



Dear Parents/Carers

It seems like a lifetime since we started this academic year and there is much to be thankful for! It has been great to have our Primary 1 pupils, new pupils and Nursery children start their adventure with their Fishermoss Family. It has also been special to welcome parents for our Primary 1 Curriculum Evening, Parent/Teacher Consultations and for our Senior Pupils' Abernethy Residential Trip meeting. These were **opportunities to support you to be involved in your child's learning**. We have also welcomed, and enjoyed having, foundation apprenticeship students from Portlethen Academy attend for work experience in our school as we continue to support with Developing the Young Workforce by progressing their skills for learning life and work.

## Parent Staff Council

A heartfelt and sincere thank you to all who attended our Parent Staff Council (PSC) AGM. There was a lot of enthusiasm and support from parents, and staff, in attendance who are so willing to give up precious time for the benefit of all Fishermoss pupils. We are also very grateful to those who put themselves forward to serve as Office Bearers which enabled a Council to be formed. We are aware that not all parents are able to attend PSC meetings but do not fear, there will be lots of different opportunities for you to help throughout the course of the year. You will notice several references made to the **PSC** throughout this newsletter.

## Global Warriors & Pupil Council



**'Fishermoss pupils are listened to, valued and respected and feel they are involved in making decisions in the school'.**

At Fishermoss School all pupils are 'Global Warriors'. Being a Global Warrior is about knowing and understanding our world and having the right values, knowledge and skills to make the world a better place. It is about positive relationships and building safe, happy and healthy communities. At class circle time meetings, our pupils share and discuss ideas for ways to improve our school, which includes ways to improve the way we learn, global and environmental issues and what we can do for others. e.g. Eco Schools, Fair-Trade, playground improvements, charities to support etc. Global Warrior meetings are now held online through TEAMS which means all pupils can attend and not just Pupil Council class representatives. These meetings allow for on/offline breakout discussion and bring together class ideas to decide on the most effective ways to bring about change and improvements to our school, our environment, our community and beyond. Class representatives often take on the role of the spokesperson to share class discussions and views through TEAMS. We greatly value and respect the views of our pupils and the vital part they play in making decisions at school.

As usual this term, following pupil presentations and class votes, our new **Pupil Council** members i.e., class representatives, have been appointed and were presented with their badges at assembly. Thank you to our **PSC** for providing the badges. Congratulations and well done to **Noah Murray (P2/3)**, **Aniela Palys (P3)**, **Noah Fromholz (P3/4)**, **Anayah Brown (P4)**, **Rebekah Anderson (P5)**, **Matthew Harrison (P6)**, **Wumi Mtika (P6/7)** and **Brynn Murphy (P7)**. Pupil Council is made up of representatives from Primary 3 to Primary 7.

## Annual School Sponsored Walk

The money raised by this event is currently just over £3,000! This is incredible support of Fishermoss School. Thank you to all who came to help and joined in and to pupils and parents for their efforts to get sponsorship! Every penny raised makes a real difference to our PSC funds and all pupils benefit. It was super to see so many family members join us and a great time was had by all from Nursery through to Primary 7. We enjoyed glorious weather and the ice lollies at the end were a



welcome treat for pupils, and parents enjoyed refreshments and a chat in the hall afterwards. Our thanks to ASDA for providing the ice lollies free of charge!

## Crazy Hair Day



It was great to see so many amazing hair styles arrive at school for Crazy Hair Day in support of our PSC Christmas Fayre! Pictured here are some of our Primary 7 pupils who certainly followed the brief of being smart in their school uniform but with crazy hair styles. Thank you as always for your donations to the PSC stalls for this year's Christmas Fayre, which will be held Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at Fishermoss School!

## Curriculum News this Term!

**Primary 1 to Primary 7 classes** experienced an **outdoor session** with Keilidh Ewan, Education and Outreach Officer with the **River Dee Trust**. The sessions focused on **River Dee Wildlife** and **Fishing on the Dee** with an emphasis on nature appreciation, fun and teamwork to promote health and wellbeing. The River Dee Trust is a community-based charitable company.

