



# Clerkhill School Newsletter

## Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016

**Our School Motto - "Inspire - Believe - Work hard - Achieve"**  
**Our School Values - Respect - Inclusion - Honesty - Hard Work - Care - Nurture**

### Dates for your Diary

Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Term 2 begins at 9am Road Safety Roadshow for P1-3 pupils	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am - Christmas Concert 1:30pm - Christmas Concert
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	Whole School Flu Vaccine Programme	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am - Christmas Concert 1:30pm - Christmas concert
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	Halloween Discos Nursery (4pm - 5pm) P1-3 (6pm - 7:15pm) P4-7 (7:30pm - 8:45pm)	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	P3 & 4 Party - 1:30pm
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	PSA Meeting - 6pm Parent Council Meeting - 7pm	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	P1 Party - 1:30pm
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' Evenings	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	P2 Party - 1:30pm
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	SCHOOL CLOSED for Staff In-Service Training	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery Party - 9:30am Panto in school - 1:45pm
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery Concerts P5 Party - 1:30pm
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	PSA Christmas Fayre (12-4pm)	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	P6 Party - 1:30pm
		Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	P7 Party - 1:30pm
		Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	School closes at 3pm for Christmas Holidays

*Dear Parent / Carer,*

*I can hardly believe that we are at the end of Term 1 - what a busy term it's been! All our P1 pupils have settled easily into their new classes and are thoroughly enjoying their school experience. Indeed, most children across school have been working extremely hard and I have been very impressed by the work being completed and conversations taking place during my visits to classes.*



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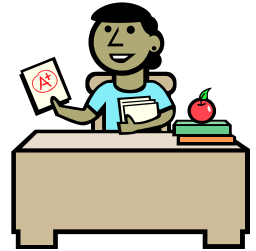


### Bingo Tea

Our annual Bingo Tea took place on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September. It was a fun filled evening with approx £1200 being raised for the school. Thanks are extended to those who contributed in any way towards our Bingo Tea.

### Staff News

Tomorrow we say goodbye to three very valued members of our teaching staff at Clerkhill. Mrs Lindsay Ritchie leaves Clerkhill to take up the position of full time Depute Head at Buchanhaven School. Mrs Ritchie has diligently and faithfully served the Clerkhill School Community over her seven years at the school. Her tireless contribution to the life and work of our school will be missed tremendously and I would personally like to thank Mrs Ritchie for the dedication she has shown to the school over the years and wish her well in her new role.



Mrs Melissa Kennett is also leaving Clerkhill tomorrow. Mrs Kennett is moving to Canada with her family. Again Mrs Kennett has been a very valued member of our teaching staff at Clerkhill and will be missed by staff and pupils alike.

Lastly, Mrs Fraser leaves Clerkhill School to begin her Maternity Leave. We wish Mrs Fraser and her new family our sincere best wishes as they look forward to a new and exciting chapter in their lives.

Recently, Mrs Camelia Higgins was appointed to the post of Early Years Practitioner and will join our Early Learning and Childcare team at Clerkhill after the October holidays. A start date will be confirmed when all the necessary checks have been completed.

### ADVERSE WEATHER ARRANGEMENTS

As we approach the winter months, we need to think about procedures for possible School Closures during 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 Clerkhill Pin Number to hear information recorded on the Aberdeenshire Information Line.

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

Aberdeenshire Information Line: 0870 054 4999

Clerkhill Pin number: 02 14 70



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### Wet Weather Information

Should the weather be inclement in the morning, playground doors will be opened at 8.45am to allow children to shelter from the rain. However, on such days, parents should try to take children to school as close to 9:00am as possible.



It is at the Head Teacher's discretion that the doors are opened prior to 9:00am on days when the weather is bad. Acceptable standards of behaviour are expected at these times.

If the weather is inclement at lunchtimes, children who are returning from home dinners should return to school no more than five minutes before the bell. On their return to school, pupils should enter via the main door as individual playground doors will not be open.

Again, an acceptable standard of behaviour is expected at these times.

