



# Clerkhill School Newsletter

## Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

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

### Dates for your Diary

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August	SCHOOL CLOSED for staff training	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	School resumes at 9:00am
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> August	School returns for all pupils (see details below for start and finish times)	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Parent Council / Fundraising Committee Meeting (6pm) - In School
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> August	P1 Trial Lunch	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu Vaccination Programme in School
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	Parent Council / Fundraising Committee Meeting (6pm) - In School	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need Day
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	P1s start full days	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> & Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	SCHOOL CLOSED for Staff INSET
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	Meet the Teacher Afternoon (2:00pm - 2:45pm / 3:10pm - 4:00pm)	Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Christmas Battered Morning (TBC)
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	P2-6 Maths Parent Workshops (4:00pm & 6:00pm) - Big Hall	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner / Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> September & Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	P1 Parent Workshops - 6:00pm	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	P4-7 Concert (1:30pm)
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	P2-6 Literacy Parent Workshops (4:00pm & 6:00pm) - Big Hall	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	P4-7 Concert (9:30am & 1:30pm)
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Individual Photos (Whole School)	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	P1-3 Concert (9:30am & 1:30pm)
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	P1 Fancy Dress Disco (3:45pm - 4:45pm)	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	P1-3 Concert (9:30am) P2 Party (1:30pm)
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	P3-7 Fancy Dress Discos P2&3 - 3:45pm - 5:00pm; P4&5 - 6:00pm - 7:15pm; P6&7 - 7:30pm - 8:45pm)	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	P3&4 Party (1:30pm)
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Whole School Sponsored Walk	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	P5 Party (1:30pm)
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents' Evening Appointments (in person) 3:30pm - 5:00pm and 6:00pm - 8:00pm Book Fair in School	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	P6 Party (1:30pm)
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents' Evening Appointments in School (3:30pm - 5:00pm)	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	P1 Party (1:30pm)
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	School closes at 3pm for October break	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	P7 Party (1:30pm) School Closes at 3:00pm for Christmas Break
		Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	School resumes at 9:00am



## Clerkhill School Newsletter

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

#### **SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS**

After two years, it was fabulous to have our parents and carers with us on both our Sports Days this year, even though our P1-3 sports had to be postponed due to adverse weather, at the last minute.

Our winning house for both P1-3 and P4-7 sports was Grange, making them the overall winning house for sports this session. In fact, Grange are the winning house overall this year. Well done Grange!

Miss Mitchell also organised an Athletics Festival for our P5-7 pupils. This took place at Catto Park on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June. Listed below are our winners from each year group from this event

P5	1st	2nd	3rd
Boys	Finlay Douglas	Jake Runcie	Levi Smith
Girls	Isla McLennan	Ellie West	Emelia Noble
P6	1st	2nd	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Boys	Eoin Buchan	Jake Forman	Zac Haggath
Girls	Myley Duthie	Lucy Joy Bowie	Freya Stephen
P7	1st	2nd	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Boys	Ollie Brown	Liam Duthie	Lewis Chalmers
Girls	Hollie Steele	Sienna Christie	Alicja Pekalska

#### **JOHN MUIR AWARD**

The John Muir Group have just completed their 'Explore Level' of the award. To complete this level they need to 'discover' 'explore' 'conserve' and 'share' their experience about a 'wild place'. They discovered three different places; the Brave Community woodland, Loch of Strathbeg and Fovie NNR. The group enjoyed the beauty of the sites, climbing trees and painting in bird hides. They were not so keen on the nettles and flies. For the conserve section the group help to plant 420 trees from the Woodland Trust as part of the 'Green Jubilee'. The group shared their experience through creating their own ebooks and recording themselves speaking about their experience on PowerPoint. Many skills were needed to complete the award including; listening, communication, organisation, resilience and perseverance. Well done to the whole group for achieving your award.





## Clerkhill School Newsletter

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

#### **BUCHAN IN BLOOM COMPETITION**

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June, the judges from 'Buchan Development Partnership' came to look at our school grounds as part of the Buchan in Bloom competition. The competition aims at encouraging primary schools to make the best use of their school grounds for environmental education purposes and to make them more interesting to everyone at the school/nursery and in the local community. Five pupils showed the judges the vegetables the classes had been growing in raised beds and the different planters which have sunflowers and wildflowers. They also explained how they had been learning about food chains that are directly linked to the vegetables and flowers that they had planted. The pupils were full of enthusiasm, knowledge and a credit to the school.



