



NEWSLETTER – November 2016

A busy term is upon us with Halloween past but Bonfire Night and Christmas just around the corner. And so the excitement builds!

STAFFING

As many of you will be aware Mrs Massie retired at the October holidays and will be a huge miss to the school. Although I wish her well in her retirement, we have persuaded her to come back into school for a number of days to continue the Support for Learning work that she has started this session. Can I also take this chance to congratulate Mrs McGregor who has been promoted to Senior Early Years Practitioner in the Nursery and thank Mrs Burrows for all her (extra!) hard work, who has been filling this role on an Acting basis for a number of months.

BUILDING WORK IN SCHOOL

Thankfully the work on the school kitchen has largely finished, allowing pupils full access to the playground. Also the extensive refurbishment work carried out in school over the October holidays – corridor, peg area, class and entrance way painting, new sink and wet areas in 2 classes and new flooring in the gym – has been successfully completed, improving and brightening up the learning environment for the pupils.

The long awaited tarring of the playground has also been completed which has vastly improved the outside space of the school. A huge thanks to the parents and local councillors who have supported this project to improve the safety and quality of our outdoor learning environment.

COUNCIL CONVENER VISIT

The Council Convener, Angela Taylor, visited the school alongside a senior colleague from the Inclusion Team to see how we include and work with all the pupils in school. This was a result of a previous positive visit from the Inclusion Team. We received excellent feedback which is great credit to the pupils, teachers and PSAs working in school.

DINNER TICKETS

Following the completion of the kitchen work, can I encourage the buying of dinner tickets before school (as previously) to speed up the lunch service. Tickets can be bought from 8.45am at the kitchen, accessing the school via the infant playground entrance/exit to the dining hall.

HIGH ENERGY/ CAFFEINE DRINKS

As a Health Promoting School, this is a reminder that these types of drinks are not permitted to be brought into school.

UNIFORM

Following the last Parent Council meeting, this is a reminder that pupils are expected to wear school uniform to school which includes black/grey trousers or skirts (not leggings), a white polo shirt and school jumper. Pupils must also have a change of shoes for indoors. Jewellery (excluding stud earrings) and make-up should not be worn.

LATECOMERS

I appreciate you make every effort to get your children to school on time but should they be late can you ensure that the Late Book at the front door is signed and then pupils should make their own way to class or, in the case of younger pupils, the office staff will escort them to class.

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

This year we are holding a 'Carols by Candlelight' concert which will involve the whole school – see dates below. Following the success and quality of the performance last year, Primary 1 to 7 will be experiencing a production of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' by M & M Productions in school on Tuesday 6th December. Nursery are arranging a trip to the Arts Centre to see 'Snow White'. Infant year group parties will be held during the last week with P4-7 having a Christmas Disco on the final afternoon of term.

SCHOOL BLOGS

News and information about what is going on in the classes is available at - <http://cornhill.aberdeen.sch.uk/> .

ACTIVE SCHOOLS

There are a wide range of sports activities being organised by Active Schools both in the St Machar ASG and the wider City. For more details you can contact our Active Schools Co-ordinator, Sarah Doran on 01224 655421, 07825228173, SaDoran@sportaberdeen.co.uk or check their website at www.sportaberdeen.co.uk.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday 4th November – P6 St Machar Transition Event
Friday 18th November – In-Service, school open to staff only
Week beginning Monday 21st November – Snapshot Week
Tuesday 6th December – Pantomime visiting school
Wednesday 14th December – Whole school Christmas concert pm
Thursday 15th December - Whole school Christmas concert am and pm
Week beginning 19th December – Christmas parties (details to follow)
Friday 23rd December – Last day of term
Monday 9th January – School resumes for staff and pupils

Mark Evans – Acting Head Teacher