### Parent Council and PSA

The next meeting of our PSA Fundraising Group will be held at Clerkhill School (in the staffroom) on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 6:00pm, with the Parent Council taking place at 7:00pm. At the Parent Council Meeting I shall be explaining our annual Standards and Quality Report as well as sharing our finalised Improvement Plans for the session. We extend a warm invitation to all parents to come along and join us at our next meetings. Our Standards and Quality report may be viewed on our school website.

### House Captains

It was very encouraging to see so many boys and girls from P7 put themselves forward for the role of House Captain and Vice-Captain of each of our four Houses. All of the children involved presented themselves in a very positive manner; making the final decision a very difficult one. However, after a lot of deliberation, due to the high standard of presentations given by all of the P7 pupils involved, I am pleased to announce that our House Captains and Vice-Captains this year are:

#### **Eden**

House Captain - Penny Summers 7P and Vice-Captain - Jamie Buchan 7M

#### **Richmond**

House Captain - Callie Bruce 7M and Vice-Captain - Morgan Buchan 7M

#### **Grange**

House Captain - Luke Buchan 7M and Vice-Captain - Beau Marshall 7M

#### **Links**

House Captain - Nathan Mill 7M and Vice-Captain - Maggie Summers 7P

Well done!

Our House Captains and Vice Captains have been busy counting up the House points gained throughout the term and the winning House for Term 1 is Eden! Well done, Eden!



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### Parking

May I again take this opportunity to remind you that the School Car Park is for the use of School Staff, After School Transport and Visitors to School only. Parents are not permitted to park in the Car Park when dropping off or collecting their children from school/nursery unless a prior arrangement has been made with the Head Teacher.

Your cooperation in this matter is very much appreciated.



### Dogs in the Playground

Again may I remind all parents that no dogs are allowed in our school playgrounds. This is for health and safety reasons. I thank you for your understanding in this regard.

### Bikes and Scooters in the Playground

On numerous occasions recently I have seen pupils riding their bikes and scooters whilst in the school grounds. School policy is that pupils should not ride their bikes or scooters after they have entered the school grounds but should, instead, walk through the school grounds with their bike or scooter. This will mean that all our smaller children walking through the playgrounds will be kept safe and not be knocked over by someone riding their bike or scooter. Should you accompany your child to school I would ask for your co-operation in this matter by reminding your child to disembark their bike or scooter once inside the school grounds.

I have also been made aware that some pupils who are riding their bike to school are not wearing a helmet. Please ensure that, should your child be taking their bike to school, they are also wearing a helmet.

### Health promoting School

Just a wee reminder that Clerkhill is a Health Promoting School. In this regard I would kindly request that parents ensure their child only takes a small snack with them to school for their morning playpiece. After the October break the amount of items a pupil can purchase from our tuck shop will be limited to two. Lastly may I remind parents that, due to Health and Safety Concerns (choking), lollipops are not permitted in our playgrounds.



### Water in School

Should they wish to do so, children may bring plain, unflavoured, still water to drink in class. Alternatively, pupils may access water from our water fountains which are positioned around school. Flavoured water and



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juice are **NOT** permitted in class. Children may however bring non fizzy juice or flavoured water in their packed lunch or indeed to accompany their school dinner.

Juice is not permitted in our play areas.



#### **Junior Rock Challenge (J-Rock)**

This year Clerkhill School hope to enter a team into the Junior Rock Challenge Competition which will be taking part in March 2017 in Aberdeen. After the October break pupils from P5-7 will be given the opportunity to become part of the Junior Rock

Challenge team representing Clerkhill School.

Should you, as a parent wish to offer your support towards our Rock Challenge preparations, please contact myself at your earliest convenience. We are looking for parents who can sew, paint, make sets, burn CDs, do hair and make up etc - the list is endless! Any help will be gratefully appreciated.

#### **Compliments, Comments, Complaints**

Attached to the newsletter is a slip which gives you the opportunity to tell us what you think about the school - positive or negative. This will enable us to more fully and accurately evaluate and improve the service we provide. Please feel free to return any comments you may have.

*(Please note this return is optional)*

*Should you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education throughout this session, please make an appointment and I shall be happy to meet with you.*

*Regards,  
Ann-Louise Murray  
Head Teacher*



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### Compliments / Comments / Complaints / Suggestions

Please feel free to note any comments about your child's school experience (positive or negative) in the space below and return to school at your convenience.

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Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



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