#### **DINNER TICKETS**

The cost of a school dinner next session will be £2.50. This will be for P6&7 pupils only as all P1-5 pupils are entitled to a free school meal.

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.

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

On the first day back to school, children should report to the appropriate playground as outlined in the video link below.

<https://youtu.be/0u40OPUx56E> - Lining up on the first day back

This link will be sent again to parents on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August as a reminder of the arrangements on the first day back.



# Clerkhill School Newsletter

## Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

### START AND FINISH TIMES:

START TIMES	
P1 - 7	All classes start at 9:00am
PLAYTIMES	
P1&2	10:40am - 10:55am
P3-7	10:20am - 10:35am
LUNCHTIMES	
P1&2	12:35pm - 1:20pm
P3-5	12:15pm - 1:00pm
P6&7	12:00pm - 12:45pm
FINISH TIMES	
P1 - 7	School finishes for all pupils at 3:00pm

### 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.

### UNIFORM

May I remind parents that hoodies are NOT part of our official uniform and may not be worn in school. Each year, our P7s have Leavers Hoodies designed and they are allowed to wear these in school during Term 4. This is the only time hoodies will be permitted as part of the uniform.

Our official uniform is a blue Clerkhill School sweatshirt / grey or navy jumper or cardigan with a grey or tartan skirt, grey or tartan shorts or grey trousers. Leggings may be worn but we ask that they be of a suitable quality and are not see through in any way

Pupils may continue to come to school on their identified PE days next session, with casual bottoms on, however they should continue to wear their school sweatshirt / jumper / cardigan etc on top. Specific information on PE days will be communicated by individual teachers at the start of next session. Please ensure that pupils have suitable PE attire and footwear for PE days and, in this regard a pair of indoor gym shoes or trainers should be kept in school at all times.

On Outdoor days, pupils may again wear casual bottoms with a school jumper or sweatshirt on top.

Information in this regard will also be communicated by individual class teachers in the new session.



## Clerkhill School Newsletter

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

#### **WATER BOTTLES**

As the majority of our school based COVID mitigations have been lifted, pupils are now permitted to drink from our water fountains. To minimise disruption to learning I would still encourage parents to provide their child with a water bottle to drink from throughout the school day. Whilst we would prefer that children only have water in their water bottle, should your child not like to drink water, they may be permitted to have WEAK diluting juice in their bottle.

#### **SCHOOL BAGS ETC.**

Pupils should take a school bag with them each day. Although all our pupils will be supplied with the necessary utensils for their learning in school (pencils, rubbers etc), pupils in P3-7 may take their own pencil case with them to school should they wish to do so. There is no need for pupils in P1 & P2 to take a pencil case with them to school.

#### **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 1<sup>st</sup> September (Combined Fundraising Committee and Parent Council). Our meetings this session have been done virtually and, although this has worked well, we shall be returning to in person meetings next session. It would be great to see as many parents as possible at our meetings next session. At the Parent Council meeting in September, I shall be sharing the school Improvement Priorities for Session 2022 - 2023

#### **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. To ensure you do not miss out of vital information, Aberdeenshire Council are now requesting that all parents be signed up to Parentsportal. Should you require any support with this please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

#### **STAFF NEWS**

We look forward to welcoming three new teachers to our team here at Clerkhill next session. Miss Olivia Keller (P2K), Miss Sarah Arkwell (P6A) and Ms Lorraine Bremner (P3F) will start with us on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August.

Mrs Esson and Miss Jones leave us today to commence a period of maternity leave and we look forward to hearing news of the new additions to their families when we return to school in August. We wish both ladies well as they undertake their maternity leave.

Finally, we say farewell to Ms Eva Borbely who joined our Additional Support for Learning Team here at Clerkhill in August 2021. Eva is about to embark on her retirement. We wish to thank Eva for the impact she has had at our school during her short period of time with us and wish her all the very best as she goes on to spend more time with her nearest and dearest.



