Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for all your support this week during the wintry conditions!  We have had some beautiful days amongst it all, but snow brings its challenges for sure.

**The Gift of a Good Book** **fundraising campaign**……is now in full swing and an amazing 17% of the target has been pledged already! Thank you!  To reach the ambitious target of £10,000 by the end of March, our Parent Staff Council would like everyone to get involved! With over 300 children in the school, we can reach our target if each child raises £30.  Please stimulate your child to get involved and help reach this target. For instance, by:

* Doing small chores for neighbours/family in exchange for a small donation, e.g., wash a car, hang up some washing, take out glass recycling etc.
* Baking some cakes to sell to friends/family
* Sell some old toys
* Etc.

Together we can make this happen!

[https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/the-gift-of-a-good-book](https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/the-gift-of-a-good-book?fbclid=IwAR35HN3MrEBvxDefP7NlXcRnPw7SichyHz_PKWqyMK405NqEd2KRYUSJhzE)

**Fishermoss Has Talent 2023……**Fishermoss PSC are hosting a talent show on Friday 2nd June at Portlethen academy which all parents and family members can come and watch.They are looking for children to sing, dance, rap, play a musical instrument, perform a party or magic trick on stage and have fun with friends.Pupils can do something on their own or with friends in small groups. It would be great to have pupils showing off their skills and talents either on their own or getting together with friends.  We know we have many talented pupils at Fishermoss!  There will be lots of opportunities for pupils to practise at rehearsals that have been organised on a Tuesday after school throughout March, April and May.  If your child is keen to take part, please complete the attached form.

[**https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1vSKIKsRxOVe2T-3VomSA-tOLZ29FiczOBMLimyVQ2rA/edit**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1vSKIKsRxOVe2T-3VomSA-tOLZ29FiczOBMLimyVQ2rA/edit)

**Comic Relief Red Nose Day……**On Friday 17th March we are taking part in Red Nose Day! This year, as in previous years, we are supporting Comic Relief and The Larder Portlethen & Surrounding Areas.  This date will be a ‘Dress as you please’ day and pupils are invited to donate what they can and/or to donate an item of food for The Larder. In the past we have suggested a £1 donation however we are aware that everyone has been affected by recent events in one way or another and we genuinely do not want to add to anyone’s financial pressures, so ***please*** only give what, and if, you can.  Comic Relief tackles poverty and injustice via many incredible projects in the UK and around the world. Your donations will support Comic Relief to make a difference to millions of people.

The Larder appreciates all items of food and/or toiletries. (Dried or tinned foods ideally please for handling and transportation reasons.) Here are some ideas.

* Tins of soup
* Jars of pasta sauce and curry sauce
* Tinned vegetables
* Tinned meat – such as hot dogs and meatballs
* Pot noodles and other pasta/noodle packets
* Tinned puddings
* Biscuits/crisps
* Cleaning products
* Toiletries

Thank you for your support from Primary 3 & Primary 2/3 who are taking the lead in organising the event this year.

[**Portlethen Community Wildlife and Sensory Garden | Engage Aberdeenshire**](https://engage.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/embeds/projects/9279/survey-tools/22557)**……**Portlethen community wildlife and sensory garden……Portlethen Moss Conservation Group wish to create a community wildlife and sensory garden in Portlethen and would like your views on their proposal. The proposed garden will use greenspace, near to the shops, tennis courts and car park at The Green, which is presently kept as mown grass. The garden would offer the opportunity to get involved with gardening and caring for wildlife. Open to all, the garden will provide a space for outdoor learning, watching wildlife and relaxing. Please take part in the survey to gather views on this project to develop a community garden in Portlethen. A copy of the plan is attached.

<https://engage.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/embeds/projects/9279/survey-tools/22557>

**New School Meals Menus**……Please find attached the new menu cycle which will start after the Easter holidays.  Aberdeenshire Catering have changed the menu to a 3-week cycle for reasons including stock handling, budget pressures, supply issues and the increase in uptake of school meals.  The vegetarian option has been incorporated within the standard menu, to coincide with eating trends as well as to help with making the menu more cost sensitive.

**National Holiday 8th May 2023**……On Saturday 6th May 2023, His Majesty King Charles III will be crowned at a ceremony in Westminster Abbey.  A national holiday on 8th May 2023 has been agreed by the UK and Scottish Government and as such, services including schools will be closed on that day.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.  Safe travels if you are out and about anywhere snowy!

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**