



Clerkhill School Newsletter

February 2023



Our School Motto: "Reach Up"

Our School Values: Respect-Effort-Aim High-Care & Nurture
Honesty-Understanding-Perseverance

Dates for your Diary

Friday 10 th February & Monday 13 th February 2023	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR MID TERM BREAK		Monday 17 th April 2023	Term 4 starts at 9:00pm
Tuesday 14 th & Wednesday 15 th February 2023	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF INSET TRAINING		Monday 24 th April 2023	P7 Dalguise trip leaves
Tuesday 28 th February 2023	Potential School Closure due to Strike Action (TBC)		Thursday 27 th April 2023	P7 Dalguise trip returns
Wednesday 1 st March 2023	Potential School Closure due to Strike Action (TBC)		Thursday 27 th April 2023	Parent Council and Fundraising Meeting (6:00pm)
Wednesday 22 nd March 2023	Parent Evening (3:15pm - 5:00pm & 6:00pm - 8:00pm)		Monday 1 st May 2023	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR MAY DAY
Thursday 23 rd March 2023	Parent Evening (3:15pm - 5:00pm)		Tuesday 16 th May 2023	Sports Day P4-7 - 9:30am P1-3 - 11:15am
Monday 27 th March 2023	Bingo Tea (7:00pm)		Tuesday 23 rd May 2023	Alternative Sports Day (only if required)
Friday 31 st March 2023	Term 3 finishes at 3:00pm		Monday 5 th June 2023	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR PETERHEAD CLUSTER OCCASIONAL DAY
			Thursday 8 th June 2023	Open Afternoon (2:00pm - 2:45pm & 3:15pm - 4:00pm) & issuing of reports
			Wednesday 21 st June	P1 - Shorts and Shades Disco (3:45pm - 4:45pm)
			Thursday 22 nd June 2023	Shorts and Shades Discos P2 & P3 - 3:45pm - 5:00pm P4 & P5 - 6:00pm - 7:15pm P6 & P7 - 7:30pm - 8:45pm
			Monday 26 th June - Friday 30 th June 2023	Health Week / Walk to School Week
			Monday 26 th June 2023	P7 Show (7:00pm)
			Wednesday 28 th , Thursday 29 th and Friday 30 th June 2023	P7 Transition Days
			Friday 30 th June 2023	Moving up morning for P1-6 pupils



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		Friday 7 th July 2023	P7 Leavers' Assembly (9:30am) and piped procession (2:30pm)
		Friday 7 th July 2023	Session 2022 - 2023 finishes at 3:00pm

Good News

"Clerkhill's Got Talent / Scots Night"

We had a lovely evening on Wednesday when we held our first "Clerkhill's Got Talent / Scots Night" since February 2020. The amount of talent on the stage was quite remarkable. From a rock band to highland dancing and karate to joke telling; the children just blew the audience away with their enthusiasm and enjoyment of their skill.



All pupils did so well to have the confidence to take part but we did have three winners on the night:

1st Place -

2nd Place -

3rd Place -

It was so inspiring to see our pupils proud to share their talents with an appreciative audience.

Lego League

On Thursday 16th February a group of our P7s travel to Fraserburgh with Mrs Stephens and Miss Moir to take part in this year's Lego League competition. The pupils have been working very hard on their coding skills during their after school club each week and we look forward to hearing of their success following the competition.



Science Club

Myself and Mrs Pressley will accompany our P7 Science Club to their regional competition in Aberdeen on Thursday 9th March. Like their Lego League peers, our budding scientists have been busy preparing during their after school club each week, under the skillful direction of Mrs Pressley. Good luck Science Club



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Scots Poetry and Art Competitions



As part of our whole school focus on Scotland our pupils were all given the opportunity to learn and perform a Scottish Poem and to produce a piece of Scottish Art Work. These beautiful pieces are now adorning classrooms and corridors around school. Winners are listed below:

