



Clerkhill School Newsletter

Friday 5th July 2019

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

Dates for your Diary

Monday 19 th August	SCHOOL CLOSED for staff training	Monday 28 th October	School resumes at 9:00am
Tuesday 20 th August	SCHOOL CLOSED for staff training	Thursday 7 th November	6:00pm - PSA Meeting 7:00pm - Parent Council Meeting
Wednesday 21 st August	School starts for pupils at 9am	Wednesday 13 th & Thursday 14 th November	Parents' Evening
Monday 26 th August	CLERKHILL'S 50 TH BIRTHDAY!	Friday 15 th November	Children in Need
Monday 26 th & Tuesday 27 th August	P1 Trial Packed Lunch	Monday 18 th & Tuesday 19 th November	SCHOOL CLOSED for staff training
Tuesday 27 th August	P1 Literacy Workshops 1:45 - 2:30 & 6:30 - 7:30	Saturday 30 th November	School Christmas Fayre
Wednesday 28 th & Thursday 29 th August	P1 Trial school lunch	Friday 6 th December	1:30pm - Christmas Concert
Friday 30 th August	Meet the Teacher 9.15 - 10.00	Monday 9 th & Tuesday 10 th December	9:30am & 1:30pm - Christmas Concerts
Monday 2 nd September	P1 Numeracy Workshops 6:30 - 7:30	Wednesday 11 th December	P1 Party
Thursday 5 th September	6:00pm - PSA Meeting 7:00pm - Parent Council Meeting	Thursday 12 th December	Travelling Panto - pm
Monday 9 th September	Childrens' University Launch Night 6.30pm	Friday 13 th December	P2 Party
Monday 9 th - Wednesday 11 th September	Childsmile in school	Monday 16 th December	P3 Party
Thursday 12 th & Friday 13 th September	Pixel8 Photographer in School	Tuesday 17 th December	P4 Party
Tuesday 17 th - Thursday 19 th September	Childsmile in school	Wednesday 18 th December	P5 Party
Monday 30 th September	Bingo Tea 7:00pm	Thursday 19 th December	P6 Party
Sunday 6 th - Wednesday 9 th October	P6 Dalguise Trip	Friday 20 th December	P7 Party
Thursday 10 th October	School closes at 3pm for October break	Friday 20 th December	School closes at 3pm for Christmas Break
Friday 11 th October	SCHOOL CLOSED for staff training		



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P7 SHOW

Our P7s recently performed their amazing show "Fame" for a hall packed full of appreciative family members and friends. All the pupils who took part performed extremely well, much to the delight of their audience. They certainly did their school, teachers and parents proud!



CLERKHILL SCIENCE CLUB

Our P7 Science Club once again did very well, winning the prestigious title of "Science Club of the Year" at the national STEM celebration at Glasgow Science Centre on Friday 30th May. Our P7 "scientists" meet every Tuesday under the guidance of Mrs Pressley, Miss Ashton and Miss Moir. They have worked hard all year on developing their science skills. On the competition day our Science Club was represented by Neive McKenzie, Katie Low, Skye McKenzie, Amber Drummond, Luke Ritchie and Johnny Adam.

This year we have also been running a "Junior Science Club" for some of our P3 pupils. Our P7 Science Club pupils have had an active role in leading this for our younger learners.



HEALTH WEEK

This year's health week was once again a great success with the children enjoying a host of "healthy activities".

Thanks to Mrs N Buchan and Miss A Stewart for organising all our Health Week activities and also to all the volunteers who gave up their time to lead activities during the week.



SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Our Sports Day went ahead as planned although at times throughout the morning we were unsure which season it actually was with the changeable weather conditions!

Our winning house for P1-3 sports was Grange with Richmond being the winning house for the P4-7 sports.

The overall winning house this session is Richmond.



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Our P5-7 pupils also walked to Catto Park at the start of June to participate in a school based Athletics Festival. This year, for the first time we have a boy and a girl Sports Champion.

Girl's Sports Champion 2019: Malia Shearer

Boy's Sports Champion 2019: Johnny Adam

DINNER TICKETS

The cost of a school dinner next session will be £2.50. This will be for P4-7pupils only as all P1-3 pupils are entitled to a free school meal and are therefore not required to purchase tickets.

Additional drinks are no longer sold at lunchtimes however pupils may bring their own juice to school to have at lunchtime. Alternatively fresh water is always available. For health and safety purposes I would request that, if pupils are bring their own juice in a reusable bottle that this bottle is NOT glass.

