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ROSEHEARTY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MAY 2024

You'd be forgiven for thinking we're in the home stretch of the school year – term 4 is possibly one of the busiest of the year. Everyone has been very busy through term 3, with lots of exciting learning happening. Please take some time to read through some of the updates below.

Staffing

Mrs Hutton is still off work following her fall. Mrs McConochie (usually our music teacher) has been teaching in Primary 1/2 four days a week, with Mrs Buchan and Mrs Duthie helping out on the fifth day. We hope Mrs Hutton makes a speedy recovery and can join us before the end of the school year.

Mrs McGuckin is also currently signed off work, meaning that Primary 6 have not had their usual teacher on a Monday – Wednesday. Mr Bennett has been covering these days so far this term, with Mrs West ensuring learning is planned out for a bit of continuity. We continue to look at what staffing solutions we can find for the upcoming weeks.

With Mrs McConochie now in class for the foreseeable future, she is not delivering her usual drama and music sessions.

Miss Devine will re-join our team at the end of May, supporting with staff absence if required and undertaking some school development work.

Both Mrs Hutton (current P1/2 teacher) and Mrs Downie (Pupil Support Assistant) have taken the decision to stop working and will be leaving Rosehearty School at the end of the current session.

Session 2024-25

Planning across the authority has already begun for staffing and classes for the new school year. According to Aberdeenshire Council staffing formula, we will remain as a six class school. At this point we are looking to have Primary 1, Primary 2/3, Primary 3/4, Primary 4/5, Primary 5/6 and Primary 7. Our staffing for this model is yet to be confirmed, but clearly will be communicated to you once plans are finalized.

If you know of any families who are likely to be moving to the area over the summer, please encourage them to make contact with the school as soon as possible. Equally if you are planning to move homes and your child not return to Rosehearty School after the holidays, please let us know as it will help us in our planning of classes and staffing.

School Inspection

We have been notified that inspectors from Education Scotland will be visiting Rosehearty School and Nursery in the week beginning 20th May this year. You will shortly receive an email with information around this, as well as links to an online survey, which we encourage you to complete by 9th May.

Breakfast Club

Our breakfast club continues to run each Tuesday and Thursday, which is currently open to children registered for Free School Meals.

Transitions

With some big moves coming up for some of our children, transition planning is already well underway. Our Primary 7 pupils have had a visit to the academy for an enterprise event, attended James Ramsay Park for a transition rugby festival and will soon be attending a further event at the running track. We have successfully secured some spaces on the academy's enhanced transition program, supporting some young people who may just need that extra reassurance.

Our Primary 6 pupils have also had their first taste of the academy, also attending an enterprise transition event with pupils from other schools. The academy hope that by starting the transition process earlier, the move wont' seem quite as daunting by August 2025.

Our youngest learners have also begun their journey to the 'big school,' with lots of opportunities planned for experiences in the school, meeting Miss Park (their new teacher after summer,) their P6 (soon to be P7) buddies and other members of staff from across school.

This week we invited our newest parents to the school (those joining P1 and those joining Early Years) for a tour of the school, very ably led by some of our Primary 7 pupils.

Learning Letters – Google Classroom

Your child's termly learning letter will be landing in your inbox soon. As always, have a look at the 'How you can help at home' section for ideas to support and extend learning at home. The learning letters are also displayed at the front foyer.

Please do keep an eye on your child's Google Classroom for things you can do at home for extra support – particularly spelling words. As always, if you have difficulties in accessing this please let the office know and we'll help you as best we can.

Boost Maths

Last term we began to move to a new maths program of work. We've purchased some updated textbook materials in school, as well as some new assessments (just like the reading ones we started last year.) This will help us be more confident when assessing our children's abilities. You may have noticed a wee QR code to the Boost online platform in your child's home-school notebook – this will be used both in school and at home. This will run alongside Education City for the meantime.

