



Newsletter

February, 2014

Staffing

We welcomed 2 new members of staff to our teaching team this week. Mrs McNulty is now teaching Primary 6 and Mr Taylor who is teaching Primary 7. We wish them all the very best and look forward to working with them.

Denim for Dylan Day

We plan to hold a 'Denim for Dylan Day' on Thursday 13th February to raise money for this local charity. Dylan is a 2½ year old local boy from Peterhead, Aberdeenshire, who has been recently diagnosed with Spastic Diplegia Cerebral Palsy. This is caused by slight brain damage. Dylan's MRI scan shows scarring caused by lack of oxygen at birth, this means that the part of the brain that controls the muscles receives wrong signals causing Dylan to have tightness of muscles in his legs and very little control over them which makes it difficult for him to walk unaided.



The family aim to raise at least £50,000 by March, 2014 to send Dylan to America to the St Louis Children's Hospital to receive treatment (The Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy – SRD) which is an operation to cut nerves at the bottom of the spine that carry the wrong signals to Dylan's legs which would enable him to walk and run and do all the things other children can do without constantly falling over and having the need for splints and helmet.

The family are short of £20,000 and it is hoped with many schools across Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire participating in this event it will help raise some funds to go towards this cause. It would be great to see as many of our pupils joining in on Thursday as possible by coming to school in denim or the colour blue with a suggested donation of £1 for this worthwhile cause.

Lice

Just a wee reminder to all parents to periodically check their child's hair for nits or lice. We have had a few cases in school recently and it is essential that any cases of lice or nits are reported to school and treated appropriately. If you wish to look up this website <http://www.patient.co.uk/health/head-lice-and-nits> there's lots of information on how to deal with this problem.

Lateness



As a staff we have noticed that an increasing amount of children are arriving late for school each day. In order to monitor this situation we have decided to introduce a late book which the children will sign on the way into school when they arrive late.

I realise there are times when there are genuine reasons for lateness but there are an increasing number of regular pupils who are late because they visit the shops, sleep in and 'drag their feet' on the way to school. As a consequence of the number of pupils arriving late this impacts the start of the teaching and learning for all pupils across the school.

Lunch Tickets

As from Monday 24th February Mrs Keith, School Cook will be selling books and tickets on a Monday only (or the first day of school week) from 8.45 a.m. – 9.00 a.m. If during the week your child needs a ticket money **must be placed in an envelope clearly named** and handed over at lunchtime.



Parent Group Meeting

The next Parent Group Meeting will be on Wednesday 19th February at 6.30 p.m. in the Staff Room. If you wish to attend please arrive before 6.30 p.m. as we have no one at this time of evening to man the office. On the agenda will be a chance to discuss the change in Nursery Hours and the ongoing consultation to rezone Grandholm Village pupils to Danestone Primary.

Individual/ Family Photographs - Reminder



Just a reminder that the School Photographer will visit School on Friday 21st February, 2014 to take Individual /Family Photographs.

Lost Property

We now have a large green bin at the reception area which holds all lost property. We will ensure that anything found will be kept in here and no longer in the class areas. Please feel free to look for any lost item. At the end of every term this bin will be cleared and will be added to our Recatex collection.



In-Service Day

Please be reminded that the school will be closed on Friday 14th February (In-Service Day), Monday 17th February (Mid-Term Holiday and Tuesday 18th February (In-Service Day).

Diane Duncan

Head Teacher

Term and Holiday Dates Session 2013—2014

Term 3

Friday 14th February 2014 – School closed to pupils – In-Service Day

Monday 17th February 2014—Mid Term Holiday-School closed to pupils and staff.

Tuesday 18th February, 2014 – School closed to pupils – In-Service Day

Friday 4th April 2014—Last day of Term

Term 4

Tuesday 22nd April 2014—Start of Term

Friday 2nd May 2014 – School closed to pupils – In-Service Day

Monday 5th May 2014 - May Day Holiday School closed to Pupils and Staff

Friday 4th July 2014—Last day of Term

Term and Holiday Dates Session 2014– 2015

Term 1

Monday 18th August 2014—In Service Day—Staff Only

Tuesday 19th August 2014—Start of Term

Friday 19th and Monday 22nd September 2014 (September Holiday Weekend)

Friday 10th October, 2014 – Last day of Term

Term 2

Monday 27th October, 2014 – Start of Term

Friday 19th December, 2014 – Last day of Term

Term 3

Monday 5th January, 2015 – Start of Term

Monday 16th February, 2015 – Mid Term Holiday

Thursday 2nd April, 2015 – Last day Term Ends

Term 4

Monday 20th April, 2015 – Start of Term

Monday 4th May, 2015 – May Day Holiday

Friday 3rd July, 2015 – Term Ends

In-Service days for session 2013-14

Friday 14th February 2014

Tuesday 18th February 2014

Friday 2nd May 2014

These dates are correct as at date of print