



EDUCATION, COMMUNITIES & ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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Dear Parent/ Carers

Term 2: Welcome Back

I trust that, despite the weather, you all had a restful October break.

Before providing you with some information about the coming term, I would just like to reflect on term 1.

Running any big school like Keith Primary is rarely without challenge but, overall, our first term was successful.

I was lucky enough to visit 3 schools in the last week of term as part of an additional support needs moderation process. As part of those visits, I spent time in around 15 classes. My sense was that most of our learners and classes are in a good place in comparison.

During my visits to our classes, I see learners that are motivated, settled and engaged.

The appointment of Mrs Keedwell (Depute Head Teacher) has also created capacity to increase the speed of the school's improvement journey. We will share some of the developments in future letters and / or via Frog Squad meetings.

Frog Squad Coffee Morning

The coffee morning on 30th September was a resounding success. The support from you, as a parental body, and the wider community was overwhelming. It was extremely well attended and we thank everyone who took the time to bake, donate and / or help on the day. The Primary 7s who helped on the day were a credit to you and to the school. A total of £2300 was raised.

Fund-raising

The Come as You Please day also boosted school funds by £241. This will be mainly contribute to trips and special events for all our classes.

ASPIRATIONAL RESPECTFUL RESILIENT INCLUSIVE NURTURING

Open Evening

During the last week of term, we had an open evening where children could share their learning with their parents. This was well attended and there seemed to be a positive atmosphere within the school.

Participation Time and Other Events

At the end of term 1, we began our third round of participation time. This takes place on a Monday afternoon for a 4 week block. Our learners are participating in a range of activities such as music making, coding, gardening, jewellery making, indoor bowling and visits to Glenisla care home.

All classes have also had taster sessions from Samsun martial arts.

Moving Forward into Term 2

Staffing

Sadly, Mrs Laura Simmers, finishes with us on the 2nd November. Mrs Simmers has contributed significantly to the wider life of the school including supporting poetry events, a choir and to sports days. She will be missed and we wish her well in her new endeavours.

Stronger Starts Grant at our Local Tesco

We have been successful for this round. Please collect blue tokens when shopping at Keith Tesco and vote for the school project. We are hoping to receive some funds to be able to purchase some outdoor storage, which in turn would help us develop more exciting opportunities for outdoor learning experiences.

Hill of Towie Funding

We have also completed a bid for Hill of Towie Funding. We are aiming to develop our outdoor space further as we would love to get a couple outdoor classroom buildings.

Frog Squad AGM

This takes place on Mon 6th November at 6.30pm. After a hiatus in terms of fundraising due to COVID, there has been a real ramping up of activity in the last few months which has included a quiz, clothes bank events and the recent coffee morning.

As a school we would like to sustain our work with Outfit Moray, Earthtime, theatre visits etc. and to undertake other trips. This type of activity is increasingly expensive so we do rely on the support of the Frog Squad to fund such events.

Out of School Achievements

We enjoy hearing about out of school achievements both in class and at assembly. If your child has achieved anything notable, please let us know by sending an e-mail to the school admin address.

Toys taken into School

This is just a wee reminder that we strongly discourage toys being taken from home into school. It may seem a little trivial but we can get disputes around the toys and upset is inevitably caused when items are broken or go missing.

Christmas Dates

Some of the key Christmas dates have been set but others have yet to be finalised. We will write to you in due course with further details.

Forthcoming Dates

Date	Event
6 th November	Flu Immunisations
6 th November at 6.30pm	Frog Squad AGM
9 th November	Missed School Photographs
13 th & 14 th November	INSET: school closed to pupils
21 st – 23 rd November	Bikeability (P3)
6 th December	Festive Fayre
13 th December	Christmas Lunch
14 th December	P5 trip to panto in Aberdeen
17 th December (Sunday morning)	P1s (who are able to attend) to perform nativity at St Rufus.

Yours sincerely



Head Teacher