



Alehousewells School

Newsletter 02

(September 2021)



Alehousewells School

Bremner Way
Kemnay

AB51 5FW

Tel: **01467 536910**

**Emergency Phone line 0370
054 4999, Pin no. 021180**

alehousewells.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Head Teacher:

Mrs Carol Hughes

Diary Dates:

Fri 10 Sept – Photographer here to take individual and family photos (no children to be brought into school to join in photos). Further information to follow separately.

Tue 21 Sept – Parent Council AGM 6.30pm, virtually via Teams. All parents and carers welcome.

Wed 6 Oct – Parent / teacher phonecalls from 4pm.

Thur 7 Oct – Parent / teacher phonecalls from 4pm. Further information to follow.

Fri 15 Oct – Last day of term. Dress as you please day with suggested donation of £1 for CLAN.

Mon 1 Nov – Return to school.

Thur 18 Nov and Fri 19 Nov – In service days, so school closed to pupils.

Mon 20 Dec – Dress as you please day with suggested donation of £1 for CLAN.

Tue 21 Dec – Last day of term.

Wed 5 Jan – Back to school.

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are now in week 4 of this 9-week term so I would like to share some more information with you.

Covid

Thank you for your continued support as we navigate our way through the pandemic. Please be assured that the school continues to adhere to the current Covid mitigating guidance that is required of us by the Scottish Government. Any pupil who feels unwell should not attend school. If pupils arrive at school unwell, or are displaying symptoms of Covid, parents will be contacted, and they will be required to collect them from school as soon as possible. We would request that pupils displaying symptoms of Covid book an NHS PCR test. Only when they have tested negative should they return to school. I appreciate that this is a challenging time for us all and only by reinforcing the same message can we together ensure that Alehousewells School continues to be a healthy environment for pupils to learn and staff to work. Thank you.

House, Vice & Sports Captains

Please find below our new House, Vice and Sports Captains.

Bennachie	House Captain	Lily Shewan
	Vice-Captain	Sofie McGillivray
	Sports Captain	Calum Brown
Fraser	House Captain	Sophie Lamont
	Vice-Captain	Layla Sangster
	Sports Captain	Emma Johnstone
Don	House Captain	Katharine Thorburn
	Vice-Captain	Sophie Stephen
	Sports Captain	Katie Torrance

Mrs Fraser and I were very impressed with the quality of the application forms and the interviews from the prospective captains. Well done to all who took part in this process.

Rag Bag

The Rag Bag container has now been emptied again. We would like to thank you for your continued support in raising extra funds for the School.

School Task Force (Pupil Council)

This year, the class representatives for the Task Force are as follows:

- P1 Jaxon Sangster & Harley Shewan
- P2 Lucas Sangster & Lucie McHaffie
- P3 Philip Soper
- P4 Jaydon Cameron & Logan Stuart
- P5 Holly Forbes
- P6 Ryan Buxton
- P7 Sophie Lamont

The Task Force meet with me regularly to discuss various aspects of school life and help make the school the best it can be.

Eco Committee

This year, the class representatives for the Eco committee are:

- P1 Brodie McMichan & Megan Laoye
- P2 Rhiannon Black & Lily-Mia Hosie
- P3 Jessica Lace & Lilly Asher
- P4 Chloe Diack
- P5 Blair King
- P6 Logan Masson
- P7 Emma Johnstone

We hope to start regular Eco committee meetings very soon.

Digital Leaders

We also have Digital leaders who will support the use and storage of Technology in school from the following classes.

- P1 Emily Laoye & James Nicol
- P2 Alfie Andrews & Linda Rakovska
- P3 Willow Findlay & Ethan Craig
- P4 Noah Aitken-Wallace & Emily Backwell
- P5 Samantha Thorburn & Ethan Shek
- P6 Scott McLeod & Freya Williams
- P7 Emily Stewart & Esme Massie

Mrs Alexander plans to meet with the Digital leaders regularly.

Water bottles

We encourage all children to take a filled water bottle to school every day to keep the children hydrated. However, we are noticing that many children are starting to bring juice to school instead of water. During class time, it should be **water only**: We have already had some juice spills in class, making a sticky mess of tables, jotters, worksheets and the carpet. Juice should only be for playtime and lunchtime, when the children can take their bottles outside. Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Flu Vaccinations

Could I please remind parents/carers to return these forms to the School Office by 10th September please? If you miss this deadline, you will need to post them to the Garioch School Nursing Team, Allan Ward, Inverurie Health and Social Care Hub, Upperboat Road, Inverurie, AB51 3UL. Many thanks.