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 gym shoes/trainers in school at all times. These will primarily be used for PE. Pupils may also change into their indoor shoes if the weather is wet or indeed if they have sore feet etc. Could parents please ensure that pupils bring a suitable shoe/gym bag (a carrier bag will suffice) to school so that gym shoes/trainers can be hung tidily on pegs. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

PLAYGROUNDS/ LINING UP AT THE START OF THE DAY/ COLLECTION AT THE END OF THE DAY

On the first day back to school after the holidays, children should line up in their new playground (as they were shown by their teacher on their moving up morning).

- **The P1 playground** will remain as it is at present - all P1 children, will line up in the P1 playground in the morning. All P1 children, will play in the P1 playground at playtimes and lunchtimes. Pupils from **P1/2B, P1B & P1M** should line up in this playground in the mornings and can be collected from this playground at the end of the day.

Please note: P2 pupils in P1/2B will play with their P2 friends in the P2 playground at playtimes and lunchtimes

- **The P2 Playground** will be for P2S, P2B & P2 pupils from P1/2B to play in at playtimes and lunchtimes next session. Children in **P2S & P2B** should line up in this playground in the mornings and should also be collected from this playground at the end of the day
- **The P3/4 playground** will be for P3/4P, P3A, P3P, P4L & P4F to play in at playtimes and lunchtimes next session. Children from these classes should line up in this playground in the mornings and should also be collected from this playground at the end of the day.
- **The P5/6/7 playground** will be for P5M, P5K, P5/6C, P6P, P6E, P7D & P7S to play in at playtimes and lunchtimes next session. Children from these classes should line up in this playground in the mornings and can also be collected from this playground at the end of the day.



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PARENT COUNCIL AND FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

I would like to say a huge thank you to the Parent Council and Fundraising Committee for the support they have given the school again this session, both educationally and financially. Their hard work and tireless enthusiasm is much appreciated.

Our next AGM takes place on Thursday 5th September (PSA at 6pm and Parent Council at 7pm) and we would love to see as many parents as possible at our meetings next session. At the Parent Council meeting, I shall be sharing the school improvement priorities for Session 2019 - 2020

PICKING UP AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Our school is a very busy place and in the afternoons, our school administrator Mrs Duncan is the only person in the office and is not always at her desk to answer calls, Whilst we appreciate that there may be changes to your child's after school arrangements from time to time, we would request that, as far as is practically possible, your child is aware of who is picking them up at the end of the day which will minimise the amount of messages having to be relayed to pupils very close to 3pm.

On a similar note, whilst we are happy to accommodate pupils being collected from the main reception at 3pm in exceptional circumstances, this is not something we would encourage or be able to facilitate as an ongoing arrangement (unless a particular situation has been discussed with myself).

Pupils who attend After School Care will continue to be picked up from the main reception.

COMMUNICATION

As you know, our main form of communication with parents, including newsletters, is via the "Xpressions" App and the school Facebook page. Newsletters are also uploaded onto the school Website. Paper copies are no longer be issued unless specifically requested.

Please note: Our school telephone number is - 01779 403660

Thank you to all parents and carers who contributed to the Aberdeenshire **#ilovemyschool** campaign this week, by commenting on our Facebook Page stating why they love our school. It has been wonderful to read your supportive and encouraging comments.

STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to Miss Chalmers and her partner who welcomed baby Ellie to the world recently. Both mum and baby are doing really well.



We also look forward to welcoming five new teachers to our team here at Clerkhill. Mrs Michelle Penfold (P3P), Miss Michelle Karrim (P5K), Mrs Gillian Dow (P7D), Mrs Jane Johnstone (Additional Support for Learners) and Mrs Linda McLennan (Additional Support for Learners) will start



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with us on Monday 19th August. We will also welcome Ms Louisa Bayliss to our team. Louisa joins us as a PSA and is moving from Dales Park School.

Sadly, we say goodbye (for now) to Mrs Catriona Pain who has been our Additional Support for Learners teacher here at Clerkhill for a number of years. Catriona will be a huge miss to Clerkhill and will hopefully re-join us in the future.

We also say goodbye to four PSAs who have been part of our team this session. Mrs Georga Menzies, Mrs Gail Clacher, Mrs Jennifer McLean and Ms Julie Forbes also finish with us today. The ladies have been a huge asset to our team here at Clerkhill and we shall be sad to see them go.