<u>P1B</u> 1. Kai Innes 2. Noah Ross 3. Penelope Baird	<u>P1P</u> 1. Sienna Smith 2. Emma Campbell 3. McKenna Buchan	<u>P1S</u> 1. Georgia Spence 2. Lia Elphinstone 3. Dominykas Romanovskis
<u>P2B</u> 1. Callum Forbes 2. Emilie More / Anna Selivanovaz 3. Matilda Maitland	<u>P2K</u> 1. Aiden MacKenzie 2. Faith Lawson 3. Jayce Matthew	<u>P3M</u> 1. Jayce Whyte 2. Kayla Kelman 3. Tommy Pirie
<u>P3F</u> 1. Cody Robertson 2. Harris Cruden 3. Jenson Davidson	<u>P3/4A</u> 1. Georgia McIntosh 2. Lianna Peacock 3. Logan Reid	<u>P4E</u> 1. Caleb Geddes 2. Lucas Cheyne 3. Liam McCrave
<u>P4/5M</u> 1. Lev Barrett 2. Brooke MacLennan 3. Zachary Taylor	<u>P5F</u> 1. Jaiden John Whyte 2. Ritchie Lemon 3. Millie Buchan	<u>P5W</u> 1. Chloe Robinson 2. Libby Cowe 3. Ivy Smith
<u>P6A</u> 1. Beth Melvin 2. Jaime McNeil 3. Nazar Susak	<u>P6C</u> 1. Isla MacLennan 2. Jackson Bruce 3. Charli Morrison	<u>P6/7C</u> 1. Liam Lawrie 2. Natalie Barron 3. Ziva Bruce
<u>P7S</u> 1. Sophie Buchan 2. Emma Birnie 3. Jake Forman	<u>P7P</u> 1. Ava Davidson 2. Kenzie McNeil 3. Victoria Wal	Scottish Poetry Winners 2023



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P1B 1 st Martin Michalak 2 nd Alister Birnie 3 rd Jude Campbell	P1S 1 st Dominykas Romanonskis 2 nd Benjamin Polujanskij 3 rd Lillie Waddell	P1P 1 st Mckenna Buchan 2 nd Ellie Rose Watson 3 rd Paulius Pravilionis
P2B 1 st Gracie Mae West 2 nd Imogen Roger 3 rd Evie Thain	P2K 1 st Sebastian Buchan 2 nd Emily Gordon 3 rd Sydney Dickson	P3F 1 st Adelle Cameron 2 nd Michael Campbell 3 rd Francine Villegas
P3M 1 st Amira Al Khanbouli 2 nd Danielle Wilkinson 3 rd Ben Steele	P3/4A 1 st Isobella Ritchie 2 nd Noah Lawson 3 rd Georgia McIntosh	P4E 1 st John Campbell 2 nd Kellar Wallace 3 rd Carly Rose Kelman
P5F 1 st Isla Mackenzie 2 nd Esme Macgregor 3 rd Mya Fraser	P5W 1 st Emilie Brown 2 nd Ivy Smith 3 rd Evan Ritchie	P4/5M 1 st Rosa Bruce 2 nd Maisie McGarthland 3 rd Mia Gordon
P6C 1 st Sofija Sinuka 2 nd Jamie-Leigh McDonald 3 rd Fiona Bomba	P6A 1 st Ellis Angus 2 nd Emilia Noble 3 rd Lois Robertson	P6/7C 1 st Natalie Barron 2 nd Victor Valera 3 rd Daniella Bibiceva
P7S 1 st Ava Cameron 2 nd Kaela Wilson 3 rd Marcy Sneddon	P7P 1 st Sophie Needs 2 nd Lea Birnie 3 rd Mylee Murray-Lauder	Scottish Art Winners 2023

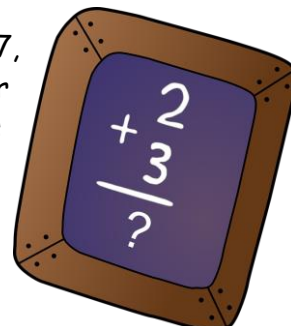


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Numeracy Club / Workshops

Mrs Macintosh led a very successful Numeracy session for parents of pupils in P5-7, recently. Mrs Macintosh is also very busy with her after school Numeracy Club for pupils in P5-7. We hope to run another parent session in term 4 where our focus will be skills development and the play based approach to learning. This will be led by Mrs L Stephen and Mrs N Buchan.



