



Clerkhill School Newsletter

Friday 14th October 2022

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

ADVERSE WEATHER CONTACT DETAILS

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

Aberdeenshire Information Line: 0370 054 4999

Clerkhill Pin number: 02 14 70

Dates for your Diary

Monday 31 st October	School resumes at 9.00am		Monday 12 th December	P4-7 Concert (1.30pm)
Thursday 3 rd November	Parent Council/Fundraising Committee Meeting (6pm) - In School		Tuesday 13 th December	P4-7 Concert (9.30am & 1.30pm)
Thursday 10 th November	First Level Numeracy Workshops - P2-4 (4.00pm - 5.00pm) TBC		Wednesday 14 th December	P1-3 Concert (9.30am & 1.30pm)
Monday 14 th - Wednesday 16 th November	Flu Vaccination Programme in school		Thursday 15 th December	P1-3 Concert (9.30am) P2 Party (1.30pm)
Wednesday 16 th November	Children in Need Day		Friday 16 th December	P3 & P4 Party (1.30pm)
Thursday 17 th & Friday 18 th November	SCHOOL CLOSED for Staff INSET		Monday 19 th December	P5 Party (1.30pm)
Thursday 24 th November	Second Level Numeracy Workshops P5-7 (4.00pm - 5.00pm) TBC		Tuesday 20 th December	P6 Party (1.30pm)
Saturday 26 th November	Christmas Buttery Morning		Wednesday 21 st December	P1 Party (1.30pm)
Friday 9 th December	Christmas Dinner/ Christmas Jumper Day		Thursday 22 nd December	P7 Party (1.30pm) School Closes at 3.00pm for Christmas Break
			Monday 9 th January 2023	School resumes at 9.00am

It has been an incredibly busy first term back at school and the majority of our learners have been working extremely hard and behaving well. It has been a pleasure to invite our parents and carers back into school this term and we look forward to seeing more of you all throughout the school year.



Clerkhill School Newsletter

Friday 14th October 2022

Meet the Teacher Afternoon

It was great to see so many parents, carers and family members in school for 'Meet the Teacher' afternoon. The pupils really enjoyed having their visitors in class and always feel proud to show off their work and classroom. Thank you to everyone who made time to come along.

Reading and Spelling Workshops

Following our 'Meet the Teacher' afternoon, we held workshops to share our new reading and spelling approach. We are now teaching all pupils using a phonics based approach which concentrates on reading (blending) and spelling (segmenting) using alphabetic codes. It was great to see parents/carers learning alongside their children and experiencing how the pupils are learning in school.

We were really pleased with the feedback that we received from these workshops and have listened to your requests for numeracy workshops to be delivered. We will be holding numeracy workshops on Thursday 10th November and Thursday 24th November. More information will be sent out nearer the time, but we hope to see as many of you there as possible.

P1 Workshops

A huge thank you to our Primary 1 staff who organised and delivered workshops on Literacy and Numeracy to our new P1 families.





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Friday 14th October 2022

Marvellous Me

We continue to use MarvellousMe as a platform for school staff to share information on your child's achievements in school and to communicate key pieces of information with you. If you haven't managed to get set up with this, please send us an e-mail on

Clerkhill.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk and one of the DHTs will be able to assist you with this.



Sponsored Walk

Thankfully, the sun was shining and we were able to complete our Sponsored Walk on Friday 7th October. Once again, we have been blown away by the generosity of our parents and wider community who have helped us raise the fantastic amount of **££££££**

A video of our Sponsored Walk has been shared via Facebook. Well done to all pupils and staff who took part!

Adverse Weather Arrangements

As we approach the winter months, we need to think about procedures for possible School Closures during adverse weather. In the event of adverse weather, information regarding school closure / partial closure / changes to school transport arrangements can be found on the website below or by dialling the Aberdeenshire Information Line (number noted below).

Please note: You will need to enter the Clerkhill Pin Number to hear information recorded on the Aberdeenshire Information Line.

Aberdeenshire Council Website : www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/closures

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Clerkhill Pin number: 02 14 70



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Friday 14th October 2022

Wet Weather Arrangements

Should the weather be inclement in the morning, playground doors will be opened at 8.50am to allow children to shelter from the rain. However, on such days, parents should try to take children to school as close to their class' starting time 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.

Parent Council and Parent Staff Association (Fundraising Committee)

Our next Parent Council Meeting will take place in school on **Thursday 3rd November at 6:00pm.** We had a brilliant turn out at our last meeting and we look forward to seeing any current and new members after the October holidays. We are always keen to see new members at meetings and everyone is welcome to come along.

Our Fundraising group work hard to raise funds for our school and we appreciate all the hard work that goes into their fundraising efforts. The PSA recently organised our school discos which were a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by the pupils (and staff) who attended. Without the support of our PSA group, our pupils at Clerkhill would not benefit from the many extras they do. Much of the money raised last session and, indeed from our sponsored walk will be used to fund our Christmas Parties and gifts and also to help us purchase some additional resources for our school.

Our next PSA event is a Christmas Battered Morning on Saturday 26th November.

Christmas Arrangements

We are delighted that we can invite parents and carers into school for a Christmas Concert this year. We have decided to do organise our concerts slightly differently this year and so we will be holding P5-P7 concerts and P1-P3 concerts. Please see the attached calendar for specific dates and times.



Clerkhill School Newsletter

Friday 14th October 2022

As usual, we shall be having Christmas parties for our pupils, and these will be funded by our Parent Staff Fundraising Association. Again, please see the attached calendar for specific dates for class parties.

Car Park

May I take this opportunity to remind all parents and carers that our school car park is for staff and disabled parking, taxis, deliveries and after school pick ups and drop offs ONLY. The car park must not be used by any other parties for picking up or dropping off children.

New School Visions and Values

At the start of the year, we surveyed all our parents, pupils and staff to decide which values are most important to our school community. The staff then worked in groups to decide on an acronym which will be used to help us to remember each of the school values.

Pupils are currently working on a competition to create a new design to represent our new school values. Our winner will work with a graphic designer to create a final design which will be used throughout our school. We look forward to sharing this with you soon.

I wish you all a relaxing October break and look forward to seeing you all when we return on Monday 31st November.

Regards,
Ann-Louise Murray
Head Teacher
October 2022