Dear Parents/Carers

**We have had a number of pupils sent home from school today due to vomiting.**  **Norovirus**……sometimes referred to as the **winter vomiting bug**, is the most common cause of gastrointestinal outbreaks and can occur in the community-schools and nurseries in particular, especially at this time of year.   The symptoms caused by noroviruses are usually a sudden onset of non-bloody, watery **diarrhoea and/or vomiting** which can be projectile, usually lasting 1-2 days.  Other symptoms may include abdominal cramps, muscle aches, headache, a feeling of weakness and a slightly raised temperature.  Staff/pupils can become symptom free then relapse with more symptoms a few days later.

Norovirus infection can occur throughout the year but is **most common from mid-October to April.**The virus is highly contagious; therefore,isolation is key in stopping the spread of infection by limiting the contact between sick staff/pupils and those who could contract the illness.  Staff/pupils who are sick should stay home from school until they have recovered. Further information regarding preventing the spread of infection can be found on our website under the tab InformationàHealthcare & Medical with a link to:

<https://fishermoss.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Norovirus-Managing-Gastrointestinal-Infection-in-Schools.docx>

**Children in Need…...**As part of our work as **‘Global Warriors’**, we will be supporting the Children in Need charity on **Wednesday 15th 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 if they so wish to spend on these activities.  Stall activities will range in price from 10p to 50p.  **It would be really helpful if your child had loose change.**  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!

On this note, I have received the following communication from a group of Primary 7 pupils……’***Hello Fishermoss Family!  We are delighted to inform you that on Wednesday the 15th of November we are doing Pudsey Day, as you may already know. P7, Mrs Morrison’s class, are doing a hair product stall.  We would like to ask if you do not want your child to have any hair products used on them that you email us and tell us.  Thank you.’***

Thank you for your kindness in supporting the Rotary Shoe Box Appeal and the Poppy Appeal.  I can also share great news from our PSC in that together we raised £2889.49 with our school sponsored walk, £353.20 with the Halloween Discos and £278.40 through the Christmas Cards!  Thank you for all your support of these events! Our Fishermoss Family at its best!

Finally…..we always enjoy welcoming visitors to Fishermoss, and often former pupils will knock on my office window on their way home from the Academy for a chat.  This week I had a parent come to say hello at my office window….a very eco mode of transport!  Never a dull moment at Fishermoss!

A wee reminder that Fishermoss School will be closed to pupils and parents on Thursday 16th & Friday 17th November for staff In-Service Days.

Have a lovely weekend!

Kindest regards

**Margaret M. Ferguson**

**Head Teacher**

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Aberdeenshire Council Education and Children’s Services



**‘Being the best we can be’**

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