



Arnage Primary Newsletter

Newsletter 1 - August 2019

Welcome back! It's really great to see the children back at school and keen to learn. The new P1 pupils are settling in well; getting to know us and learning the routines. Also welcome back to our Norwegian travellers!



Staffing

There have been some changes to the staff at Arnage School. We hope you find the updated table below helpful.

Post	Member of Staff
Head Teacher	Mr Craig
P1-3 Teacher	Ms Botha/ Mrs Sutherland
P4-7 Teacher	Mrs McFarlane/ Mr Craig
Pupil Support Assistant	Mrs McCalman Mrs Sloan
Support for Learners	Mrs Martin
Office - Administrator	Mrs Campbell
Office - Admin Support Assistant	Ms Smith
School Cook	Mrs Wheeler
Visiting Specialists:	
French (P4-7, Mondays)	Mrs McBoyle
Music (All, Mondays)	Mrs Kenyon
PE (All, Wednesdays)	Mr Truman
PE (P4-7, Thursdays)	Ms Fowler

Pupil Absences

Polite Reminder: if your child is going to be late to school or absent you must notify us by 9.30 am so that we know they are safe.

Change to End of Day Arrangements

End of Day Arrangement forms will be issued soon. Can these be completed and returned as soon as possible as this information helps to ensure that we know who is picking your child up or how they are travelling home. We do ask however, that if there is any change to the information you have supplied, that you let the school office know by phone or email no later than 1.30 pm so that this information can be passed on to class teachers.

Request from School Office

The office staff have asked that if money is sent into the school that it is sent in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name and what the money is for. Thank you.

Parent Council - AGM

The parent council are always keen to welcome new parents. If you are interested please get in touch with the school. The date of the next meeting (which is the AGM) is detailed at the end of this letter.

Important Dates for the Diary

Arnage School Parents Evening will be held on Wednesday 11th September. Parents will be invited to make an appointment via the letter going home with your child shortly. There will also be a class open afternoon on Tuesday 1st October.

Indoor Shoes

Please ensure that children come to school with a clean, comfortable pair of indoor shoes for wearing in the classroom. Pupils are more than welcome to take a pair of trainers for PE.



Water Bottles

Pupils at Arnage School are encouraged to drink water throughout the day. Each child should bring a water bottle to school that is clearly labelled. It would be appreciated if these could be filled at home, to reduce the amount of learning time used to queue to fill bottles at the water fountain every morning. Children will be reminded by the class teacher to collect their bottles at the end of the day for washing.



Outdoor Clothing

Although summer has returned this week, inevitably the colder weather will bite back soon. Please ensure children are sent to school with suitable outdoor clothing. Outdoor play is always encouraged, as long as it's safe. A change of clothes can be left at school should it be required (a change of trousers and socks are always handy to have!). Pupils are welcome to leave a spare pair of wellies in school for outdoor play and gardening sessions.

Hi-Viz Vests

With the darker mornings and nights approaching, all children will be issued/re-issued if necessary with a hi-viz vest. It would be great if all children could wear these to and from school to make sure they are visible to all road users.

Communication

Good communication with parents is a priority for our school, please send all emails to the school email address. All emails will be treated confidentially. This will allow the office staff to bring any urgent issues/information to my attention regardless of where I am. We've had a few gremlins in the new phone system but hopefully these are sorted now and it should be possible to leave a message when the office is unstaffed. Equally, I always try to be at the school



entrance at the start and end of the day if there are any small matters you'd like to discuss. Schools are often very busy places, so for anything more important, if possible, please call the office first so that a mutually convenient time to meet can be arranged. This will allow us the chance to talk without being interrupted.

School phone number: 01358 281075

Email: arnage.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Parking



A polite reminder - Aberdeenshire Council have a 'reverse' policy in place within the car park at Arnage School. Please refrain from parking/dropping off in the disabled parking space. The disabled space is for badge holders only. The small carpark is now for staff only.

Facebook

We are happy to continue with our school Facebook page, following its success with the P1-4 class last year. Please complete the permission slips which will be issued shortly if you are happy for your child to be photographed.