Annual Data Checks

It is vital that the information we hold for your child is up to date, therefore please ensure all outstanding forms are returned ASAP or that any changes required are submitted on Parentsportal. Thank you.

Co-op Food Waste/Food Share schemes

We are part of the Co-op food waste and Food share schemes; items of free food will be left on the trolley at the front gate on Bremner Way. We don't always get every week so please keep checking on your way past. Please take what you can use.

Pop-Up Shop

There is also a pop-up shop next to the food waste, where there will be a variety of items. Please take what you can use and leave any similar items for others to benefit from if you can.

Bikes in the Playground

For safety reasons, no pupil should be riding their bike or scooter through the playground while it is full of parents and children. Please walk your bike or scooter until you reach beyond the playground. This will make sure everyone is safe. Many thanks for your co-operation in this matter.

Indoor shoes

We ask all children to change into indoor shoes when in the building as this keeps the inside areas clean, especially when the children are sitting on the carpet in their class. Black plimsolls are perfect as they are easy to slip on and off and are relatively cheap. Please also remember to name all indoor shoes. Many thanks.

Parent Teacher phone appointments

We are unable to run Parent / Teacher appointments again in the traditional face to face way due to COVID restrictions. Therefore, we are offering a short 10-minute phone call with your child's teacher on either 6 or 7 October from 4pm. These were well received when we offered them last session. Please look out for a Microsoft Form for you to submit your responses so that we can organise times and return these to you in plenty time. Thank you.

Ipads

As part of the Scottish Government's Connecting Scotland programme, we are extremely lucky to have applied for and been allocated 26 ipads for 26 of our pupils. This is in addition to the 82 Chromebooks that we have already received, meaning that 74% of our P1-7 school population have benefitted from the Connecting Scotland scheme. The focus of the Connecting Scotland programme is to support and enable these pupils to remain connected with their learning if they are unable to physically attend school because of Covid-19.

In order to apply for these devices, we had to indicate which pupils might benefit, bearing in mind that they had to meet at least one of the following criteria:

- PEF (Pupil equity fund) Funding. Our PEF money is used to fund Family support, Pupil support and targeted PSA support).
- Free School Meals (not Universal P1-4 provision)
- Assessed as vulnerable and at risk of being digitally excluded
- Pupils who are shielding

These devices are loaned to the pupils by Aberdeenshire Council and will be theirs to use during their time as an Aberdeenshire pupil. When they leave school, the device must be returned to school. It is important that they take very good care of the device. **We have decided that the devices will be kept in school for now, for the children to use there. However, if we should have any further school closures in relation to Covid-19, these devices will be sent home with them. This would also apply if these children are required to self-isolate. Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any further queries about this programme.**

Kooth (free online mental health service for 10-18 year olds in Aberdeenshire)

A reminder about Kooth which provides 1:1 sessions with counsellors and emotional wellbeing practitioners available via drop-in or booked appointments which helps to reduce waiting times for young people seeking help, removing stigma around mental health. This service can be accessed by families directly by registering at www.kooth.com.

A new Aberdeenshire autism strategy for children, young people and adults

I have been asked to share the following with parents and carers:

Working together, partners from across Aberdeenshire, have started to plan the development of a new autism strategy for Aberdeenshire. We are in the very early stages of planning and we would like to hear from you. **How can you get involved?** Would you be interested in helping us develop the strategy? We are taking a co-production approach. This means that people have an equal say in how the strategy is developed and implemented. We are open to all suggestions as to how you might like to participate. As a next step, we would like to hear from you, and whether you would like to be involved in developing the strategy. We have developed a short survey, which you can access by going to the [autism strategy project page](#). We recognise that you may require support to participate, and we have included a question on the type of support you might need. If you have any questions, please do get in touch by replying to autismstrategy@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.

Playground

As we no longer need to keep class bubbles apart, we are able to revert the playground back to one space as of tomorrow, rather than keeping P1-3 separate from P4-7.

The children continue to show great resilience in coping with the rules and restrictions we still have in place. Well done to them all!

Yours Sincerely

Carol Hughes.

Carol Hughes

HEAD TEACHER

Alhousewells 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 September 2021

My name _____

My child's name and class _____

Medical Information Update

Pupil: _____

Class: _____

Medical Condition:

Emergency Contact Details Update

Childs Name: _____

Class: _____

Emergency Contact:

Name: _____

Number: _____

Address: _____
