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*Enthusiastic, Creative, Confident Together*

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## NEWSLETTER

August 2016

Welcome back everyone! It is lovely to see all the children back to school and hear all about their holidays. A big welcome to our new P1s, Owen, Adele and Tala, who are settling in really well. Thank you to the P7 buddies who have been helping them in the playground.

### Staffing 2016-17

We have some changes to our staffing this year. Welcome to Mr Webster who has joined us in P4-7. We will also be joined by Miss Dawn Smith on Monday for Music and Mrs Ellen Leslie for PE on Monday. The children will also have PE on Wednesday with Mrs Massie. Miss Kirsteen Knaack is our Additional Support for Learning teacher this year and will be with us on a Thursday.

### School dinners

The price of school dinners has increased to £2.15 per meal.

Aberdeenshire council has changed the way parents receive online alerts about school closures and changes to school transport. You can now sign up for these notifications through *myaccount* on the Aberdeenshire Council website – if you currently pay for school meals online, you will already be registered.

*myaccount* is a simple, secure way of accessing a range of Scottish public services using just one username and password and 13,000 parents across Aberdeenshire are already enjoying the benefits of it. As well as being able to sign up for alerts, your home page will automatically give you handy information such as your bin collection days, where your nearest recycling centre is and the names of your local councillors. So, if you want to be kept up-to-date and take advantage of the other *myaccount* benefits, sign up to the new system by going to the Aberdeenshire Council website and clicking on the red register button in the top right-hand corner.

### Learning Journeys/Newsletters

We will be sending out our class newsletters on 31 August along with new targets for our learning journeys. This will help to inform you about the learning which is taking place this term. Please read the targets and discuss them with your child and return to school. There is nothing to sign at this point.

### Outdoor Learning

Thanks to all of you who are coming along to help with the Garden (working) Party on Saturday. We are really excited about making improvements to the school grounds and using them for learning as much as possible. There are many educational benefits to using outdoor space for learning.

For your interest here is a link to an Education Scotland document to explain these:

[http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/FactfileOutdoorLearning\\_tcm4-660306.pdf](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/FactfileOutdoorLearning_tcm4-660306.pdf)

If you are interested in further reading about this please contact the school office.

To deliver increased opportunities to be outdoors, children need to be prepared with suitable clothing. We would ask that children have an indoor and outdoor PE kit (joggers, warm top, old trainers) which is kept in school at all times. We are continuing our Energy Boost run around the park as much as we can and children should have proper footwear for this. The outdoor PE kit could double up as outdoor clothes as long as parents are aware that they could (will!) get dirty. If children have a spare pair of wellies to leave in school that would also be helpful although not essential.

### Dates for your Diary

<b>Wed 31 Aug:</b>	Learning Journey & Newsletter Out
<b>Wed 21 Sep:</b>	Open afternoon as part of Numeracy week 2-3 pm
<b>28 Sep-3 Oct:</b>	Scholastic Book Fair in School
<b>Thur 29 Sept:</b>	Parent Interviews
<b>Mon 3 Oct:</b>	Learning Journey teacher comments home
<b>Fri 7 Oct:</b>	Last Day of Term
<b>Mon 24 Oct:</b>	Back to School