School Improvement Priorities

My first six months at Arnage were a fantastic opportunity for me to get to know the school and the community. The great thing about being in a smaller school is that it has been possible for me to get to know many of you in a short time. The school received a lot of positive feedback, useful comments and encouragement from parents and children. Hopefully we can keep up the momentum this year. After consulting with all the stakeholders our three main areas of focus for this year are: Digital Technology, Assessment and our Vision, Values and Aims. Different events and engagements will be happening throughout the year around this. If you have any initial thoughts/ideas, please get in touch.

Call for Volunteers

We are always keen to welcome parents into the school and always looking for volunteers. Last year we made great progress with the garden, thanks mainly to the dedication of Katie and Katy. Katy has left this year so won't be able to help out as much so if you would like to join us (you don't have to be called Katie) please let us know. Also if you are interested in volunteering to help out on school trips, one off events, or sharing any of your skills during the year, please get in touch with the office so we can complete the paperwork and add you to our database of helpers.

Next Parent Council Meeting

AGM

Date – 4th September

Time – 6:30pm

Location - P5-7 Classroom

Emergency Closure Information

Information Line – 0870 054 4999

PIN - 021220

PHOTO GALLERY – Some highlights from last term



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2019/2020

The dates below will be updated regularly in monthly newsletters – please keep the most recent newsletter for reference as dates may have to change due to unforeseen circumstances and additional dates/events will be added as they are confirmed.

TERM 1	
September	What's On
Wednesday 4th	Parent Council AGM
Wednesday 11 th	Parents Evening
October	What's On
Tuesday 1 st	Open Afternoon
Thursday 10 th	Last day of school – beginning of October Holidays (2 weeks)
Friday 11 th	In-Service Training (School closed to pupils)

TERM 2	
October	What's On
Monday 28th	First Day back to school – beginning of Term 2
November	What's On
Friday 15 th	Children in Need – charity event
Monday 18 th	In-Service Training (School closed to pupils)
Tuesday 19 th	In-Service Training (School closed to pupils)
Wednesday 20 th	School open to pupils
Monday 25 th	P4 Swimming Lessons
December	What's On
Monday 2 nd	P4 Swimming Lessons
Monday 9 th	P4 Swimming Lessons
Wednesday 11 th TBC	Christmas Lunch (more information will be provided nearer the time)
Thursday 12 th	Christmas Song Performance
Friday 13 th	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 16 th	P4 Swimming Lessons
Wednesday 18 th	School Christmas Party (parents welcome from 2.30pm)
Friday 20 th	Last day of term – beginning of Christmas Holidays (2weeks)

TERM 3	
January	What's On
Monday 6 th January	Start of Term 3
Wednesday 22 nd TBC	Robert Burns Lunch
February	What's On
Monday 3 rd – Friday 7 th	P6/7 Residential trip
Thursday 13 th	Interim Reports issued
Friday 14 th	School Closed – Occasional Day Holiday
Monday 17 th	School Closed – Mid Term Holiday
Tuesday 18 th	In-Service Training (School closed to pupils)
Wednesday 19 th	In-Service Training (School closed to pupils)
March	What's On
Thursday 5 th	World Book Day
Thursday 12 th	Open Afternoon
April	What's On
Thursday 2 nd	Last day of term – Beginning of Easter Holidays (2 Weeks)

TERM 4	
April	What's On
Monday 20 th	Start of Term 4 (P7 Pupils are welcome to wear 'Leavers' Hoodies from this date)
May	What's On
Friday 8 th	School Closed – May Day Holiday
Friday 15 th	End of Year Reports issued
June	What's On
Monday 1 st	School Closed – Occasional Day Holiday
Tuesday 2 nd – Friday 5 th	Health Week
TBC	Sports Day (weather permitting)
Tuesday 23 rd – Thursday 25 th	P7 Transition
Tuesday 30 th	Proposed date for End of Year Trip
July	What's On
Wednesday 1 st	Prize Giving /P7 Leavers Assembly
Thursday 2 nd	P7 Leavers Party
Friday 3 rd	Last day of term

TERM 1 – 2020/21	
August 2019	What's On
Monday 17 th	In-Service Training (School closed to pupils)
Tuesday 18 th	School re-opens to pupils for new school year