# Clerkhill School Newsletter

## Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

### STAFFING

Staffing for next session is detailed below:

#### Senior Leadership Team

Head Teacher	Mrs Ann-Louise Murray
Depute Head Teacher	Mrs Linda Stephen (4 days)
Depute Head Teacher	Mrs Linda Willox (4 days)
Depute Head Teacher	Mrs Elaine Macintosh (5 days)

#### Early Learning and Childcare Centre

Early Years Senior Practitioner	Mrs Anita Buchan
Early Years Lead Practitioner	Miss Kelly Morrison
Early Years Practitioner	Mrs Elissa Stephen
Early Years Practitioner	Mrs Erin Burr
Early Years Practitioner	Mrs Suzanne McKenzie
Early Years Practitioner	Ms Julie Shelton
Early Years Practitioner	Mrs Shelley Christie
Early Years Practitioner	Ms Sharon Stevenson
Early Years Practitioner	Miss Shana Cheyne
Early Years Support Worker	Mrs Jayde Buchan

#### P1-7 Teachers

P1B	Mrs Nicola Buchan
P1S	Miss Alison Stewart
P1P	Mrs Michelle Penfold
P2B	Mrs Louise Brown / Mrs Kimberley Buchan
P2K	Miss Olivia Keller / Mrs Linda Stephen (DHT)
P3M	Miss Claire Moir
P3F	Ms Lorraine Bremner / Mrs Jemma Fraser
P3/4A	Miss Amy Ashton
P4E	Mrs Gwen Ells / Mrs Colleen Mackey
P4/5M	Mrs Jennifer Taylor/ Mrs Marina Miller
P5F	Mrs Nicola Findlater
P5W	Mr MC Ajet/ Mrs Linda Willox (DHT)
P6A	Miss Sarah Arkwell / Mrs Elaine Macintosh (DHT)
P6C	Miss Laura Chalmers
P6/7C	Mrs Gillian Craig
P7S	Mrs Faye Sime
P7P	Mrs Claire Stephens / Mrs Dianne Pressley

#### McCrone Cover

Mrs Maggie Laws (Mon- Wed)  
Miss Laura Allen  
Miss Jenna Mitchell (Mon-Wed)



## Clerkhill School Newsletter

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

#### **Additional Support for Learning Teachers**

Mrs Colleen Mackey (P4-7)

Mrs Naria Bain (P1-3)

#### **Nurture Hub Teacher**

Ms Fiona Morrison

#### **Pupil Support Worker**

Mrs Lorna Stevenson (Tuesday-Friday)

#### **Pupil Support Assistants**

Mrs Edwina Anderson

Mrs Roselyn Bruce

Mrs Annette Buchan

Mrs Edna Buchan

Mrs Eveline Chessor

Mrs Tace Donaldson

Mrs Paula Geary

Mrs Vicky Duthie

Mrs Sylvia Noble

Mrs Jennifer McLean

Mrs Alison Gilmartin

Mrs Gail Clacher

Mrs Anne Wilson

Mrs Debra Youngson

Mrs Susan Milne

Mrs Rachel Swanston

#### **Office Staff**

School Administrator: Miss Karen Stephen (Mon-Thurs: 8:00 - 4:00 / Fri: 8:00 - 3:30)

Admin Support Assistant: Mrs Susan Findlay (Mon, Tues & Thurs: 9:30 - 12:50)

Admin Support Assistant: Mrs Kelly Lawrence (Wed: 10:30 - 13:00 / Fri: 10:30 - 14:00)

#### **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, which I'm sure will make me smile on numerous occasions in the future.

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.





## **Clerkhill School Newsletter**

### **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022**

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, Clerkhill School  
July 2022



## Clerkhill School Newsletter

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

### HOLIDAY DATES 2022 / 2023

#### TERM 1

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022

In-service

Pupils return to school 9am

School finishes at 3:00pm

#### TERM 2

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>/Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2022

Christmas Break

Pupils return to school 9am

In-Service Days

School finishes at 3.00pm for

#### TERM 3

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Fri 10<sup>th</sup> & Mon 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Tues 14<sup>th</sup>/Wed 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Pupils return to school 9am

Mid-Term Holiday

In-service Days

School finishes at 3.00pm for  
Easter Break

#### TERM 4

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Pupils return to school 9am

May Day Holiday

School Closed (holiday)

School finishes at 3.00pm for  
Summer Holiday

Aberdeenshire school holidays are also found on:

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/25390/25revisedjun20.pdf>