



Clerkhill School Newsletter

Friday 1st September 2017

“Inspire – Believe – Work hard – Achieve”

Dates for your Diary			
Monday 4 th September	P1 Pupils start whole days	Monday 30 th October	School resumes at 9:00am
Thursday 7 th September	PSA AGM @ 6pm Parent Council Meeting @ 7pm	Saturday 4 th November	School Christmas Fayre
Friday 8 th September	Meet the Teacher afternoon @ Clerkhill School (1:45 - 2:45)	Wednesday 8 th & Thursday 9 th November	Parents' Evenings
Thursday 28 th & Friday 29 th September	Tempest Photographer in School	Monday 13 th & Tuesday 14 th November	Staff In-Service Training (SCHOOL CLOSED)
Monday 2 nd October	PSA Bingo Tea (6:30 for 7:00)	Monday 11 th December	P1 Christmas Party (1:30pm)
Tuesday 3 rd - Friday 6 th October	P6 Trip to Glenshee	Tuesday 12 th December	P2 Christmas party (1:30pm)
Monday 9 th October, Tues 10 th October & Wed 11 th October	Flu Vaccine Programme	Wednesday 13 th December	P3 Christmas party (1:30pm)
Wednesday 11 th & Thursday 12 th October	Peterhead Choir Festival (Peterhead Baptist Church)	Thursday 14 th December	P4 Christmas party (1.30pm)
Thursday 12 th October	Discos	Friday 15 th & Monday 18 th & Tuesday 19 th December	Christmas Concerts (9:30am & 1:30pm)
Friday 13 th October	School closes at 3pm for October break	Wednesday 20 th December	Nursery Concerts P5 Christmas party (1:30pm)
		Thursday 21 st December	Nursery Party (am) P6 Christmas party (1:30pm)
		Friday 22 nd December	P7 Christmas party (1:30pm) School closes at 3pm for Christmas break

Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome back to a new and, what promises to be, a very exciting and busy year at Clerkhill School. The children have all settled back very easily to school routine and are eager and keen to get involved in their learning. They are all looking exceptionally smart in their school uniforms and have come to school well prepared with their new writing utensils!



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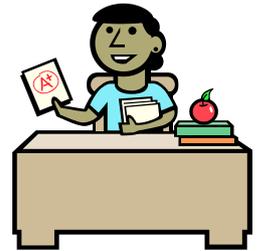
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CLASS NEWS

I would like to give a special welcome to our 62 new Primary Ones who have joined Mrs Bain, Miss Ashton and Mrs Lyon and hope their time with us at Clerkhill School will be a happy and enjoyable one. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to the other new pupils who have started with us at Clerkhill School.

STAFF NEWS

I would like to welcome Miss Amy Ashton to the team here at Clerkhill School. We also welcome Mrs Maggie Laws who has joined us here at Clerkhill as a probationer teacher.



Returning to Clerkhill this session after Maternity Leave are Mrs Jemma Fraser and Mrs Patricia Cruickshank.

Mrs Annette Buchan (Pupil Support Assistant) also joins the team here at Clerkhill and will be working with us on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday each week.

Congratulations are also extended to Mrs Elaine Macintosh who was appointed to the position of full time Depute Head Teacher here at Clerkhill just before the holidays. Mrs Macintosh will continue to teach P6M all day Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon this session. P6M will be taught by Mrs Kimberley Buchan all day Thursday and Friday morning this term.

Congratulations to Miss Holly Reid who gave birth to a baby boy named Harry earlier this summer. Both mum and baby are doing well!

MEET THE TEACHER AFTERNOON

You are invited to come to school on **Friday 8th September from 1:45pm - 2:45pm** to see your child's classroom and meet their new teacher. Those attending should enter and leave via the main entrance.

INDOOR SHOES

Changing into indoor shoes is no longer compulsory at Clerkhill however it is still important that all children keep a pair of indoor shoes with them in school at all times. These will be used for PE primarily. Pupils may also change into their indoor shoes if the weather is wet or indeed if they have sore feet etc. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

SCHOOL UNIFORM AND PE KITS

It is lovely to see all the pupils looking extremely smart in their school uniforms. A big thank you to parents/carers for this. As part of Curriculum for Excellence, and in order to promote healthy lifestyles, we aim to take learning outdoors as much as possible. Therefore, parents should ensure that children come to school **every day** with a **waterproof jacket** as the weather in this North East corner of Scotland can be very changeable.



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There is a Scottish Office requirement that all children receive at least two hours of PE every week in an attempt to make our children fitter and healthier. Therefore, all children should have shorts, t-shirt and trainers / gym shoes at school **everyday for possible PE lessons**. Again, in line with Curriculum for Excellence PE may take place outdoors on a regular basis during Term 1.

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.

LATE ARRIVALS

It is very important that children arrive at school on time. Should your child, for any reason arrive late for school, you should ensure that they report to the school office, via the main entrance. The school administrator will then escort them to their class. Attendance and punctuality are closely monitored at Clerkhill and in this regard, should instances of late coming or indeed high absence levels begin to cause concern, you may be requested to come into school to meet with a member of the school SMT so appropriate supports can be discussed.

ABSENCES

Should your child be absent from school due to illness or medical / dental appointments, please make the school aware of this by telephone. The school administrator will then pass the necessary information onto your child's class teacher. Alternatively, you may inform the school by way of letter. Should your child be absent due to illness, please inform the school of their absence as soon as possible.

In line with Aberdeenshire Council Policy, requests for absences for family holidays during term time will usually be **unauthorised** unless there are **exceptional circumstances** which mean that holidays cannot be taken during school holidays.

PREFECTS

All pupils in our P7 year group are Prefects. Becoming a prefect enables our senior pupils to develop their responsibility and confidence levels through fulfilling their prefect duties which will include:

- Attending Parents Evenings, Open Afternoons and Information Evenings
- Showing any visitors around school
- Assisting with the organisation of school events



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- Giving presentations on the life of Clerkhill School to appropriate visitors
- Maintaining exemplary attitudes and standards of behaviour at **all times** in school

NUT ALLERGIES

We have several pupils in Clerkhill School who have severe nut allergies. As I'm sure you will appreciate, this can be a life threatening condition. Indeed, one of our pupils suffers from an air borne nut allergy, where even the smell of nuts can cause a severe anaphylactic reaction. In this regard, and to minimise the potential for serious illness, I would kindly request that, you do not provide your child with nuts or nut based products for snacks or indeed Packed Lunch. Should you wish to discuss this in further detail, please do not hesitate to contact the school. No nuts or nut based products are served or sold in school.

PARENT COUNCIL AND FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Our next AGM takes place on Thursday 7th September (PSA at 6pm and Parent Council at 7pm) and we would love to see as many parents as possible at our meetings this session.

ANNUAL DATA CHECK

It is vital that we have accurate contact details for all parents/carers. The Annual Data check form will be issued shortly. Please ensure all details are checked and updated as required and returned to school as soon as possible.

SAFETY

Could I request that parents don't walk through the staff car park when making their way to or from the play areas with their child. Please escort your child to their playground by walking through the play areas to the front of the school and **NOT** via the car park. This will ensure the safety of all our pupils here at Clerkhill. Your support and cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Regards,
Ann-Louise Murray
Head Teacher