



Newtonhill Newsletter

13 January
2017

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Welcome Back

We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break and it is lovely to see all the pupils and staff back in school.

As we begin a new year, there are a few areas I would like to highlight to all parents/carers.

Christmas in the Community

Children and staff hugely enjoyed their carol singing in the community. Thank you to everyone who came along to our various events and to those that attended the whole school outdoor carol concert and supported the P7 Community Café.

We hope Nursery and Primary 1 parents enjoyed the Nativity.

Thank you to everyone for your kind donations. We will be investing in a new sound system for school and your support is greatly appreciated.

Group Call Application

We recently provided instructions on the new Group Call app. We would encourage you to download this free app to receive school notifications.

Absences

Parents and carers can now notify the school of a pupil absence by sending a text message to 07860 029128. We ask that this happens prior to 9.30am where possible. Please do not send texts relating to any other matters.

- Thursday 19 January – FON Meeting
- Tuesday 31 January– P4/5 Assembly
- Wednesday 1 February – School Disco
- Tuesday 7 February– P6S Assembly
- Thursday 9 February – Occasional Day (Holiday)
- Friday 10 February – Occasional Day (Holiday)
- Monday 13 February – School Holiday
- Tuesday 14 February – In Service Day
- Wednesday 15 February – In Service Day
- Tuesday 28 February– P6M Assembly
- Wednesday 8 March – P4 Assembly
- Tuesday 14 March – P3/4 Assembly
- Tuesday 21 March – P7CK Assembly
- Friday 31 March – End of Term
- Tuesday 18 April – Term 4 begins

Appointments

Although we encourage medical and dental appointments to be scheduled out with school hours, there may be occasions when this is not possible.

If you are collecting your child from school please always report to the school office and remain there. A member of staff will collect your child and bring them to you. This ensures that Aberdeenshire Child Protection guidelines are followed.

Should you wish to speak to a teacher prior to school starting then please also contact the school office.

Behaviour and Golden Rules.

As part of our restorative approaches Miss Bainbridge is training some of our P5 and P6 pupils to become playground superheroes. The pupils volunteered to be part of this positive behaviour system and more information will be issued in the near future.

The Pupil Council are working with Mrs Tullock to review and update our behaviour and reward systems and expectations.

Friends of Newtonhill (F.O.N.)

Friends of Newtonhill will be meeting on Thursday 19th January at 7pm in the staff room. F.O.N. is a joint body for Parent Council and Parent School Association. All parents are welcome to attend.

The Christmas Fair was a resounding success. Thank you to everyone that came along on the day.

In the current financial climate we are even more grateful to FON for their fundraising efforts. We have recently been able to purchase two new smartboards which cost around £1000 each. The smartboards in school are in need of replacement so to have this financial support is much appreciated.

Staffing

This term we are delighted to welcome Ms Lumbard to Newtonhill. Ms Lumbard is an ASL (Additional Support for Learning) Teacher and will be working Tuesday to Friday.

Last term Mrs Middleton and Miss Clark joined the school as Pupil Support Assistants. We now have our full allocation of PSAs.

Assemblies and school events.

This term we are very fortunate to have a variety of events in school. We have football coaching, SSPCA visiting classes and Generation Science presenting a show to name but a few. However this does mean that we have had to change our assemblies this term.

Assemblies will now be a Tuesday afternoon. This term we have class assemblies from P3/4, P4, P4/5, P6M, P6S and P7CK.

With the exception of Primary 4 all of these assemblies will be on a

Tuesday afternoon. Primary 4 will be on a Wednesday afternoon.

Tues 31 Jan (pm) – P4/5

Tues 7 Feb (pm) – P6S

Tues 28 Feb (pm) – P6M

Wed 8 March (pm) – P4

Tue 14 Mar (pm) – P3/4

Tue 21 Mar (pm) – P7CK

Reporting

As part of our new reporting to parents, we will issue pupil profiles before the February mid-term break. A summary of progress and achievement will be issued before the Easter break.

Water Bottles

Please can we remind parents and pupils that water bottles for use in class should only contain water and not juice. If you wish your child to have juice then please provide for playtime or lunchtime.

Road Safety

The community council have highlighted that some children are not using the Zebra Crossing correctly. This will be discussed in school but we would appreciate if you could also discuss at home how to safely use the crossing. Please refer to 'Tales of the Road' (page 10 & 11) which was sent home to all families on 26th of September.

P1 and Nursery Enrolment

P1 enrolment took place this week and nursery enrolment runs from 23rd January to 3rd February.

Lesley Tullock
Head Teacher