Dear Parents/Carers

Our Primary 1 Nativity this morning was such a joy with so much happiness in our school hall.  I wish I could have bottled it up!

**Cinema Trip**……Thank you for the rapid response in completing the permission form!  If you haven’t already done so, we would be most grateful if you could complete this by Monday.

A reminder of arrangements for the day:

* Buses will leave school at 9:15am and return to school at approximately 12:30pm.
* All pupils will require a packed lunch and we will be eating these at school on our return.  Packed lunches should have been ordered from the school kitchen in advance via the Microsoft Permission Form provided last Friday.  Please be aware there will be no hot meals or other options available.  Payment for packed lunches for P6 & P7 pupils should be made in the usual manner as per school lunches and the cost is £2.50.  For all pupils, **if you have not ordered a packed lunch via the Microsoft Permission Form, we will assume they are bringing their own packed lunch from home.**
* Pupils can take water and a small snack with them to the cinema.  The snack should be what they would normally take for a morning break.

**Reminder of December Dates for your diary……**

Individual **Class Christmas Parties** will be held on the following afternoons:

* Mon 19th P1M & P1S
* Tue 20th P5 & P6/7
* Wed 21st P4/5
* Fri 23rd P6 & P7

Pupils can come to school dressed in party clothes or they can change at school.  Party clothes can be anything from frocks to Christmas jumpers to casual……whatever they would normally wear to a party.

Wed 21st **Cinema Outing** to Vue Cinema, Aberdeen to see Disney’s ‘Strange World’.

Thu 22nd **Christmas Church Service** 9:30am- Portlethen Parish Church-Parents are very welcome to join us.  On entry, there will be the opportunity to contribute to a collection for Aberdeen Cyrenians, if you so wish.

Thu 22nd **Christmas Lunch.** A reminder that, there is no alternative to the Christmas lunch menu being served on this day.  Online forms should now have been completed by all parents wishing their child to have a school lunch that day.

**Rotary Young Photographer Competition**……please find attached details.  The closing date for our local club competition is the 16th of January.  A fun activity for the holidays!

**Warm spaces to support cost of living crisis……** Given the extreme cold we are currently experiencing combined with the cost-of-living crisis please see below for links to local support and warm spaces/free showers/wifi/charging etc

[Warm Spaces Aberdeenshire (avashire.org.uk)](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.avashire.org.uk%2Fwarm-spaces-aberdeenshire&data=05%7C01%7Caine.wilson%40nhs.scot%7C911c6616f63a486cb3ba08dadd537747%7C10efe0bda0304bca809cb5e6745e499a%7C0%7C0%7C638065647789013358%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=uKocw7euoSUnH91xpqAdMcpxxJ74s1D9ssEppf1ywLk%3D&reserved=0)

[Cost of living crisis - Aberdeenshire Council](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.aberdeenshire.gov.uk%2Fcommunities-and-events%2Fcost-of-living%2F&data=05%7C01%7Caine.wilson%40nhs.scot%7C911c6616f63a486cb3ba08dadd537747%7C10efe0bda0304bca809cb5e6745e499a%7C0%7C0%7C638065647789013358%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=vnB4D89Fr1ZPxqjgOFlyP9tcGxLiDbNeMlpwlabL5WQ%3D&reserved=0)

[Kincardine and Mearns warm spaces - Aberdeenshire Council](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.aberdeenshire.gov.uk%2Fcommunities-and-events%2Fcost-of-living%2Fwarm-space-kincardine-and-mearns%2F&data=05%7C01%7Caine.wilson%40nhs.scot%7C911c6616f63a486cb3ba08dadd537747%7C10efe0bda0304bca809cb5e6745e499a%7C0%7C0%7C638065647789013358%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=7BOv9NBsLDQZfEZt%2BnTYWJ22xYRL83pltqmgENjnpHs%3D&reserved=0)

[Live Life Essentials - Live, Life Aberdeenshire (livelifeaberdeenshire.org.uk)](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flivelifeaberdeenshire.org.uk%2Flive-life-with-us%2Flive-life-essentials%2F&data=05%7C01%7Caine.wilson%40nhs.scot%7C911c6616f63a486cb3ba08dadd537747%7C10efe0bda0304bca809cb5e6745e499a%7C0%7C0%7C638065647789013358%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4qVkaXKuJsSNHVuahmLR4oWReSVX4EB9QcWssSo5Pfg%3D&reserved=0)

**A Guide to support in South Aberdeenshire over the Festive Period……**please see attached.

**As always**……if your child is unwell, please keep them at home until they are back in good health.  Please do not send unwell children to school to see how they cope.  Do keep them at home until you are sure they are fit and well.  We know children don’t want to miss out on class parties or other Christmas events at school but please do continue to err on the side of caution.  We really appreciate all you are doing!

Thank you for being so incredibly supportive this week regarding delayed openings and everything else that adverse weather brings.

Have a lovely weekend!

Kindest regards

**Margaret M. Ferguson**

**Head Teacher**

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Aberdeenshire Council Education and Children’s Services

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**‘Being the best we can be’**

**Respect-Honesty-Responsibility-Kindness-Hardworking**