



# Alehousewells School

## Newsletter 08

(March 2021)



### Alehousewells School

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Head Teacher:

Mrs Carol Hughes

### Emergency Contact Details Update

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

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

Emergency Contact:

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

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

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

Dates for your diary

Thur 1 April – Dress as you please day. Last day of term.

Mon 19 April – First day back of new term.

Wed 21 April – Parents/carers virtual ALEC session 2.30-3pm.

Tue 27 April – Virtual Parent council meeting, 6.30pm.

Mon 3 May – School closed for May day holiday

Mon 14 June – Written update report issued to parents/carers.

Fri 25 June – Last day of the session.

Tues 17 Aug – Back to school for P2-7 pupils.

### Dear Parents/Carers,

We have very much enjoyed having all the pupils back in school. Thank you to you all for supporting them throughout their time of home learning. It was quite an experience for everyone.

I am pleased that most parents are abiding by the rules at drop off and pick up times in order to keep everyone safe. However, I am aware that there can still be a crowd at the gate near the park and people are finding it difficult and stressful to navigate through. Please stand 2m apart and leave ample space for others to safely get past.

Feel free to prop open the large vehicle gate at 9am and 3.15pm if this means less people have to touch the gate. It must be closed between these hours though so that we can ensure that all children are safe and remain in the playground. Many thanks.

### 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. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter. If you are unsure, please ask us.**

### 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 1:15pm for P1-3 and 1:00pm for P4-7 especially on cold, wet days.

### **Dress as you please day**

**The last day of term, Thursday 1 April, is a Dress as you please day**, as a thank you for looking so smart in school uniform. Please note that this is a change of day as it was previously going to be the second last day of term so that we could go to church looking smart on the last day for our end of term service. As you know, this is not yet possible, hence the move to the last day of term, 1 April.

### **ALEC (Aberdeenshire Life Education Centre) visit**

We are delighted to be virtually welcoming back the ALEC educators. All classes including Nursery will receive an input on a Health and Well-being theme (P1-3 have received theirs already). There is also a virtual parents and carers session via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday 21 April, 2.30-3pm, 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).

### **World Book Day**

For World Book Day this year, we ran a competition for P1-3 to design a Julia Donaldson themed Bookmark and for P4-7 to create a Roald Dahl themed Book cover. The winners, who will all receive a book themed prize, are:

P1 – Linda Rakovska

P2 – Philip Soper

P3 – Chiara Sanchez-Carlier

P4 – Ellie Sorrie

P5 – Brooke Cameron

P6 – Calum Brown

P7 – Kirtsy McGhee

Well done to them and to everyone who took part.

Today your child will bring home a £1 Book token, which can be used to buy a special £1 World book day book, or it can be used to get £1 off any book or audio book worth £2.99 or more. They are only valid until 28 March so please don't hang about otherwise you risk missing out!

### **SIM data cards**

We have been lucky enough to receive recently 50 free data SIMs with 30GB to use for 90 days. Please contact the Office to say Yes if you would like one to be sent home. Please reply by the end of this week so that we can then reallocate any spare SIMS after that.

If your phone is locked to another network, you just need to contact your network provider's customer service team to request for your phone to be unlocked.

You won't be able to use your phone to make calls/texts while using this data sim.

You'll be able to enjoy 30GB data for 90 days. This will start once you insert the SIM into your phone and start using the data.

### **Connecting Scotland, Phase 3**

We have heard again about another opportunity to access either Chromebooks or iPads for pupils who are at risk of digital exclusion as a result of not having a device. I'm conscious that Phase 2 devices that I have already ordered have not yet arrived. Aberdeenshire council are hopeful these will be delivered early next term. International supply chain issues are the reason for this and are beyond our control. Chromebooks, in particular, have been harder to come by. iPad stocks have remained good. Given this, I am planning on ordering iPads as an alternative to Chromebooks this time.

As per the devices allocated to schools as part of Phase 1 and 2, devices will be loaned to pupils solely for their use and for the duration of their time at school. Devices are for use both at school and at home. The aim of this investment is to lift as many children and young people out of digital exclusion as quickly as possible, enabling them to remain connected with their learning if they are unable to physically attend school as a result of Covid-19. We are aiming to ensure that as many disadvantaged children and young people as possible have access to usable devices. As part of the funding purpose, we will be required to monitor the benefits realised for children and young people as result of them receiving a device and their impact on learning and teaching. The criteria for allocation are as follows:

- **PEF (Pupil equity fund) which this year has been used to pay for Mrs Hendrick (Pupil and Family support worker)**
- **Free School Meals.**
- **Assessed as vulnerable and at risk of being digitally excluded.**
- **Pupils who are shielding**

If you think you might qualify, or even if you want to have a chat about the possibility of you qualifying, please get in touch to discuss in order for me to compile a list for the Authority by **29 March at the very latest**. Many thanks.

### **Virtual Parent Council meeting**

Our next virtual Parent Council meeting is in the diary for Tuesday 27 April, 6.30pm. Please contact the school office if you would like the link sent and this will be arranged. The meeting will be via Teams and all parents and carers at Alehousewells school are welcome to attend.

### **Feedback on remote learning**

Many thanks to the families that took the time to complete the questionnaire I sent out recently about remote learning. I will collate the results and share with you before the Easter holidays.

Finally, I would again like to thank all parents and carers for their continued support of the school during these challenging times. Restrictions are slowly lifting but we still need to be vigilant and follow the rules in order to keep our school community safe.

As always, if you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school.

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 March 2021

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_