**Primary 5** took a trip into Aberdeen to visit the **Maritime Museum** as part of their Social Studies topic. They experienced a workshop where they were able to handle objects related to the history of the fishing industry in Aberdeen, including whaling. A quiz was completed relating to fishing and many fascinating objects were discovered by the pupils. Primary 5 also had a visit to the classroom by **Joey Wilson**, our **School Cook**. She shared information and answered questions about her husband's job as a lobster fisherman. She brought some cooked lobster for the class to look closely at and discussed the life cycle of the lobster.

**Primary 5 to 7 classes** enjoyed 3 taster sessions this term arranged through **Active Schools** with **Mackie Rugby Club's** new development officer, Scott Simpson. We hope this has inspired some of our pupils to consider rugby as a sport they would like to get involved with. Our pupils are to be commended for their enthusiasm as it was not always blue skies, and mud did feature quite a bit!



**Primary 3/4 & Primary 4** are responsible for organising our participation in the **Rotary Shoe Box Appeal** this year, as part of their work as **Global Warriors**. They have been busy preparing high quality PowerPoint presentations in the hope that they will encourage as many pupils as possible to share the message at home to help those less fortunate to have a special **Christmas Day!** Sophia-Leigh Taylor, Finlay Docherty, Jayden Wemyss, Amy Cruickshank and Finlay Purves in Primary 4 did a super job sharing their presentation at the P4-P7 Assembly and the same can be said of P3/4 pupils Noah Fromholc, David Hagyar, Edwyn Gilchrist & Carina Paterson who shared their presentation at the P1-P3/4 Assembly. They ensured we had all the information we needed to know about the Shoe Box Appeal. The classes have clearly been developing their skills for the **'World of Work'** such as planning, organising, communicating, working with others and taking **responsibility** as they take the lead on the Shoe Box Appeal at Fishermoss. If your child/children would like to fill a shoe box then please fill in the form using the link;

<https://forms.office.com/e/Wzq3B95Ur6>

The shoe boxes will be given to pupils on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October. Once filled, shoeboxes should be brought back to school by your child, and they will be collected from their classrooms. The deadline for returning Shoe Boxes is **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November**.



## Assemblies

Assemblies are held every Wednesday afternoon this term for P1 to P3/4 & P4 to P7. As parents, you will be invited to attend your child's/children's 'Class Assembly' where the class will be involved in the creation and delivery of the assembly. Details will appear in class newsletters as appropriate. For children in our Primary 1 & P1/2 classes, this will take the form of a Nativity next term.

Our assemblies very much focus on our school's vision, values and aims. The emphasis being on supporting our pupils to become **successful learners** with enthusiasm and motivation for learning; **confident individuals** with physical, mental & emotional wellbeing and self-respect and ambition; **responsible citizens** with respect for others and a commitment to participate responsibly in their community and the wider world and also **effective contributors**, who can communicate, work together, be creative and enterprising.

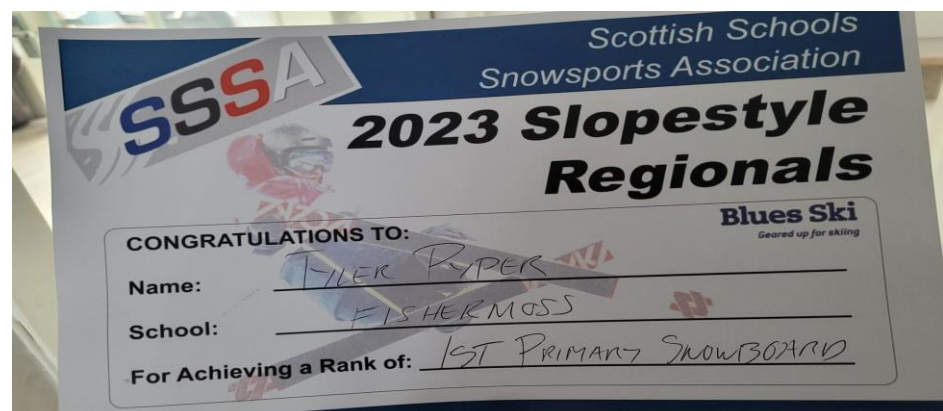


Regular features at assembly include us focusing on '**Good News about Me**' where pupils share wider achievements and the '**Golden Book**' where individual pupils are given a special mention for significant effort in work, and also in relation to their class charter and the Golden Rules. '**Learning Celebration**' assemblies focus on curriculum subject areas where pupils have been **hardworking**, have done particularly well and certificates are presented.

