



Fishermoss School-Newsletter 22nd August 2017

'Being the best we can be'

Respect-Honesty-Responsibility-Kindness-Hardworking



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely summer. A particular warm welcome to our new Nursery pupils, pupils to Primary 1 and new Pupils in other classes starting for the first time at Fishermoss. It's been lovely seeing pupils catching up with friends and our new younger ones starting! They will all soon get into the routine of getting up early and going to bed early following the long summer break. It is great to see our pupils looking so smart in their school uniform. Thank you for supporting and encouraging this.

Pupils are likely to need some reminders about taking a pencil, rubber, PE kit, homework diaries, indoor shoes etc and a jacket for our very changeable weather. We will send pupils out on days of light drizzle with hoods up in order to get fresh air therefore pupils who think jackets are 'uncool' will need to reconsider! Thank you for sending your child to school with a suitable jacket! Can we also request pupils bring a rainy day book or puzzle, which fits into their tray, for days when we have an indoor break.

Classes & Staffing for this session are currently as follows:

Early Years Lead Practitioner-Mrs Longfield
Early Years Practitioners- Mrs Milne, Mrs Garden and Miss Charlton
Primary 1M-Mrs McDonald
Primary 1S-Miss Sang
Primary 2-Mrs Bloice
Primary 2/3-Mrs Stewart
Primary 3-Mrs Muir

Primary 4 Mrs Ferrero
Primary 4/5-Mrs McRae
Primary 5-Miss Anderson/Mr Barrow
Primary 6-Mrs Storey/Mrs Young
Primary 6/7 Mrs Sayer
Primary 7 Mrs Dawson



Mrs Rennie will be providing non-class contact time cover for various class teachers on Mondays, Mrs Middleton will be teaching science on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday and Miss Ruxton French on Fridays.

School Lunches-Changes to times and prices

As you know to accommodate the high numbers having school lunches we operate a staggered lunch hour. As indicated in our June newsletter, we will continue with the staggered lunchtime this year but with some changes to the times classes go to avoid splitting year groups, and peers,

where we have composite classes. Lunch times will be as follows: **All pupils in Primary 2 to Primary 5 will have their lunch hour 12:20-1:20pm. All Primary 1 pupils and pupils in Primary 6 and Primary 7 will have their lunch hour 12:50-1:50pm.** This facilitates our buddies being with our Primary 1 pupils as well as avoiding splitting year groups and gives a split of 6 classes in the first lunchtime sitting and 5 in the second. Everyone would like to eat lunch early but this is not possible. Primary 1 pupils do tend to take longer to eat so having them in the second sitting means we can get a significant number of pupils fed before them. There are also positives about Primary 1 pupils having a longer morning and shorter afternoon in class as they can get tired by the afternoon. A good breakfast and healthy playtime snack will all help keep hunger pangs at bay! The price of a two course standard meal in all Primary Schools will increase by 5p. From the start of the new session a **two course standard meal for pupils will be £2.20.**



Keeping Fishermoss a Happy, Healthy and Safe Place to Learn-Reminders

School Motto, Vision, Values, Aims & Golden Rules-Pupil homework diaries contain details of these. We would greatly appreciate parents discussing and reinforcing these with their child(ren) at home. There is also a section in the homework diary for parents to sign to indicate they have specifically discussed the **Golden Rules, Dining Hall Golden Rules & Playground Golden Rules** are all in your child's homework diary. We will of course also be reminding pupils about these.

Staff car park-This should only be used by staff and disabled persons. Bourtree car park is available for parents to park.

Zig-Zag lines-Please remember to avoid parking on these.



Dogs -Dogs are not allowed in our school playground and should not be left tied by school entrances.

Care & Welfare of Pupils-We are aware of the challenges that face working parents. Most of our staff are themselves working parents. We are unable to have pupils put into the school building before the start of the school day for staff to childmind. Parents should make other arrangements. Parents should also make arrangements for the end of the working day and have children collected on time.

Security-Parents must always use the main entrance to access the building and report to the school office. Parents should not access the building via cloakrooms and side entrances when lines are being taken in or pupils are being dismissed.

Parents should not approach other children in the playground regarding issues or concerns. Any issues involving pupils should be dealt with through the school, if it is a school matter, or by speaking to the parent of the pupil concerned.

Mobile Phones-Pupils should not bring mobile phones to school. If a pupil ever feels the need to contact their parents they should speak to a member of staff who will make the necessary arrangements as appropriate. If parents wish to make contact with pupils during the school day they should contact the school office. Parents may request that their child be allowed to take a mobile phone for use after school but the mobile must remain at all times in the pupil's bag during the school day. School will not accept liability for any damage or loss to the phone.

All of the above are to ensure that Fishermoss is a happy, healthy and safe place to learn where we all demonstrate **Respect, Responsibility and Kindness.**

Improving Approaches to Reporting to Parents

A reminder that following our consultation last term regarding how we report to parents, we are going to trial having our **Parent Teacher Consultations** in Term 1 rather than Term 2. Parent Consultations will take place on **Wednesday 27th September 6-8:30pm & Thursday 28th September 3:45-6:15pm.** Details to follow. Please do not hesitate to contact school regarding any issues or concerns, or indeed good news, you wish to share. Just phone, e mail or put a note in your child's homework diary and we will aim to get back to you as soon as possible.



There will be a **Curriculum Event** at school for **Primary 1 Parents at 7pm Tuesday 29th August.** This event will provide you with information about what your child will be learning at school, how you can best support with homework and an opportunity to ask questions.

The **Curriculum Event** previously held in September for other classes will now take place on **Thursday 2nd November 6-7pm.** Details will follow. The longer summer this year does mean everything will be a bit later this year.

Parental Involvement

Our two parent bodies will have their **Annual General Meetings** coming up soon and we would be delighted to see as many as possible attend to find out more about what they do and how you could be involved. The money raised by our **Parent Staff Association (PSA)** makes a significant difference to the experiences we can offer our pupils. The **PSA AGM is Monday 4th September at 7pm** and the **Parent Council AGM is Wednesday 13th Sept 7pm**. Please do come along! We need you!

Eco School and Budgets!

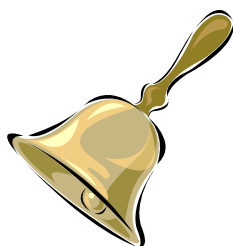
In order to save money, and to reduce our global footprint, it is our intention to continue to have as many as possible of our newsletters available sent by e mail to parents. Class newsletters will also be e-mailed. Should there be any parent who does not have internet access please contact the school office.

On the subject of budgets, if you come across any **school reading books** which have appeared under beds and in cupboards could they please be returned to school. We'd be delighted to see them back!

Our **School Handbook**, available on Aberdeenshire Council website and the school website, contains all the key information you will need about Fishermoss School.

We look forward to working in partnership with you again this new academic year as we continue to aspire to make Fishermoss a happy, healthy and safe place for learning with us all
'Being the best we can be'.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Margaret M Ferguson
Head Teacher

Dates for your diary

August

Tue 29th - Fishermoss Primary 1 Parents Curriculum Event 7pm.

September

Mon 4th - Primary 1s in for full days

Mon 4th - Parent Staff Association AGM 7pm

Wed 13th - Parent Council AGM 7pm

Thu 14th- PSA Magic Night Portlethen Academy Theatre 7pm

Wed 27th- Parent Consultations 6-8:30pm-details to follow

Thu 28th- Parent Consultations 3:45-6:15pm-details to follow

October

Fri 13th- Last day of term

Please see our June newsletter on the school website or Aberdeenshire Council website for other School Holiday dates!