

# ARNAGE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



## Newsletter 2 – November 2023



### Welcome Back

We hope you all managed to enjoy the October holidays, despite the weather! We look forward to welcoming all our pupils back, to what is going to be a busy, yet fun-packed term.

Last term we were fortunate to have several fun trips, including a trip to the Mosque, St Machar's Cathedral and the Zoology Museum. The pupils really enjoyed, and benefitted from, these trips. We thank you for your continued support in funding outings like these.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS/IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

#### **PE**

This term, all pupils will take part in Rugby on a Monday which will, weather permitting, be held outside. We would ask that pupils have PE clothing suitable for outside ie tracksuit bottoms/leggings and a sweatshirt as well as sturdy trainers.



Mrs Mitchell will continue to provide PE sessions for pupils on a Tuesday (inside) and again all pupils should have appropriate PE clothing and shoes with them.

#### **Gaelic Lessons – P5-7**

This term, the Primary 5-7 pupils have a special opportunity to learn Gaelic. Led live online by a teacher from the West Coast. Please encourage your child to share the words/phrases they have learned with you.

#### **P7 Hoodies**

The P7 hoodies are now ready and will be collected and issued shortly. Primary 7 pupils are welcome to wear their hoodies to school as soon as they receive them.



#### **Firework Safety Assembly – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November**

We all love fireworks, but do we all know how to be around them safely? At this week's assembly we will be discussing Firework Safety with the pupils.



#### **Flu Vaccines – Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November**

Flu vaccines will be given on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November to all pupils who have returned their consent form.

### Reading by the Campfire – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November

To celebrate Scottish Book Week, all pupils and siblings are welcome, with their parent/parents, to enjoy a variety of different books we have borrowed from the local library and share the joy of reading around our 'campfire'. It is a chance for parents to read to or read with their children and therefore children must be accompanied by their adult and remain with them at all times. Our local librarian will be there too to share information about Ellon library.



Dress code: Pyjamas & dressing gowns, a bedtime/soft toy is welcome too!

Time: 6pm – 6.45 pm

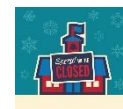
### Children in Need – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November



As part of our charity fundraising campaign, we will hold our Children in Need Day on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November. We have various activities planned including games in the hall in the afternoon, and pupils are encouraged to dress as 'something that interests you!' We would ask for a minimum donation of £1 per pupil. Further details will be issued in due course.

### In-Service Days – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> & Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November

School will be closed to all pupils on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> and Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November whilst staff undertake relevant training. School will reopen to all pupils and staff on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November.



### School Photos – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Tempest Photography will be in school from 9am on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December to take individual and sibling group photos. Please complete this form below indicating whether or not you give permission for your child to be photographed and if you would like a younger sibling to be included. All forms should be completed by Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November.



[School Photos - Term 2 - 2023/24](#)

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## Christmas Events

### **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumper Day**



Pupils are invited to wear their Christmas Jumper to school for a donation towards charity. Suggestion donation is £1 per child.

### **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Elf Shelf**

Following the success of the Elf Shelf in previous years, we will hold this year's Elf Shelf in the afternoon of Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. We ask for donations of unwanted, new, unused/excellent condition items that can be displayed for the pupils to purchase as gifts for family members. Each gift will be sold for £1 and will come gift wrapped, so your child can surprise you with a lovingly chosen gift on Christmas Day.

### **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Lunch**

Mrs Wheeler will once again prepare a delicious Christmas Feast for all pupils and staff on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December. Further information will be sent home nearer the time.

### **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Carols and Wee Nativity**

Join us from 6.30 pm to hear our pupils performing various Christmas Carols and watch a wee nativity performance from our P1-4s.

### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Trip to Aberdeen Arts Centre for Rapunzel Panto**

Our annual trip to the panto is all booked! A massive thank you to our Parent Council who have, yet again, very kindly agreed to cover the cost of the bus and the ice cream! Parents are asked to cover the cost of the ticket, £10 per pupil. If you will find this payment difficult, please let us know as we will be able to help.

### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Church Service, Maud**

We have again been invited to attend the Christmas service at Maud Church. Pupils will travel by bus for the service in the morning of Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Party**

Ho ho ho! Have the children been naughty or nice this year, and will they get a visit from a special guest? Join us from 2.30 pm when all will be revealed!

Pupils are invited to take party clothes to school to change into after lunch.

### **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Dress as You Please Day**

It's the last day of term, so pupils are welcome to come to school "dressed as they please".

### **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – School Holiday**

Ellon Cluster Occasional Day holiday. School closed to everyone.

## REMINDERS

### School Clothing

A reminder that our school uniform is as follows:



- a navy-blue sweatshirt/cardigan – with or without the school logo
- white or navy polo shirt – also available with the school logo
- black, grey or navy skirt/trousers, checked dress for summer wear
- a navy fleece and a navy waterproof jacket with the school logo is also available
- indoor shoes, preferably black gym shoes, should be worn

School uniform can be purchased directly from our supplier, [Pomprint](#) in Mintlaw.

The parent council and the school have quite a large stock of pre-loved, hardly used items. Please get in touch if you'd like any help with school clothes – we are acutely aware of the difficulties many families are facing in the current financial climate. There's a free surplus uniform rail permanently available just inside the main entrance.



### Outdoor Clothing

Outdoor learning continues to be an important part of our curriculum. With the cold, wet season upon us, we would ask that all pupils have appropriate outdoor clothing, suitable for all weathers, with them, ie waterproof jacket, hat, scarf, gloves and sturdy footwear. We have a large supply of wellies but please bring in wellies if you have them, they can be left in school. Also please remember to use the hi-viz vests.

### End of Day Pick-Up Arrangements

Can we please remind parents that they should come to the school gate at the end of the day where we can see them and ensure all children have been picked up safely.



### Communication



We are always happy to hear from you, please get in touch any time. I try to be at the main entrance at the start and end of the day if there are any small matters you want to address.

Emergency Closure information is at the bottom of page 2. We would encourage all parents to download the Aberdeenshire Council app so they receive notification of any school closure.

We also have Google Classroom, our class Facebook pages and the Home School diaries for day-to-day contact with class teachers.

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## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2023/2024**

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.

<b>TERM 2</b>	
<b>October</b>	<b>What's On</b>
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	First day of term
<b>November</b>	<b>What's On</b>
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Firework Safety Assembly
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Flu Vaccines
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Reading by the Campfire
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Children in Need Day
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	In-Service Training (School closed to pupils)
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	In-Service Training (School closed to pupils)
<b>December</b>	<b>What's On</b>
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Tempest Photography
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Elf Shelf
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Lunch / Carols and Nativity
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Aberdeen Art Centre Panto visit
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	School Christmas Party (parents welcome from 2.30pm)
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Dress as You Please Day / School closes at 3.15 pm for Christmas Holidays
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	School Closed - Occasional Day Holiday

<b>TERM 3</b>	
<b>January</b>	<b>What's On</b>
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Term 3
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> TBC	Robert Burns Lunch
29 <sup>th</sup> January – 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	P6 Residential Ski Trip
<b>February</b>	<b>What's On</b>
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	School Closed – Occasional Day Holiday
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	School Closed – Mid Term Holiday
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	In-Service Training (School closed to pupils)
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	In-Service Training (School closed to pupils)
<b>March</b>	<b>What's On</b>
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of term

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<b>TERM 4</b>	
<b>April</b>	<b>What's On</b>
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Term 4
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	P7 Residential Visit
<b>May</b>	<b>What's On</b>
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	School Closed – May Day Holiday
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> TBC	End of Year Reports issued
<b>June</b>	<b>What's On</b>
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> TBC	Parents Evening
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> TBC	Health Week
TBC	Summer Show
TBC	P7 Transition (3 days at the academy)
<b>July</b>	<b>What's On</b>
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of term

**Emergency Closure and Transport Information:** – <https://online.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/school-closures>

**Office Hours:** Mon – 9am-3pm (phonenumber only), Tues to Fri – 9am-2pm. Emergency Only (outside office hours) - 01467 530710