

ARNAGE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Newsletter 2 - November 2019

Welcome

Term 2 already, where did the first term go? It was a very successful term; the new P1s have settled in well and all the children are really enjoying their new class. Highlights for me last term were the Porridge Morning fundraiser for Mary's Meals and the open afternoon, when so many of you were able to visit us in school. We raised an amazing £230 for Mary's Meals. Thanks very much to Mrs McFarlane for organising the event and to Mrs Wheeler for making the porridge.

We have to say a temporary goodbye to Mrs Sutherland, along with our congratulations on having a lovely baby girl. We welcome back Mrs Johnston who will be teaching the P1-3 class on Wednesdays for the remainder of the year.

The Nights Are Drawing In



Outdoor Clothing

If anybody sees the sun this term please take a picture (safely) and send it in! With the shorter days and colder, wetter weather, 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!). For access to the garden/field this term it would be beneficial if the children have a spare pair of wellies in school. If you have any wellies that children have outgrown we would love to have donations so we can build up our own supply.

Hi-Viz Vests

All children should have been 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. Please let the school know if you don't have one for your child.

Communication



Just a reminder, good communication with parents is always 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. If you want to leave a message when the office is unstaffed choose option 1 when you ring the school. 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

Call for Volunteers

If you haven't done so already, and 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. We are going to be looking for volunteers to help us put up and decorate the Christmas tree this year so please let us know if you are interested.

Shoe Box Appeal

At the start of this term the shoeboxes donated by families from Arnage were delivered to Maud Parish church by Mrs Wheeler. The church were stunned by the number of boxes we donated and sent us a big thank you.

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SeeSaw

Thank you all for returning the permission slips for our new SeeSaw journal app. You should have all received personal invitations to download and sign into the app by now. A lot of parents have done so already. We hope that this additional communication tool will really help you feel more engaged with your child's learning.

Room Swap

As many of you will know, over the holidays we swapped the P1-3 classroom with the Playgroup room. The transition went really well thanks to the hard work of all the teachers and staff from Playgroup. The new classroom is looking bright and colourful, Mrs Botha did a great job of getting it ready for the class and they are enjoying being closer to the P4-7s.



School Calendar 2019

We are in the final stages of preparation for what promises to be our best Arnage School Calendar yet! The children are all so talented and you should be very proud of the effort that has gone in to creating their masterpieces. The calendar is available to pre-order now at the amazing price of just £5 each. These will make fantastic Christmas presents, so get your order in early to avoid disappointment! Thanks to all the individuals and companies who sponsored the calendar and especially to Ms Smith in the school office for all her hard work in putting this together and finding sponsors.

Advent Hamper

We are going to be collecting food items again this year to make up a hamper for Ellon food bank. A letter with details of how to donate will be sent out later this week.

Community Café

One of the things that came out of the parent consultation related to our school's Vision, Values and Aims was that you would like there to be more opportunities for community events. As part of this we will be holding a community coffee morning on **Wednesday, 27th November**. Hopefully this will be the first of many such events, though with all the preparation and events happening around Christmas, the next café will probably be in term 3.

Christmas; Shows, Services and Date Changes

As I am sure you all know by now, Arnage School are putting on a Christmas show this year; The Magical Christmas Jigsaw. The whole school are involved, and we hope to have two performances; one in the afternoon and the other in the evening. Because of the general election, we have moved the date of the show to **Tuesday, 10th December**.



Rehearsing for the Christmas Show

We are also going to the Panto at Aberdeen Arts Centre. This will be on the morning of **4th December**. Additionally, we are delighted to be going to a Christmas service at Maud Parish church on the last day of term; **Friday, 20th December**. Parents are invited and it would be great to see you there.

Letters will be sent out soon with more details of all these events

Parent Council

A big thank you to the Parent Council for all the support they continue to give the school. Special thanks to Victoria Cunningham, our Chair last year and to Sarah Christie for taking on the post this year. Additionally to Kelly Smith, Secretary last year and Eleanor Morrice who is taking on the role this year, and also to Marion Morrison who continues as Treasurer.

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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 2	
October	What's On
Monday 28 th	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
Wednesday 27 th	Community Coffee Morning
December	What's On
Tuesday 10 th	Christmas Show
Wednesday 11 th	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 12 th	School Closed – National Election
Friday 13 th	Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 18 th	School Christmas Party (parents welcome from 2.30pm)
Friday 20 th	Church Service Maud Parish Church (parents welcome)
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 15 th January	Parent Council Meeting @ 6:30pm in the P4-7 Classroom - all welcome
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)

[Emergency Closure Information](#)

Information Line – 0370 054 4999, PIN - 021220

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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

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