



Alehousewells School

Newsletter 05

(November 2021)



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: _____

Diary Dates:

Thur 18 & Fri 19 Nov – School closed to pupils for In service days.

Wed 15 Dec – P6 & 7 Christmas party pm.

Thur 16 Dec – Pupil Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day.

Fri 17 Dec – P4 & 5 Christmas party pm.

Mon 20 Dec – P1 – 3 Christmas party pm.

Tue 21 Dec – Last day of term. Dress as you please day.

Wed 5 Jan – Back to school.

Tue 18 Jan – Virtual Parent council meeting 6.30pm. All welcome.

Thur 10, Fri 11 & Mon 14 Feb – School closed for Midterm holiday.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new term. I hope you all enjoyed the October holidays and took the opportunity to rest and recharge your batteries.

Welcome to Elly Oslavska and Oliver Oslavsky who have joined P5 and Kadi-Lei and Morgan Gavin who have returned to P5 and P3 respectively.

I hope you and your families will settle into life here at Alehousewells school and will enjoy being part of our friendly and welcoming community.

School closed for In service days

A reminder that the school is closed to all pupils on Thursday 18 and Friday 19 November for In service day training for staff.

Staffing news

Welcome to Mrs Linda Smith who has joined us as a replacement PSA for Mrs Brown who left before the holidays.

It's goodbye to Miss Black who is unfortunately leaving us next week to take up a position at Ellon Nursery. We will really miss you Miss Black and thank you for all the hard work and commitment to the families here at Alehousewells Nursery.

Dress as you please day for Clan

We enjoyed a Dress as you please day on the last day of term before the holidays. We raised £99.95. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this fantastic amount.

Kodály

We are delighted to be able to have a Kodály Music Instructor in school on a Monday this term for all children from Nursery up to P4. The Kodály method is an approach to music education rooted in the idea that music should be a social and cultural experience. The Kodály approach to teaching music asserts that musical concepts, creativity, and collaboration are best taught in group music lessons, particularly for young children. It was developed in Hungary during the mid 20th century and is named after the Hungarian educator and composer Zoltan Kodaly. Though the method is named after him, it wasn't actually created by him. I joined two classes this week for their session, and they were thoroughly enjoying it.

PE days

For your information, here is a note of when each class has PE so that you know when to send your child to school in their PE clothes.

P1 – Monday and Friday

P2 – Tuesday and Wednesday

P3 – Wednesday and Thursday

P4 - Thursday

P5 – Wednesday and Friday

P6 – Tuesday and Friday

P7 – Monday and Thursday

Panto - Sleeping Beauty

This year, we are going to be showing the pupils the Arts Centre's performance of Sleeping Beauty via a video link. We enjoyed their Panto last year so are looking forward to being entertained again.

Christmas arrangements

The pupils Christmas lunch will be on Thursday 16 December. Further information about food options will be forthcoming in due course. This will also be a Christmas jumper / accessory day. We have a small stock of preloved Christmas jumpers which will be available during the month of December to take or indeed swap one of your own for. Further information about this will also be issued soon.

The P6 & 7 party is on Wednesday 15 December, the P4 & 5 party is on Friday 17 December and the P1 – 3 party is on Monday 20 December. All parties are in the afternoon. Children can come to school dressed in their party clothes on these days.

Church

We will be unable to attend the Church on the last day of term as we had hoped. Therefore, dress as you please day will be the last day of term, Tuesday 21 December, with a suggested donation of £1 for Clan.

Pounds for Pennies

Many thanks to everyone who cut out and sent in these tokens from the Evening Express. We collected nearly 500 so are waiting to hear how much money we will get as a result.

Pupil achievements

Freya Williams, P6, would like to share that she has been accepted on to the Scottish Gymnastics trampoline development programme. It's a great achievement thanks to her hard work and her coaches support at Diamonds Trampoline and DMT club which runs at Kemnay Academy. This is a fantastic achievement, Freya, very well done!

Sensory Garden

As part of a Participatory budgeting process for young people, our P7s submitted an idea for a Sensory Garden and it has been approved! The idea was to give Aberdeenshire's young people a voice in their local community and in decision making processes within the work of the Council. This means there was £5,000 per Academy catchment area available for projects to be decided upon by young people which support positive mental health and wellbeing as a positive contribution to covid recovery.

As we were the only project in the Kemnay cluster, the pupils were unfortunately not able to vote, but we are still delighted to have been awarded £2000 which we must spend by April next year.

Please look out for this project taking shape in the next few months.

This was our brief:

Alehousewells School in Kemnay would like to create a sensory garden in our school grounds. The main aim of this garden would be to improve the health and wellbeing of the pupils and staff attending the school. This suggestion has come from the P7 pupils.

A sensory garden is a space with a focus on sensory experience. All outdoor landscapes can stimulate the senses, but the concentration of sensory experiences is what defines a sensory garden.

Sensory gardens are also designed to connect people closely with nature. Some are quiet places, designed to be calming, while others are designed to stimulate activity or to be used within therapeutic or educational programmes. The aim of this garden will be to create an area which is relaxing with different perfumes, textures and sounds which will help to calm those who are anxious, upset or stressed and need a quiet space to escape to. The school has already identified an area in its grounds for this project. The sensory garden will:-

- Be fully accessibility to all of the school community with a peaceful feel;
- Incorporate existing seating areas;
- Have year-round interest;
- Be wildlife friendly;
- Have a wide range of shrubs, small trees and mixed planting with sensory qualities;

We have already spoken to a local garden designer who has identified additional funding for the design phase of the project. Look out for this taking shape in the next few months. We are concerned about the possibility of vandalism but will be looking for the help of the community to ensure that it remains intact for all to use and benefit from.

Cauliflower cards

Many thanks to everyone who ordered items from Cauliflower cards. We hope you were pleased with your children's artwork and that when your orders arrive, they are also of a high standard. The school gets some commission from all sales which we really appreciate.

Remembrance

P2 sold poppies around the classes for Poppy Scotland and all classes observed a minute's silence yesterday to remember those service men and women who have lost their lives in conflict and war.

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 November 2021

My name _____

My child's name and class _____

Tue 15 & Wed 16 Feb – School closed to pupils for In service days.

Fri 1 Apr – Last day of term.

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
