



# Newtonhill Newsletter

## 2 November 2015

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

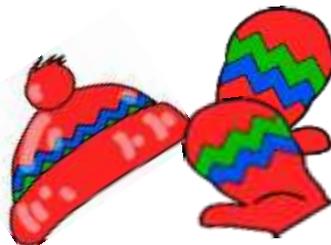
## Term 2

Welcome back. I hope everyone enjoyed their October break. We have a busy term ahead of us and look forward to the many exciting learning opportunities and activities that are planned.

Thank you to all parents who attended the parent consultation evenings. Many thanks to all those that contributed to our discussion boards on the school motto 'RESPECT'. We will be using your comments and suggestions, along with pupil and staff suggestions to review and develop our aims, values and vision. We are also reviewing and developing our 'Curriculum Rationale' and would be most grateful for your views, opinions and suggestions.

### Autumn/Winter

As the autumnal weather continues and winter approaches we ask that the children are suitably equipped for the weather conditions. At this time of year all pupils should have coats with them and, as we do try and ensure that they can have their breaks outdoors, gloves, hats and appropriate footwear will also be necessary.



- In--service Day Monday 16 November and Tuesday 17 November
- Pupil Council and JRSO to visit AMEC Thursday 26 November
- F.O.N school Christmas Fayre Saturday 21 November
- Open Afternoon Tuesday 24 Nov
- Bags 2 School Wednesday 2 Dec
- Artie's Tartan Tale Nursery – P3 Thursday 3 December
- School Disco Wednesday 9 December
- Primary 1-3 Nativity – The Very Hopeless Camel Monday 14 December and Tuesday 15 December
- Nursery Nativity Wednesday 16 Dec
- School Christmas Parties Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 December
- P4-7 cinema visit **TBC**
- Last day of Term Tuesday 22 December

## Effective Contributors & Responsible Citizens.

This term we will continue to support a variety of charities. In the coming week Primary 5/6 will be selling poppies in support of the 'Scottish Poppy Appeal'.

We will have 2 non-uniform days this term. This first is in support of 'Children in Need' on November the 13<sup>th</sup>. The pupils can come to school dressed as a **super hero**, they can '**Pudsey-fy**' themselves with his ears, wristbands, bandanas etc or they can come with a '**Hairdare**' – the wackiest, craziest hairstyle they can create.



We ask for a minimum **£1** donation on non-uniform days which will go towards the selected charities.

The second non-uniform day will be Christmas themed day with monies raised being split between a charity and school fundraising.

We will be supporting one of our Newtonhill parents - Suzanne Davies. Suzanne has raised in the region of £40000 pounds for 'The Brain Tumour Charity'. Suzanne was diagnosed last year with a tumour and has raised a huge amount of money in the 18 months since then. She has also

been nominated for STV's - RBS Finding Real Heroes Award.

The date for this non-uniform day will be confirmed in due course.

We also hope to fundraise for this school this year as we wish to make improvements to the outdoor learning areas and school playground.

## Successful Learners and Confident Individuals.

In school we continue to celebrate the pupils' accomplishments through our excellence factor and will also be highlighting personal successes and triumphs in our 'Book of Achievements'.

The children in Primaries 5-7 have successfully completed their training for the St John's Ambulance Young First Aider Awards. The skills cover Health and Wellbeing outcomes within Curriculum for Excellence and will stand our children in good stead for their future.

We would like to congratulate Rory McIver for his success in Scottish Opera. Rory was selected to be part of the children's chorus and has been performing in the production of Carmen that is currently touring Scotland.

Primary 2 were part of a very successful circus skills workshop and gave a great presentation to the school and parents

Eco Club has recommenced this session. Mrs McKenna and Miss McKenzie have a busy programme

planned for all the pupils in the club.

## Enhanced Provision Consultation

Our Pupil Council has been involved in meeting with Aberdeenshire officers and Mr. Hamilton from Education Scotland as part of the consultation process for the Enhanced Provision to be relocated to Portlethen Primary.

## School Open Afternoon

This term we would like to invite all parents/carers to our open afternoon on Tuesday 24 November, 1.30 -3.00pm. We always welcome parents and carers into school as partners in the education of your children.

We hope you will take this opportunity to come in and see children at work.

Further information will follow.



## Christmas

This year our Christmas celebrations will take a different format. Primary 1-3 will present 'The Hopeless Camel' nativity on the afternoon of Monday 14 December and Tuesday 15 December. More information will be issued in due course. Other classes will be given opportunities

to participate in performances at a later date. There will be no charge for this event but to ensure numbers for health and safety reasons in our school hall ticket order forms will be available later in the session.

Nursery to Primary 3 will be attending a Christmas Show in school on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December and **Primary 4-7** will be visiting the cinema to see **'The Good Dinosaur'**. The date for this is still to be confirmed and information will be issued as soon as possible.

Christmas Parties this year will take place on the last 2 days of term, the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of December. Primary 4 and 5 will have their party on the afternoon of Monday 21<sup>st</sup>, Primary 1-3 will have their party on the morning of Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Primary 6 and 7 will have their party on the afternoon of Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### Friends of Newtonhill (F.O.N.)

The Friends of Newtonhill have been very busy organising fundraising events. The children, once again, designed their own Christmas cards. There was a very successful photo session in September with all slots were booked up in advance. The next highlight in the FON calendar is the School Christmas Fair which takes place on Saturday 21 November.

There will be a fantastic array of stalls enabling you to do some Christmas Shopping whilst enjoying festive refreshments and participating in craft activities and

games. Please let your friends and neighbours know about this event and invite them to come along to support the school. The next school disco will be on Wednesday 9 December. There will also be a pre- Christmas Bags2 School collection. Bags will be distributed shortly for collection in early December. We greatly appreciate the work that parent volunteers put into these events.

### Staffing

We are delighted to have Miss Lynsey Thow join us as a member of the teaching staff. Miss Thow will be teaching Primary 5.

This term the school will also have Miss Reid (science), Mrs Baker (music), Mr Waz (P.E.), Mrs Sutherland (art) and Ms Ruxton (MLPS). Joining us this term is Miss Thomson who will teach art on a Wednesday and Mrs Middleton will return to teach art, P.E. and core subjects.

Mrs Carolyn Mackie joins us today, Monday 2 November as our school administrator and the clerical position will finalised soon

Mrs Donald leaves us on Thursday and we wish her well and thank her for all the hard work she has done in the office. We particularly appreciate her tremendous effort in covering the administration role in addition to her clerical duties during the last term.

We still have an SFL vacancy and continue to try to fill this until Miss Butterly return from maternity leave.

### School Website

Our website is currently under reconstruction but we would appreciate if all permission forms could be returned regarding the display of photographs and children's work.

### Car Park

Once again can I remind all parents that the bus lane is for the school buses and taxis. Please do not use this lane to park or drop off children. The drop off lane is not for parking. It is for all parents to use and access as a drop off zone and this becomes very difficult when some parents choose to park there.



### Finally ....

This term is always exciting and busy and as winter does approach there is always the possibility of severe weather. We will e-mail information highlighting the arrangements in the event of extreme winter weather along with this newsletter i.e. website information, Parent Information telephone line and Pin number. Please keep this information in a safe place for future use.

As always please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or issues you would like to discuss.

*Lesley Tullock*

Head Teacher