Gibson  
Responsible- Kai Fleming  
Encouraging- Harris McRitchie  
Supporting- Amelia Milne

#### P3

Caring- Emily Backwell  
Achieving- Luca Sanchez-Carlier  
Responsible- Leona Mitchell  
Encouraging- Hope Wilkie  
Supporting- Ailsa Wilkie

#### P4

Caring- Orla Massie  
Achieving- Blair King  
Responsible- Samantha Thorburn  
Encouraging- Kallum Mitchell  
Supporting- Liam Jackson

#### P5

Caring- Scott McLeod  
Achieving- Connor Jaques  
Responsible- Brooke Wilkie  
Encouraging- Freya Williams  
Supporting- Ryan Buxton

#### P6

Caring- Faye Craven  
Achieving- Emily Stewart  
Responsible- Katharine Thorburn  
Encouraging- Archie Urquhart  
Supporting- Marissa Craig

## **P7**

Caring- Nicolos Srodon  
Achieving- Bethany Gill  
Responsible- Kirsty McGhee  
Encouraging- Aryleights Fraser  
Supporting- Payton Sangster

### Admissions Primary 1 and Early Years (Nursery)

#### **Online P1 School Admissions**

If your child's fifth birthday is between 1st March 2021 and 28th February 2022, you can register them in **January 2021** to start attending school in August 2021. As with last year, we are using the online P1 school admission form below, but please note this will only be available from enrolment week which is **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**:

[Apply for primary one - Aberdeenshire Council](#)

The whole school privacy notice can also be viewed here:

[privacynoticewholeschool.pdf \(aberdeenshire.gov.uk\)](#)

Parents/Carers are being invited to complete the online application form for a school in their catchment area. Where a parent/carer wishes to place their child at a school outwith their catchment area, they have been asked to complete an out of zone placing request too. With COVID restrictions in place, parents/carers are asked to email supporting documents such as a child's birth certificate and recent utility bill as proof of address or alternatively take them with them when the pupil starts school.

#### **Online Nursery Admissions**

The admissions fortnight for EL&CC applications will be from **18<sup>th</sup> January until 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021** and can be applied for here:

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/childcare-and-early-learning/3-and-4-year-olds/>

#### **Neil Johnstone Memorial Award for Creativity in the Expressive Arts for P1-3 and P4-7**

Yesterday, we proudly presented these awards for the first time. They were created to remember one of our parents who sadly died last year. Neil Johnstone loved music and singing so we thought an award in the Creative Arts (Music, Drama and Art) would be fitting. We would anticipate that in the future, we could select pupils from the Christmas preparations eg the Nativity or Christmas Show, but in the absence of these events this year, we used the CLAN Light the North lighthouse project.

The first recipients of the awards for 2020 are as follows:

P1-3 – Jasmine Thomson

P4-7 – Katie Torrance

We also decided to use the remainder of the money that we were very generously given from the collection at Neil's funeral, as well as a donation from his employer, Hunting Energy Services (International) Ltd, to buy STEM resources (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). Again, we thought this would be fitting because of Neil's employment background being a link to STEM.

Many thanks to Neil's family and Hunting Energy Services for their very kind and generous donations at such a sad time. We hope they agree that we have put the money to very good use.

#### **Parent appointment feedback**

Many thanks to the 35 parents and carers who took the time to complete the online questionnaire about our recent parent teacher phonecalls.

69% said a phone call was as informative as a face to face meeting.

17% said it wasn't as informative as a face to face meeting.

14% said it was their first parent teacher conversation so had nothing to compare it to.

40% said that they prefer a face to face meeting.

14% said that they prefer phonecalls.

46% said that they had no preference.

We will probably have to conduct our next round of interviews by phone as restrictions will probably not have lifted enough to allow visitors into the building by March, but when they do, we may be able to offer one night of phonecalls and one night of face to face meetings.

## COVID

We are sending home all indoor shoes today so that they can be washed/replaced. Please return a pair of indoor shoes with your child in the New Year.

The same rules will continue to apply for PE days and bringing items into school as are in place currently. Thank you for sending your children to school in clean clothes every day. We are not insisting on school uniform but rather clean **suitable** clothes that will keep them warm indoors and outside.

## Staffing

Mrs Gell has decided to take a period of leave after Christmas, so we look forward to welcoming Mrs Donnelly on a Monday and Tuesday, providing cover in P4, P1 and P7, and Mrs Sweeney on a Wednesday in P7.

## Christmas jumper upcycle

Many thanks to everyone who donated a Christmas jumper recently. We were able to offer 15 jumpers to new families which was fantastic. There are a few still left out on the trolley at the back gate, along with some food, so please stop in past before we break up for the holidays at 3.15pm if you could make use of any of the items.

## ALEC (Aberdeenshire Life Education Centre) visit

We are delighted to be welcoming back the ALEC educators the first week back in January. All classes including Nursery will receive an input on a Health and Well-being theme. There is also a virtual parents and carers session via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 5 January, 9.30-10, to which you are all invited to join via this link

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

For Parents/carers who cannot make this session, there is a pre-recorded Youtube video (however we usually only share this with parents AFTER the session, as it is better for them to attend the virtual live session so that they can ask questions).

## Santa

We had a visit from a very someone very special on Wednesday. Santa found time in his busy schedule to walk around the outside of the school in the rain to wave to all the pupils and staff. We were all very excited to see him, some staff as much as the pupils!



## Christmas cards and pictures for The Grove and Littlewood Court

Recently, P1, P3, P5 and P6 made cards and pictures to cheer up the residents of The Grove and Littlewood Court. We hope they bring some Christmas cheer at this very different Christmas time.

**Finally...**

These last two weeks have certainly been different to the normal end to our term with the usual activities that we have so often enjoyed in school not being able to take place. Fingers crossed we are able to be back dancing and performing for parents next year.

I would just like to take this opportunity to thank all my staff who have worked exceptionally hard throughout the year to overcome the many challenges that we have faced, both during lockdown and since returning to the school. We cannot underestimate what we have all done together to allow learning and teaching to continue as well as maintaining a sense of normality for all pupils.

As parents you too have played a huge part in all that we have done over the year, for which I would like to say a great big thank you for your continued support of the school as we have overcome the challenges we have faced.

I would also like to commend our pupils for how they have shown resilience in adapting to the many challenges they have faced throughout the year.

I hope you all have a good break over the holiday period and stay safe and well. I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to all that we can achieve together over the year to come.

Yours Sincerely

*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 December 20

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

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

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

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

