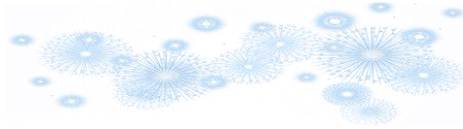


Dear Parents/Carers,

There are only two weeks of term to go and it will be busy; we're going to try to add a little bit of seasonal sparkle to our days. The weather continues to be changeable, please make sure your child has a jacket with them every day and spare socks and shoes on PE/outdoor learning days.



STAFFING

We have welcomed Mrs Rachael Edwards to our staff team as Mrs Johnson is now on maternity leave. Mrs Edwards is working along with Miss Mackenzie in P2/3.

TERM DATES

School closes for the Christmas break at 3.20pm on **Friday 22 December**. School returns on Monday 8 January 2023. Calendar dates for December have been sent out already.

COME AS YOU PLEASE DAY

Friday 22 December is a 'come as you please' day when you can wear school uniform, dress up, play clothes or wildly over the top and Christmassy (and that's just some of the staff!). You choose, this is not a fundraising event, it's just for fun.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

School Christmas lunch is on Wednesday 20 December. There will be a choice of turkey or the vegetarian option. This is usually one of the busiest days for school lunch in the whole school year. We have already asked if your child will NOT be having school lunch that day, if you haven't let us know please do as soon as you can. A very big 'thank you' to the AFG who are providing Christmas crackers.



CHRISTMAS POST BOX

Our Christmas Post Box, for in school deliveries only, for any child who wants to send cards this year is now out and will be available until Wednesday 20 December.

ALLERGY AWARENESS

We are a 'nut free' school, please make sure that any snacks and packed lunch items do not contain nuts eg Nutella.

SCHOOL UNIFORM/WINTER CLOTHES

If you are struggling with the cost of school uniform and the purchase of winter clothes – jackets, boots, warm clothing – please ask to speak to me or to Mr Lunan regarding a referral to Moray School Bank. Applications cannot be made directly by families so please ask us to make this on your behalf.

School uniform is a navy blue sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan with or without the school logo. We have some items of uniform and shoes available which are pre-loved. These are at the front door; you can make a donation for these if you are able.

Our children are looking very smart as almost everyone is coming to school in their uniform. Thank you for supporting this, it really does help to promote a sense of pride in the school.



CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Christmas party dates were included in calendar sent previously. Children can bring their party clothes to school to change in to or you can take them home for lunch and bring them back for the start of their afternoon session – either 1.15pm or 1.30pm. They should also bring with them a drink, a packet of crisps and a biscuit to eat. Please do not send in fizzy drinks or sharing bags of crisps and sweets.

HEADLICE

Be vigilant about checking your child's hair each week for head lice. If you have any questions, you can ask your local pharmacist or contact the school nurse at the Health Centre.

RELIEF JANITORS/CLEANERS

Our lovely janny – Mr Brown – has been involved in a road accident and will be absent from work until at least after the holidays, possibly longer. As a result, we will have no janitorial cover however there are plans to get some support for essential jobs. If you have a PVG and are interested in joining the relief bank of janitors for Moray Council, please get in touch with the school office and your details will be passed on. There are also schools in the area looking for relief cleaners so again if you have a PVG and are interested please get in touch.

REGISTRATION FOR P1 – AUGUST 2024

Registration for P1 entry takes place online from 15 – 26 January 2024. If you or someone you know has a child starting school next August please use the online system from 15 January. Placing requests can also be made online, please note we cannot guarantee that a placing request will be granted as these are managed centrally by Moray Council.

http://moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_5_2987.html

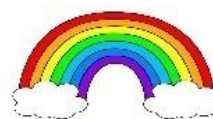
SEVERE WEATHER AND POSSIBLE SCHOOL CLOSURE

If severe weather is expected and there is a chance that the school may have to close, please endeavour to undertake one of these three options:



1. Listen to Moray Firth Radio which has regularly updated information – 97.4FM.
2. Use the Schools Information Telephone Line:
Dial 0870 054 9999. Then dial in the school's PIN ~ 031100. Please be aware that calls to this number will be charged a 2p per minute service charge plus your call provider's access charge.
 - This will take you to the Anderson's mailbox where you will enter a menu system.
 - Dial 1 – to hear information about severe weather affecting the school day.
3. Use Moray Council's website
 - <https://secure.moray.gov.uk/mcalerts/portal/servicestatus.aspx> and go to Schools

BBC Radio Scotland and Moray Firth Radio will pick up the closure notice. A post will also be made on Twitter @the MorayCouncil.



It's been another busy year including a very positive HMIE visit. We are all looking forward to having a rest over Christmas and will come back, raring to go in January 2024.

Thank you again for your support.

Sara Neil
Head Teacher