Parental Involvement

We would love to invite some of our parent body to work with us on making some small changes to our end of year Progress Report. Mrs Linda Willox will be leading this group.

We would also like to work with a small group of parents to look at sharing some information on Pupil Equity Funding, what we have used our allocated funds for this session and to seek your views on how best we may consider using our funds next session. This group will be led by myself and Mrs Colleen Mackey.

If you are interested in being part of either of these short life focus groups, please email the school office on Clerkhill.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk, noting which focus group you would like to be part of.

Thank you. We would love to work alongside you.

Parent Council / Fundraising News

We had a very productive Parent Council Meeting on Thursday 19th January. We would love to welcome some more members to our Parent Council Meetings. These evenings are very relaxed and a great opportunity to find out about the work of the school. We are always very grateful for the tremendous support of our parents on these committees. The funds raised ensure our pupils can access many resources and experiences they wouldn't otherwise be in receipt of.

Due to the tremendous efforts of our fundraising committee last year, we have decided not to hold a Summer Fayre this session. Instead we would like to invite all our pupils to enjoy an activity day with their peers at some point during Term 4. Mrs Willox and the Fundraising Committee will be in touch in due course with further details on this.

Whole School Context

Our whole school context over the next few weeks of this term is "Our Wider World". Through this context our pupils will be exploring????????

We shall finish Term 3 by exploring????



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In-Service Training

Our staff will be busy on our two In Service days on Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th February. On these days we shall be developing our professional practice and pedagogy via a session for the whole authority by education guru Shirley Clarke. Following this we shall be looking at how we can support our pupils to develop their Skills for Learning, Life and Work through the development of our Skills Hubs in the middle and senior areas of school. Our Pupil Council have been busy working with Mrs Nicola Buchan to identify which resources they would like to purchase for these areas.

Miss Moir and Mrs Stephens will also lead a session for the staff on using Robots and Coding. It will be a busy and productive two days.

Parent and Pupil Questionnaires

This is the time of year where we ask our parent body and our P4-7 pupils to give us some feedback on how we are doing as a school. I would be really obliged if you would take the time to complete our short survey by using the QR code below (please complete a separate survey for each child you have in school). We need to hear your views to determine how we can best improve our school and continue to move forward to ensure the best learning experience possible for our pupils. Our P4-7 pupils will have the opportunity to take part in a similar questionnaire during class time.



WET WEATHER INFORMATION



Should the weather be inclement in the morning, playground doors will be opened at 8:50am.

In this respect I would request that pupils do not arrive at school

before this time and, preferably as close to 9am as possible on wet weather days. 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. It is also important that children are dressed appropriately with warm clothes and a cosy jacket for the winter weather as the playground can be a very chilly place. Should you require support with the provision of clothing, please get in touch with the school office and we will endeavour to support where we can. We have some spare cosy jackets etc in school which you would be most welcome to.

Thank you for your forbearance during our recent period of snowy weather and school closures.



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ADVERSE WEATHER CONTACT DETAILS

Aberdeenshire Council Website: <https://online.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/Apps/schools-closures/>

STAFFING

Mrs Holly Yates returns to Clerkhill on Tuesday 6th March from her period of maternity leave. We look forward to having Mrs Yates back as part of the team at Clerkhill.

We have also been joined by two new members of staff in our Nursery - Miss Chloe ???? (Early Years Practitioner) is with us ???? days per week and Mrs Kim Buchan (Equity and Excellence Practitioner) is with us ???? days per week

Our warmest congratulations are extended to Mrs Faye Sime on the birth of her beautiful baby girl last week. Both mum and baby are doing well.



May I wish you a pleasant mid term break and look forward to seeing our pupils back with us on Thursday 16th February at 9:00am

Regards,
Ann-Louise Murray
Head Teacher
February 2023