



New Machar School Newsletter

September 2018



Our School Values

Commitment and Cooperation

Respect and Responsibility

Achievement and Ambition

Friendship and Fairness

Teamwork and Trust

Our School Motto:

#aimtobeawesome

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back! I hope everyone has had a pleasant first few weeks back and are settling well into your new classes. I am already impressed with the manners and attitudes our pupils have shown since my return to school - let's keep this up! As many of you may know, I have recently been off on paternity leave. I would like to thank you all for the kind wishes on the birth of my son Freddie. I would like to thank Miss McPherson for looking after the school in my absence, you are truly awesome!

Mr B Carle, Acting Head Teacher

School Phone Number

Please be advised that our school number is: **01651 267420**

Social Media

Following recent comments, please be advised that the school management team only monitors the official New Machar School Facebook page. We are not affiliated with any other Facebook pages. Official school messages will appear on both our Facebook/Twitter page as well as through Xpressions if necessary. Our Facebook page is "***New Machar School***"/***@MacharNew*** - we are verified and have a tick after our name.

Please note, staff members should not be contacted through their personal social media accounts. Any queries regarding school, should be made via the school office or via the school email if your enquiry is out of school hours.

Staffing

We would like to welcome a number of new staff members to New Machar School. Welcome to the team Mrs S Irvine (P5/6), Miss K Hendry (P3H) and Mrs M Shand (EYP - nursery). We hope you have all had a great few weeks settling into your new posts.

In the upcoming weeks, I will be interviewing for a fixed term Depute Head Teacher as well as a part time PSA position. I will update all parents/carers with any new appointments we make to our team.

Primary 1

Our new Primary 1 pupils have settled into school life very well and have enjoyed all aspects of the school day. Thank you to our wonderful P7 buddies who have helped our new P1 pupils settle into

school. I have been so impressed with the positive effort and willingness to take on the role as a buddy by many of our P7 pupils.

Traffic/Parking

We have had a number of concerns reported to the school regarding parking during drop off and pick up times. No cars should be parking on the footpaths beside the school car park, this is highly dangerous given the number of children walking to/from school via this route. Although there are no painted spaces in the visitor car park, parents/carers should adhere to parking in a sensible manner, leaving appropriate space between parked cars.

P4+ P4/5 lines/bad weather procedures

As many of you will know our playground can be a very busy place in the mornings. Can we kindly ask all parents/carers to leave appropriate space outside our P4 and P4/5 classrooms to allow the children to line up accordingly. In the event of bad weather, pupils in P4 and P4/5 should enter the main building via the P3/P5 door and line up in the hall where they can wait until the bell rings. Class teachers will pick them up from the hall and escort them over to their classes. Pupils will be informed of this in class this week, however please remind them when necessary.

Xpressions App

Following a number of comments I would like to clarify notifications you may receive on your Xpressions app. If an email is sent to parents/carers with an attachment, this will appear on your Xpressions app as a message with only the written content. However, in order to view the attachment you should access your emails where you will see a message from the school. If you are unsure how to use the app or are having difficulty accessing messages, please inform the school office. **We will be using this system for all communications. Paper copies will only be available in exceptional circumstances.**

Reporting to parents/ILD

The school reporting calendar is now available to view on our school website. To start the school year, all of our class teachers have written a learning leaflet, detailing information of what your child will be learning this term. These are all available on the school website.

All classes will continue to upload entries onto ILD. As a school, we have identified areas of improvement required for ILDs and we hope that there is more consistency in the content being uploaded to your child's portal. Please check your child's ILD portal regularly - again, if you have problems accessing ILD, please inform the school office. ***We will not be issuing interim reports this year, therefore it is essential you can access ILD portals to view your child's learning portfolio.***

Bikes to school

Just a reminder that pupils should always wear a helmet when riding their bike to school and should aim to stay safe when on the streets and playground.

Mobile Phones

Pupils should not be bringing mobile phones to school. In exceptional circumstances in which a pupil requires a mobile phone for after school parents/carers should make class teachers aware of this

through a written note. Pupils should hand mobile phones to class teachers who will keep them safe until the end of the day.

P7 Edinburgh Trip

Please note further information will become available in the next few weeks regarding payment/further meetings for the Edinburgh trip.

P6 Ski Trip

We are currently arranging dates for Gordon Rattray from Glenshee Ski Centre to come into school to talk to all P6 parents/pupils regarding information about the P6 ski trip. We will confirm dates in due course.

Pupil Leadership Teams

During the course of this term, we hope to set up a number of pupil leadership teams. These will include Pupil Council, Health and Wellbeing, Tech Team, House/Vice Captains as well as our Library Group. Pupil voice is extremely important to the development of New Machar School and I would encourage as many of our pupils to put themselves forward for such opportunities when the opportunity arises. Following a large volume of applications, an announcement of House/Vice captains will be made following interviews within the next week.

Dates for the diary:

Friday 28th September: Macmillan Coffee Morning

Monday 1st October: Whole school homework task 1 issued

Tuesday 2nd October: Parents evening/Nursery Curriculum evening

Wednesday 3rd October: Parents evening

Friday 12th October: Last day of term

Kind regards,

Brian Carle

Mr B Carle
Head Teacher (Acting)



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