Dear Parents/Carers

We hope you had a lovely mid-term holiday!  Speaking of holidays, please see below……

**School Holiday / Term Time Consultation 2025-2030**……Some Fishermoss Family Friday Homework for parents & pupils, as appropriate.  Please find below a link to the consultation survey for the school holiday and term dates from 2025 to 2030.  The current pattern of school holidays, term dates, and In-Service days are set until July 2025. Aberdeenshire Council has developed a draft calendar for the next five years (2025/2026 through to 2029/2030) and would like to hear the views of parents, carers, pupils, staff and the wider public before the dates are finalised.  The survey should take approximately 10 minutes to complete and will close on the 22nd March 2024. If you have any feedback or comments that you would like to share please email education@aberdeenshire.gov.uk(External link).  The Education & Children’s Services Committee of Aberdeenshire Council will consider the results of this consultation at which stage the final set of term dates will be approved and thereafter published.

Link: <https://engage.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/school-holiday-and-term-dates-2025-2030-consultation>

**Fishermoss School ‘Show & Tell Curriculum Event’ Wed 21st February 4-6:30pm**….This will be an opportunity to visit your child’s/children’s classroom(s) to find out more about the experiences your child is having at school this session.  Our pupils have a lead role in this event as they will be responsible for sharing their learning with you so we need them to attend too as they will be your guide!  The event very much takes the form of an informal **‘show and tell’**.  To manage the number of individuals in the building at any one time, parents are to sign up for a **30-minute block** in their child’s class or in each of their children’s classrooms. As before for Parent Events, you must be signed up to Parents’ Portal.

Later today you will receive a Parents’ Portal email to book your 30-minute block.  You will receive 1 email per child.  There will be 4 blocks to choose from:

* 4-4:30pm
* 4:40-5:10pm
* 5:20-5:50pm
* 6-6:30pm

The 10-minute gap is to allow for parents to leave the building, or move to their next child’s class, before the next cohort of parents arrive.

Parents are to select 1 x 30-minute block for their child.  Within each 30-minute block there are 10 available spaces.  So, for example, if you select the 4-4:30pm block, the booking system will show times such as 16:01-16:02, 16:02-16:03 etc all the way to 16:09-16:10…. ignore these very specific times as this was the only way to create 10 time slots in each 30-minute block.  Just select any and it means you are booked for that 30-minute block.  As each of the 10 slots are booked, they will disappear in the booking system.  This all sounds complicated but when you go in and do it all will become clear. The last date for booking is Tuesday 20th February.  Please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school office next week for any help you might need.

The event is arranged in 4-time blocks as potentially for each block there could be 10 pupils and 2 adults per pupil making 30 people in the classroom at any one time.  If we did not organise the event in this manner, we could potentially for a class of 28 pupils have 84 bodies in a classroom at once.  This would not make for a meaningful or enjoyable show and tell curriculum event.  Please therefore do attend for the 30-minute block you book.  If you have booked for more than 1 child, please do not go to your next classroom until your next booked time slot.

To ensure that learners make continuous progress in their learning, reporting opportunities need to be regular, meaningful, purposeful and on-going throughout the academic year. As much as possible our pupils should be involved in the reporting process through on-going reflection and dialogue about their learning.  It is also important that reporting fully involves and values the role of parents and carers, as we know that parental engagement has a significant impact on learners’ progress.  Pupils will be sharing their Learning Celebration Books & Folders with parents as part of this event and Parents are encouraged to add comments and to support their child to include wider achievements.

For the event, parents and pupils should enter the school building as follows:

* Primary 1/2 Mrs MacDonald, Primary 1 Miss Sang & Primary 2 Mrs Taylor à infant entrance, round the back of the building and up the steps…by the hopscotch.
* Primary 2/3 Mrs Bryson/Mrs Cameron & Primary 3 Mrs Muir à right round the back of the playground & building then up the ramp.
* Primary 3/4, Primary 4 & Primary 5 à side entrance by the steps to the public path.
* Primary 6, 6/7 & Primary 7 à main entrance at the front of the building.

You will have your children with you so they will be able to show you the way.

**World Thinking Day……22nd February** is a very special day in the Girlguiding calendar. It is when they celebrate the birthday of founders, Lady Olave Baden Powell, and her husband, Sir Robert Baden Powell. On this day, Girl Guides think of all the thousands of girls, in the many countries of the world, who are part of the organisation and of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.  Traditionally members of Girlguiding have worn their guiding uniform to school when 22nd February has fallen on a school day as it does this year. To mark this memorable day, we would encourage girls in our school who belong to the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides of Coastal North or the other groups of the surrounding area to wear guiding uniform to school on Thursday 22nd February.

**Primary 7 Leavers Hoodies……**Thank you to Mrs Barrowman, one of our Primary 7 parents, for arranging the ordering and purchase of Leaver’s Hoodies on behalf of our Primary 7 parents & pupils.  These will be handed out to pupils at school assembly on Tuesday 27th February in time for their Abernethy Adventure.  Pupils can wear their hoodies from Monday 4th March, but hoods should remain down whilst inside the school building and classrooms.

**School Photographer…..**A reminder that class photographs will be taken by our school photographer on the morning of Friday 1st March.

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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