



New Machar School Newsletter

August 2019



Our School Values

Commitment and Cooperation

Respect and Responsibility

Achievement and Ambition

Friendship and Fairness

Teamwork and Trust

Our School Motto:

#aimtobeawesome

School Phone Number

Please be advised that our school number is: 01651 267420

Social Media

Following recent comments, please be advised that the school leadership 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. .

Primary 1

We look forward to welcoming our new P1 pupils, who start their phased entry to school. Mrs Duncan will be overseeing the P1's transition into school and will keep parents/carers updated with key events/dates throughout the phased transition. If you have any queries regarding your child starting school, please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office.

Traffic/Parking

We had a number of issues last session regarding unsafe parking during drop off/pick up times. This is something we will continue to monitor in order to reduce the risk to our pupils. Please park safely and take everyone's safety into consideration when dropping off/picking your child up. Cars should not be parked on blind spots/corners/pavements or in the staff car park. We will consider further action if required.

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a relaxing, enjoyable break. We are very much looking forward to welcoming back all of our pupils for yet another great year at New Machar School.

We have had a number of staffing changes throughout the summer and a separate letter has been issued detailing the changes.

In the meantime, I would like to welcome back Mrs Duncan (DHT) and Mrs Low (PSA) both who got married in the summer.

Mr B Carle, Head Teacher

P3W+ P3H 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 the portacabin classrooms to allow the children to line up accordingly. In the event of bad weather, pupils in P3W and P3H should enter the main building via the P4 and 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 Xrpressions app. If an email is sent to parents/carers with an attachment, this will appear on your Xrpressions 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/SeeSaw

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 now use SeeSaw to share learning in the classroom. Please check your child's SeeSaw portal regularly - again, if you have problems accessing SeeSaw, please inform the school office.

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.

House/Vice Captains

Following feedback from pupils/parents last session, we have changed the way in which house/vice captains will be elected. Our P7 pupils will be asked to write and present a short "speech" which they will deliver to the pupils in their house. Following each speech, pupils will vote on who they would like to be elected. This will be anonymously and the number of votes each pupil received will not be shared. Instead, the pupil with the most votes will be elected House Captain and the pupil with the

second highest amount of votes will be elected as Vice Captain. We hope voting will take place next week.

Pupil Groups

During the course of this term, we hope to set up a number of pupil leadership teams. These will include Pupil Leadership Team, Health and Wellbeing Team, 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.

School Website

Please continue to check our school website for important information and helpful documents.

<http://newmachar.aberdeenshire.sch.uk>

Dates for the diary

These can be found via the website on our Parent Calendar. Reminders of any events will be sent via Xpressions.

Contact Details

It is important that any changes to contact details are passed on to us. If you have moved address, changed your phone number or have a change of circumstances in your family, please make us aware so we can change this on our system. It is essential that in the event of an emergency that we are able to contact parents/carers/emergency contacts. Any changes should be made via the office via email/phone call.

Kind regards,

Brian Carle

Mr B Carle
Head Teacher



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