



## Clerkhill School Newsletter

### Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021

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

#### Dates for your Diary

|   |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September        | Parent Council / Fundraising Meeting (6pm) - via Skype |  | Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November                              | School resumes at usual times                          |
| Week Beginning 13 <sup>th</sup> September | Parent / Teacher Phone Consultation                    |  | Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> November                            | Parent Council / Fundraising Meeting (6pm) - via Skype |
| Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> October           | School closes at 3pm for October break                 |  | Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> & Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> November | SCHOOL CLOSED for staff training                       |
|   |  |  | Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December                            | School close at 3pm for Christmas Break                |
|   |  |  | Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January                            | School returns at usual times                          |
|   |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |  |

#### Welcome Back!

What a fabulous return to school we have had. Our pupils have returned to school full of enthusiasm, fun and chatter!

It has been a delight to see them looking so smart in their uniforms. Thank you for your efforts in this area.

#### IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES - SESSION 2021 - 2022

At Clerkhill School we are always striving to be the best we can be and to provide our learners with the best educational experiences possible. One of our main Improvement Priorities this session will be focussed on Reading and Spelling. More information in this regard will be shared with parents next week.

Please take time to familiarise yourselves with this as it will provide detailed information on how best to support your child at home with reading and spelling.

We shall also be having a "Question of the Month" which will be issued to Parents, Staff and Pupils. This will be shared via a Microsoft Form and will enable all our stakeholders to regularly give us feedback on how we are doing as a school, and to contribute to our continual school improvement journey.

Look out for a survey link being sent out at some point next week!

We are also in the process of setting up "Marvellous Me" for all our classes, and teachers will begin sharing information on learning through this App, in due course.



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#### Reminder of Start and Finish Times

Below is a reminder of start, lunch and finish times.

#### **START AND FINISH TIMES:**

| START TIMES  |                              |              |                |
|--------------|------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| P1           | P1B - 8:50am                 | P1S - 9:00am | P1/2J - 8:50am |
| P2           | P2A - 9:00am                 |              | P2B - 8:50am   |
| P3-7         | Doors Open - 8:55am - 9:05am |              |                |
|              |                              |              |                |
| PLAYTIMES    |                              |              |                |
| P1 & 2       | 10:40am - 10:55am            |              |                |
| P3-7         | 10:20am - 10:35am            |              |                |
|              |                              |              |                |
| LUNCHTIMES   |                              |              |                |
| P1 & 2       | 12:35pm - 1:20pm             |              |                |
| P3 & 4       | 12:10pm - 12:55pm            |              |                |
| P5, 6 & 7    | 11:50am - 12:35pm            |              |                |
|              |                              |              |                |
| FINISH TIMES |                              |              |                |
| P1           | P1B - 2:50pm                 | P1S - 3:00pm | P1/2J - 2:50pm |
| P2           | P2A - 3:00pm                 | P2B - 2:50pm |                |
| P3-7         | 3:00pm                       |              |                |

Only parents of P1-3 children may enter the school grounds to collect their child (one parent per child). Parents of P4 pupils should wait either outside or just inside the wall at the front playground (facing Cairntrodlie). Parents of our P5-7 pupils are asked to meet their child/ren at an identified area not too far from school.

A reminder once again that, as part of school mitigations, any parent entering the school ground is requested to wear a face covering, unless exempt.

Thank you

#### PICKING UP AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Our school is a very busy place and in the afternoons, our school administrator Miss Stephen will be the only person in the office and 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.



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#### **COVID MITIGATIONS and MININISING RISK**

As you are well aware, COVID is still very much in our midst at community level and, as a school, we continue to follow stringent procedures to minimise the risk of transmission in school.

If anyone in your household is displaying any symptoms of COVID (new or persistent cough, temperature of 37.9 degrees or above, or loss of smell or taste), then pupils (over 5 years old) from that household **MUST NOT** attend school until the symptomatic person has received a negative PCR test. Although these are the classic symptoms of COVID, the link below also outlines "extended COVID symptoms, which I would ask you also to be aware of.

If a pupil, over 5 years old, is identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID, they must isolate and not attend school until they have received a negative PCR test.

The links below include some more useful information as well as details on how to book a PCR test if required.

<https://www.nhsgrampian.org/covid-19/covid-testing/general-public-including-children/>

<https://www.nhsgrampian.org/covid-19/covid-19-public-information/subpages/covid-19-community-testing/>

If your child displays any COVID symptoms in school, we will be asking you to collect them and any of their siblings immediately and take them to have a PCR Test.

If we have a positive COVID case identified in school, a Warn and Inform letter will be issued to the affected classes or year groups.

Thank you once again for your co-operation and understanding in this matter.

#### **PARENT COUNCIL AND FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

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

Our next AGM takes place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 6pm via Teams. At the Parent Council meeting, I shall be sharing the school improvement priorities for Session 2021 - 2022.

For any parent/carer who is not already part of our Parent Council but who would be keen to be involved with these meetings, please send a message to the school expressing your interest in this event and also stating the e-mail address you wish to use to be added to the meeting.

This will then be shared with the Secretary of our Parent Council so she can send you an invite.

**Please note:** Previous members of the Parent Council do not need to respond to this message as our Secretary will already have your details on her mailing list.

Only parents who wish, at this point to join our Parent Council or who wish to attend this first meeting of the session, should respond.



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#### **ANNUAL DATA RETURN**

This is something we have to undertake every year, to ensure the details we hold for you on the system are still correct. The paperwork associated with this will be sent home with your child in the coming days.

Please take the time to complete this and return it to school by **FRIDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER**.

Thank you

#### **PARENT PHONE CONSULTATIONS**

Following consultation and discussion with our teachers, we have decided to change our Parent Appointment dates this session.

We thought it would be beneficial, in the absence of Open Afternoons, for parents to have the option of a telephone consultation with their child's class teacher, during Term 1. This will be a "Settling In" conversation. You will receive an Interim Report in Term 2, then we will hold another Parent Consultation again in Term 3. A Final Report will be issued in Term 4.

Should you wish to make contact with your child's class teacher at any point, please send an e-mail to either the school mailbox on: [clerkhill.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:clerkhill.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) or send a message via Xpressions and the office staff will pass on your request to the class teacher who will be in touch with you as soon as is practically possible.

Regards,

Ann-Louise Murray

Head Teacher, Clerkhill School

August 2021



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## Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021

### HOLIDAY DATES 2021 / 2022



#### TERM 1

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> August  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October

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

#### TERM 2

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>/Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December

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



#### TERM 3

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January  
Thurs 10<sup>th</sup>/ Fri 11<sup>th</sup> & Mon 14<sup>th</sup> February  
Tues 15<sup>th</sup>/Wed 16<sup>th</sup> February  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April

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



#### TERM 4

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April  
TBC  
TBC  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July

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

Aberdeenshire school holidays are also found on :-  
[School term dates and holidays - Aberdeenshire Council](#)