STAFFING

Staffing for next session is detailed below:-

Senior Leadership Team

HT Mrs Ann-Louise Murray
DHT Mrs Linda Stephen (4 days)
DHT Mrs Linda Willox (4 days)
DHT Mrs Elaine Macintosh (5 days)
DHT Mrs Nicola Buchan (2 days)

Early Learning and Childcare Centre

Miss Kelly Morrison (Early Years Lead Practitioner)
Mrs Camelia Higgins (Early Years Practitioner)
Mrs Elyssa Stephen / Miss Erin Stephen (Early Years Practitioners)
Mrs Suzanne McKenzie (Early Years Practitioner - lunchtime cover)

P1-7 Teachers

P1B Mrs Nicola Buchan
P1M Miss Claire Moir
P1/2B Mrs L Brown (Mon-Thurs) & Miss H Reid (Fri)
P2B Mrs N Bain (Mon-Wed) & Mrs K Buchan (Thurs & Fri)
P2S Miss A Stewart
P3A Miss A Ashton
P3P Mrs M Penfold & Miss H Reid
P3/4P Miss L Porter
P4F Mrs N Findlater
P4L Mrs M Laws (Mon-Wed) & Mrs J Fraser (Thurs & Fri)
P5K Miss M Karrim & Miss H Reid
P5M Mrs C Mackey (Mon, Tues & alt. Wed) & Mrs M Miller (alt. Wed, Thurs & Fri)
P5/6C Mrs G Craig
P6E Mrs A Esson
P6P Mrs D Pressley



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P7D Mrs G Dow
P7S Mrs F Sime

McCrone Cover

Mrs C Stephens (Tues-Thurs)
Mrs D Webster (Wed & Thurs)
Mrs J Strachan (Tues)
Mrs Elaine Macintosh (Tues)
Mrs Linda Willox (Tues)

Additional Support for Learning Teachers

Mrs C Mackey (alt. Wed, Thurs & Fri)
Mrs J Johnstone (Mon & Tues)
Mrs L McLennan (Mon & Tues)

Nurture Hub Teacher

Ms Fiona Morrison

Pupil Support Assistants

Mrs Edwina Anderson	Mrs Sylvia Noble
Mrs Roselyn Bruce	Mrs Lorna Stevenson
Mrs Annette Buchan	Mrs Linda Kane
Mrs Edna Buchan	Mrs Paula Massie
Mrs Eveline Chessor	Mrs Anne Wilson
Mrs Tace Donaldson	Mrs Debra Youngson
Mrs Paula Geary	Mrs Anita Buchan
Mrs Jade Gourlay	

Office Staff

School Administrator Mrs Jean Duncan (Mon - Fri - 8:30 - 16:00)
Clerical Assistant Mrs Susan Findlay (Mon - Tues - 9:00 - 15:00)
(Wed - Fri - 9.00 - 12.15)

Janitorial Staff

Mr James Geddes

FAREWELL TO OUR P7S

It's time to say farewell to our Primary 7s as they leave us at Clerkhill to continue their educational journey at Secondary School. They have been a great year group to work with and I will have many memories of my time spent with them (especially Edinburgh), which I'm sure will make me smile on numerous occasions in the future.





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I have thoroughly enjoyed watching the P7s develop into mature, responsible citizens throughout this final term with us and will be sad to see them leave us. Each of them has been a real asset to Clerkhill School. I wish them well for their future lives; hoping that they take with them a lasting sense of achievement, pride in their capabilities and many precious memories from their days at Clerkhill School.

As this school session draws to a close and we enter the holiday season I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff and parents for their support over the course of the session and look forward to working with you in the new session to ensure that Clerkhill School continues to provide the highest possible standards of education for our young people.

Enjoy a lovely, relaxing break.

Regards,
Ann-Louise Murray
Head Teacher
July 2019



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HOLIDAY DATES 2019/2020



TERM 1

Monday 19th/Tuesday 20th August
Wednesday 21st August
Thursday 10th October
Friday 11th October

In-service
Pupils return to school 9am
Term 1 finishes for pupils
In-Service

TERM 2

Monday 28th October
Monday 18th/Tuesday 19th November
Friday 20th December

Pupils return to school 9am
In-Service Days
School finishes at 3.00pm for Xmas
Holidays



TERM 3

Monday 6th January 2020
Thurs 13th/ Fri 14th & Mon 17th February
Tues 18th/Wed 19th February
Friday 3rd April

Pupils return to school 9am
Mid-Term Holiday
In-service Days
School finishes at 3.00pm for Easter
Break

TERM 4

Monday 20th April
Friday 8th May
Monday 1st June
Friday 3rd July

Pupils return to school 9am
May Day Holiday
Local Holiday
School finishes at 3.00pm for
Summer Holiday



Aberdeenshire school holidays are also found on :-

http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/information/term_dates.asp