

ARNAGE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Newsletter 1 - August 2020



Welcome Back

Welcome back to a new school year. A few months ago we didn't know if we'd all be here, so it has been great to be able to welcome everyone in to school this term. We especially welcome are our new P1s, our new teacher, Mrs McKeitch and welcome back Mrs Sutherland. Without exception, the children have come back to school excited and motivated to learn.

Our part-time return to school worked well and the children were all much more confident when we all came in through Monday morning's epic thunderstorm.

Thank you to all the parents for your support and patience, and for your brilliant work with your children to make them so well prepared for their return.

Covid-19 Guidance/Changes



I've reattached an updated version of the document I sent in the first week that outlines some of the new routines. Thank you to everyone for continuing to follow the guidelines by not coming into the playground and maintaining 2m social distance from other adults.

Following new guidance from Aberdeenshire Council, it is now recommended that children wear their PE kits into school and keep them on all day for PE days.

One other recent update to note is that children are likely to be required to wear face masks on the school bus from Monday 31st August. More information to follow.

One of the most unfortunate effects of the new guidance preventing larger groups meeting and restricting adult entry to the school is that we won't be able to hold many of our events. Coffee mornings and open afternoons are suspended for now. However, we are investigating other ways to allow the children to celebrate their achievements with you.



Outdoor Clothing

More than ever, with our drive to get outside as much as possible, please continue to ensure your child has clothing suitable to the inclement weather at this time of year. Please bring in wellies if you have them, they can be left in school. Also please remember to use the hi-viz vests.

Communication



Our administration staff will be working from home whenever possible this term so the office may not always be open in the mornings. We will still be able to pick up messages left by email or on the school phone number: 01358 281075; Email: arnage.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or if you need to contact the school urgently my Skype number is: 01467 530710

Emergency Closure information is at the bottom of page 2.

Our new guidelines also mean that we should be minimising the use of any shared materials within school and between school and home. For this reason we will be using the Seesaw app as the main means of communication with class teachers.



Homework

Where possible homework will now be set using Seesaw (P1-4) and Google Classroom (P5-7). If you will struggle to access a device for your child please let us know and we can provide paper copies/alternative ideas. Current guidance means we should not touch children's jotters/paper so children returning homework in this way will receive oral feedback from their class teacher.

Annual Consent Forms



Every year at the start of term 1 the children are issued with various consent forms. To limit the amount of paperwork going between home and school these have been, where possible, changed to online forms. A link to these forms will be sent home via email next week. Please complete the forms no later than **Friday 11th September**.



Parent Council AGM

This will be held via Zoom on **Tuesday, 8th September at 6.30pm**. Any parents/carers in the school community are warmly encouraged to join. They can be contacted through the school or directly at: arnagepc@gmail.com

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2020/2021

The dates below will be updated regularly in monthly/termly 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.

| 2020 – Term 1 | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Monday 10 th August | In-Service Day – school closed to pupils |
| Tuesday 11 th August | In-Service Day – school closed to pupils |
| Wednesday 12 th August | School re-opens to pupils |
| Tuesday 8 th September | Parent Council AGM – held via Zoom - more info to follow |
| Wednesday 9 th September | Meet the Teachers Evening – more info to follow |
| Friday 9 th October | School closes for October Holidays |
| 2020 - Term 2 | |
| Monday 26 th October | School re-opens to staff and pupils |
| Friday 20 th November | In-Service Day – school closed to pupils |
| Friday 18 th December | School closes for Christmas Holiday |
| 2020 – Term 3 | |
| Tuesday 5 th January | School re-opens to staff and pupils |
| Friday 12 th February | School Closed - Occasional Day Holiday |
| Monday 15 th February | School Closed - Mid Term Holiday |
| Tuesday 16 th February | In-Service Day – school closed to pupils |
| Wednesday 17 th February | In-Service Day – school closed to pupils |
| Thursday 1 st April | School closes for Spring Holidays |
| Friday 2 nd April | Good Friday |
| 2021 - Term 4 | |
| Monday 19 th April | School re-opens to staff and pupils |
| Monday 3 rd May | School closed – May Day Holiday |
| Friday 25 th June | School closes for holiday |
| 2021-2022 – Term 1 | |
| Monday 16 th August | In-Service Day – school closed to pupils |
| Tuesday 17 th August | School re-opens to pupils |