



## New Machar School Newsletter

### October/November 2018



#### Our School Values

- C**ommitment and Cooperation
- R**espect and Responsibility
- A**chievement and Ambition
- F**riendship and Fairness
- T**eamwork and Trust

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back! I hope that you all had a restful and enjoyable holidays. We are very much looking forward to a busy yet exciting term as we prepare for the festive period. We will continue to communicate with parents/carers via Group call messenger/Twitter /Facebook, so keep an eye out for some exciting events coming up!

**Mr B Carle, Head Teacher (Acting)**

#### Our School Motto:

*#aimtobeawesome*

#### Dates for the diary

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October:** School starts at 9am (Term 2)

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October:** Term 1 house reward for Delta pupils

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November:** School Photographer

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November:** School Photographer

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November:** School Book Fair arrives for 1 week (separate letter issued)

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November:** Parent Council Disco (separate letter already issued with timings)

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> + Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November:** Staff In-Service training (School closed)

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November:** Children in Need (separate letter already issued)

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November:** P3 Book Bug afternoon (separate letter already issued)

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November:** P2 Book Bug afternoon

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November:** P1 Book Bug afternoon

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November:** Parent Council Meeting

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> + Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November:** Flu immunisation programme

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December:** Whole School Homework task issued

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December:** P1 Nativity

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December:** Whole school Christmas Concert (pm) @ Axis Centre

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** Whole school Christmas Concert (am) @ Axis Centre

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December:** Nursery Christmas Concert (am/pm) School Hall

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Party 1PFB, P1W + P1/2

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Party P2, P2/3, P3H, P3W

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Party: Red/Yellow Nursery, P4, P4/5, P5, P5/6

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December:** Whole School Christmas community sing-song @ Axis Centre. Times TBC

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Party: Blue/Orange Nursery, P6, P7KT, P7M

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December:** Christmas Church Service (staff/pupils only)/End of term 2

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019:** School starts at 9am (Term 3)

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019:** Dyce Academy talk to P7 parents/pupils 7pm @ New Machar School

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> of January 2019:** Information afternoon about Play for P1-3 parents with Educational Psychologist- 2.30pm

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019:** Dyce Academy Open Evening

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019:** P6 Ski Trip (all week)

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> of January 2019:** Parent Council Meeting

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> + Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019:** Mid Term Break (School closed)

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> + Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019:** Staff In-Service Training (School Closed)

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019:** World of Work Week

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019:** P5 Careers day

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019:** School closes at 3.15pm for Easter Break

### **Staffing**

We recently shared that Mrs Elizabeth Doyle was successfully appointed as Depute Head Teacher for the remainder of the school year. It is hoped Mrs Doyle will join our team on Monday November 12<sup>th</sup>, however this is yet to be confirmed. In the meantime, Mrs Doyle will be visiting our school on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November to meet pupils and staff. We also welcomed Mrs Rebecca Kelman to our PSA team. Mrs Kelman will be working in P7M as well as in the playground during lunch time. Welcome to the team Mrs Kelman!

### **Adverse Weather Arrangements**

As we approach the winter months, it is important that you keep up to date with the procedures of Adverse Weather. In the event of adverse weather, information regarding school closure/partial closure/changes to school transport arrangements can be found on the website below or by dialling the Aberdeenshire Information Line (number noted below). **Please note:** You will need to enter the New Machar Pin Number to hear information on the Aberdeenshire Information Line. We will also update parents on both our Facebook and Twitter social media pages as well as through Groupcall messaging as soon as we possibly can. Please note that if school transport is not operating in the morning, this status will remain the same for the entire day. It is then parental choice if you would like to drop/pick up your child if transport is not running. Please only do this if it is safe to do so.

Aberdeenshire Council Website: [www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/closures](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/closures)

Aberdeenshire Information Line: 0370 054 4999

New Machar Pin number: 022330

### **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.

### **Interactive Learning Diaries (ILDs)**

All classes 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 - 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.*

### **P7 Edinburgh Trip**

I am continually planning the P7 Edinburgh trip in the background and hope to have a meeting in January to confirm the final itinerary as well as share information with pupils/parents/carers. In the meantime I can share that we have confirmed the booking to attend the theatre to see Matilda. We are all very excited already!

### **Macmillan Coffee Morning**

Last month we organised a very successful Macmillan Coffee Morning which was extremely well attended. We raised a fantastic total of £490.52. Thank you to everyone who came along to support this event. It is a cause that is close to many of our staff and parents so the support is extremely appreciated.

### **In-Service Training**

Our staff will be attending a Literacy event at Midmill School on the first day of the In-Service training. The aim of this course is to allow teachers to be trained in new literacy approaches alongside other colleagues from the authority. On Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November, staff will be working in school looking at how we can strive to meet our school improvement plan targets. PSAs will attend a full day course on how to support learners with ADHD.

### **Curriculum Rationale Survey**

Thank you to the parents/carers who completed our recent survey regarding the curriculum at New Machar School. I am currently compiling the results and will share the responses in due course. Your comments and opinions are very much appreciated and will help inform the final version of our curriculum rationale, a document that summarises the learning that pupils will experience at our school.

### **Whole School Homework**

Well done to everyone who took part in the whole school homework challenge last term which looked at one of the 'four capacities' of Curriculum for Excellence. Last term we looked at 'Successful Learners.' You can have a look at some of the activities: <https://vimeo.com/294453662>

### **Library Helper Required**

We are currently looking for a Library helper for Thursday mornings from 9.10-10.40. If you can help, please contact Miss McPherson via the school office.

### **School Website**

Please continue to check our school website for important information and helpful documents.  
<http://newmachar.aberdeenshire.sch.uk>

Kind regards,

*Brian Carle*

Mr B Carle  
Head Teacher (Acting)

#aimtobeawesome