Assemblies this term included our new **Pupil Council Representatives** being introduced and information on their role was shared. We also had a focus on our School's motto, values, **Children's rights**, the **well-being indicators** and the **Golden Rules** and what the expectations are for all in the playground, classroom and in the wider community. We have shared the role of all pupils as **Global Warriors** and it being their **responsibility** to be the best they can be. As previously shared, pupils from Primary 3/4 & Primary 4 took the lead in sharing presentations about the Shoe Box Appeal.

## Snowsports stars continue at Fishermoss!

Over the years we have been delighted to have pupils who are actively involved with Snowsports use the name of our school as they compete. This term we saw **Tyler Pyper** in **Primary 7** enter a regional snowboarding competition and he won **Gold Medal!** This is a fantastic achievement. Rumour has it there may be others waiting to join Tyler to create a Fishermoss Snowsports Team.... watch this space! Congratulations to Tyler!



## Staff News

We are all very excited that Miss Mellis our Primary 2 teacher will be getting married in the October holidays and will return as Mrs Taylor! We wish the future Mr & Mrs Taylor a wonderful wedding day and many happy years together.

## Children in Need

As part of our work as 'Global Warriors', we will be supporting the Children in Need charity on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> Nov.** All pupils and staff are invited to 'Dress as They Please'. Dressing up can range from pyjamas to sports gear to frocks to fancy dress to casual. Whatever you please! Some primary classes will be running enterprising stalls in the morning to raise funds for the Children in Need charity, which may include activities ranging from playing games, face & nail painting to selling bakes. Pupils in P1-P7 can bring some pennies to school to spend on these activities. Stall activities will range in price from 10p to 50p. Pupils being involved in planning and implementing this type of event gives scope for application of pupils' learning in the use of money ranging from simple coin recognition to profit and loss at some stages. Pupils develop communication skills, teamwork and explore rights and responsibilities. A rich context to develop their skills for learning, life and work! We look forward to a fun filled fundraising Wednesday at Fishermoss!



## Poppy Scotland

As always, we are supporting this important appeal. Collection tins and poppies will be circulating in classes after the holidays.

Finally, we are aware there are several references being made to charity and school fundraising events in this newsletter. Do as you feel led and able. There is no pressure or burden intended.... all are being arranged to help and support those in need...both near and far!

Wishing our Fishermoss Family a lovely Autumn break!

Yours sincerely

Mrs Margaret M Ferguson  
Head Teacher



## Some dates for your diary-Term 2 2023

### October

Mon 16<sup>th</sup>- Fri 27<sup>th</sup>- October Holidays! School closed to pupils and staff.

Mon 30<sup>th</sup> -Term 2 begins.

### November

Wed 1<sup>st</sup> - **PSC** Halloween Discos P1-P3 6-7pm & P4-P7 7:15-8:15pm

Fri 10<sup>th</sup>- Rotary Shoe Box Appeal-last day to return boxes to school.

Wed 15<sup>th</sup>- Children in Need - Dress as You Please Day

Thu 16<sup>th</sup> & Fri 17<sup>th</sup> - Staff In-Service Days-School closed to pupils & parents.

Thu 23<sup>rd</sup> - **PSC** Meeting 6:30pm

Tue 28<sup>th</sup> - Thu 30<sup>th</sup> Portlethen Santa Run!

Thu 30<sup>th</sup> - Santa Run @ Fishermoss...hot chocolate available at school @ 6:30pm!

## December

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> - **PSC** Christmas Fayre @ Fishermoss- details to follow.

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> - Primary 1 & Primary 1/2 - Nativity to P1 Parents-10am-details to follow.

Tue 19<sup>th</sup> - Primary 1 to 7 Christmas outing to the Cinema-details to follow.

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> - End of term Christmas Church Service 9:30am-Portlethen Parish Church

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> - School Christmas Lunch-details to follow-see Joey

Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> - Last day of term 2

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Dec to Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Jan - Christmas Holidays!

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024-Term 3 begins!