Learning Journals

If your child has attended in nursery in the recent years, you'll likely be very familiar with this platform. As a school we have engaged with profiling learning digitally through Learning Journals. This means that every child in the school will have a central point to share their learning successes. You may have heard of other schools using a similar tool called 'See Saw.' We have been working in school over the past few months to find our feet with the Learning Journals platform and have now started to invite parents to view these too. You should by now have received a permission slip to gain access, where you will be able to create a parent account and join this to your child/children's accounts. This will allow you to comment and contribute to your child's online profile.

House Activity

Congratulations to Dundarg House who were the winning house last term, enjoying the treat (as chosen by the pupil council) of a Mini Disco. The term totals have been reset and everyone is working hard for their house to reach success this term – the treat is a water fight which I know will be very exciting (and wet) for the winning house!

The pupil council will meet shortly to decide on the reward for the overall winning house of the year. They have already decided that they want to take a trip somewhere, but will hopefully decide upon a destination very soon.

Last term we spent an afternoon in our house groups looking at the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC.) Whilst we are no longer accredited through the Rights Respecting School award, we still demonstrate our commitment to upholding the rights. This is promoted in every classroom by a class charter, and our house meetings gave us the opportunity to really re-focus on how we help each other enjoy our rights.

School Uniform

Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to our uniform survey. It's clear to see that there is still strong support for a school uniform, though some responses have given us some food for thought. Our plan now is to pull together everything we have and provide a revised uniform guidance document, which we'll share with you in due course.

Winners Everywhere

We've had lots of people experiencing success recently:

- Some P6 pupils have had their stories selected for publishing.
- Many pupils won a prize for their logo entry for New Aberdour Church.
- Many children in the Anchors and Juniors won awards for various things at their recent presentation evening.
- Every class had a winner and runner up in the egg decorating competition on the last day of term.

Charity Work

Last term everyone had great fun wearing something red to school for Red Nose Day. Many people brought in some money to buy noses, which meant we were able to make a school contribution to red nose day of just under £300.

At the end of term service we presented The Archie Foundation with a cheque for £250 from the donations made at our Christmas concert – this was the charity voted for by the pupil council.

We're very excited for this weekend, where our school choir will join The Archie Foundation at the Tivoli Theatre in Aberdeen as part of the fundraising variety show. There may still be tickets left – these can be found online.

Across our Communities

We want to re-introduce this section to our newsletter, where local groups or organizations can share their news via our newsletter, if you are a leader of a group or know someone who is, please let them know they can contact the school office with anything to be included.

Parent Council

It's incredible to believe that we are once again in the final term of the school year. The Parent Council have had another successful year of supporting the school, fundraising and of course, discussion.

Our recent fundraising efforts have seen over £1000 raised at both the Family Bingo night and our more recent Soup & Sweet. Keep an eye on Facebook for details of our final fundraiser of the year, which is sure to appeal to many!

This brings me onto our new "Parent Council Information" board in the foyer.

Next time you pop into the office or library, stop and have a look at our new information hub. You'll find the date of upcoming meetings & events, fundraising total for the year, information about class representatives and other useful information. Also there you'll see a QR code, which when scanned allows you to contact the Parent Council with any ideas, opinions, questions etc you may have. Give it a go!

When we re-convene after the summer, we will be in a position where the current committee must step down. Please consider joining us, or indeed stepping into a role where you can help shape the future & continued success of the Parent Council.

Finally, after many years of service to the Parent Council we say "Goodbye" to Vicky Irvine. She has been a solid member of the Parent Council for well over a decade and her input & experience has been invaluable to us. We wish her, and the girls all the best as her Primary school association draws to a close.

Enjoy the final term!

Lynne Bruce, Chairperson.

New Aberdour Community Council

Recently we had a beach clean at New Aberdour Beach where members of the local community came along to help. A great job was done by all. I attach a photograph.

We also have our upcoming community council meeting on Monday 3rd June at 7pm in New Aberdour hall and this will also be our AGM. All members of the community are invited.

Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association

The 1st Rosehearty Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association recently held our annual awards night. Our Inspecting Officer, Head Teacher Mr Mike Taylor, saw a programme of activities before presenting all Boys with their badges and awards. Well done all!

We also recently held a successful Buttery morning which raised £1029 for Company funds. Thanks to all who supported us!

The BB and GA are now on holiday until the end of August. All Boys in P1-P3 are welcome to join Anchors (meet Tuesday nights 5.30-6.30pm), whilst Boys in P4-P6 and Girls in P6 are welcome to join Juniors (meet Tuesdays 6.30-8pm). All in P7 and up are welcome to join Company Section (Thursdays, 7-9pm).

AND FINALLY

With such a busy term ahead, you'll need to keep atop all the events and activities. We've attached a calendar for you with all the key dates we have so far, though some things do change as the term goes on. We will try to keep you up-dated as best we can. A physical copy of this is always displayed on our information board at the front door. Please do keep an eye on both your emails and Xpressions – we also use the private school Facebook group too. If you are not receiving messages please contact the school office where we can check your details on our systems.



Calendar 2023-24

TERM 4 (12 weeks)

Mon 15 th April	Back to School School Photographer – Class Photos
Tues 16 th	Fluoride Varnishing EY – P4
Weds 17 th	Fluoride Varnishing EY – P4
Sat 4th May	The Archie Foundation Variety Show – School Choir Stage door 5:30pm
Mon 6 th	MAY DAY - HOLIDAY
Wed 8th	Enhanced Transition to Fraserburgh Academy Visit 1 of 3
Thurs 9th	P7 Sharing Workshop – 9:45-10:30am
Mon 13th	P1 Parent Induction – 2-3pm
Mon 13th	Enhanced Transition to Fraserburgh Academy Visit 2 of 3
Tues 14 th	Transition 24 Running Track Event for P7
Tues 14th	Early Years Parent Induction – 10-11am
Wed 15th	P7 Loch Insh Final Balance Due
Fri 17 th	P1/2 Class Assembly – 2.30pm
Mon 20th	Inspection Team in School
Mon 20th	Enhanced Transition to Fraserburgh Academy Visit 3 of 3
Fri 25th	Whole School Outdoor Session at James Ramsay Park
Mon 3 rd June	HEALTH WEEK – Sports clothes all week
Mon 3rd	Additional One-Off Enhanced Transition Visit to Fraserburgh Academy
Thurs 6 th	Sports Afternoon (Option 1)
Fri 7 th	Potted Sports (am)
Fri 7 th	Progress Summary ('Report Card') issued
Thurs 13 th	Open Afternoon & Open Evening
Fri 14th	P5-7 Trip to Fraserburgh Reaper and Grateful at Fraserburgh Harbour
Mon 17 th	P7 Parents Information Evening at Fraserburgh Academy
Mon 17 th	P7 Induction Day at Fraserburgh Academy
Tues 18 th	P7 Induction Day at Fraserburgh Academy
Weds 19 th	P7 Induction Day at Fraserburgh Academy
Wed 19 th	Move up Morning
Fri 21 st	Shorts n Shades Disco (Parent Council)
Mon 24th	P7 Leavers Assembly and Prize Giving - 1.30pm
Weds 26 th	P7 Residential Trip to Loch Insh
Thurs 27 th	P7 Residential Trip to Loch Insh
Fri 28 th	P7 Residential Trip to Loch Insh
Fri 28th	P1-P6 Trip to Watoto Children's Choir at Central Church Fraserburgh
Tues 2 nd July	P7s to watch Fraserburgh Academy Summer Show
Weds 3 rd July	Water Fight for Winning House Term 4 (PM)
Thurs 4 th	Trip to <Destination TBC> for Winning House for the Year
Fri 5 th	LAST DAY OF TERM – DRESS DOWN DAY
Fri 5 th	P7 Leaver's Lunch <i>End of Session</i>

Correct at 01/05/24