

# Bervie Primary

## School

### Newsletter



*29th April 2016*

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you enjoyed the break and that the children have had the chance to recharge their batteries ready for a busy, final term. It's been a delight to see everyone back in school, looking happy. We enjoyed the sunny weather last week and have been wrapping up warm in the snow and hail this week! We do hope however that there will be lots of opportunities to take learning outside this term. It may not look likely right now but it's always worth thinking about sun protection for your child as we head into the summer months, by popping a baseball cap (named) and/or sun cream (labelled with their name) into their bag. The children should be able to apply this themselves to help protect them from the sun's rays. Alternatively, apply long lasting lotion at home before coming to school. This term is always very busy. The P7 residential trip to Ardeonaig, P6 Bikeability training, transition meetings and events for our incoming P1s and our outgoing P7s, Sports Days, P7 show, netball & football tournaments and events, whole school walk to Gourdon..... to name but a few. A list of dates is included at the end of this newsletter.

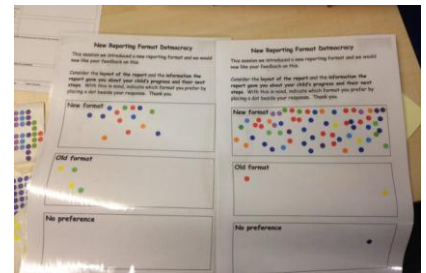
### Staffing

We are sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Ewan, PSA, who has worked at Bervie for almost 4 years. We'd like to thank her for all her hard work and wish her all the very best for the future. Mrs Borkowska has reverted to her maiden name, Ms Fiebig, (pronounced 'Fee-a-big) over the holidays so we will all be doing our best to remember and practise saying this correctly. Miss Garden will begin her maternity leave today and we wish her all the best with her forthcoming arrival. Miss Cathro has been appointed as acting Lead Practitioner in Nursery and is looking forward to continuing, and building upon, the good work which exists there.

### Pupil Reports/Parent Consultations

Annual pupil reports were issued last Monday and we had our two pupil/parent consultation sessions this week which were well attended. Thank you to all who came to discuss learning and progress. It's always lovely to share the children's achievements and the work of the school.

We asked everyone who attended for feedback on our new report format, designed as part of our involvement in Aberdeenshire's 'Improving Approaches to Reporting' group. Votes were cast in our 'Dotmocracy' and the new format came out overwhelmingly on top, which we will feed back to the authority in our evaluations.



Nursery reports will be issued in a few weeks and we have three different times for consultation appointments. Times will be offered on Mon 23rd May from 9.30-11.30am, Tues 24th May from 4-6pm and Wed 25th May from 1pm-3pm. These details will be included with the Nursery report.

### Can Do Council Plans

Our Can Do Council also took charge of a Dotmocracy on our school values. It was a very close run thing but the votes are in and.....EFFORT came out on top! This fits in with much of the work we've done this year on promoting a Growth Mindset and The Learning Pit. It does not mean that



we do not think Equity and Equality are important. Many felt that these were built in to our approach towards being an inclusive school and so was intrinsic in our other value - INCLUSION. We will let everyone know about the change and launch our updated set of Values in August at the start of the new session. Thanks to Elspeth & Abbie for making such a good job of explaining what this was all about to those who stopped to vote.

Later in the term we hope to once again hold an Eco Green Day and our Rights in Action Day and the Can Do Council will keep you informed of dates and proposed activities as the term develops. We have once again been very impressed by our Can Do Council class reps who have worked tirelessly with Miss McNab and Miss Buchan. They do a fantastic job, giving up lunchtimes to organise events, fundraise and make sure their class mates are kept up to date with information. They are also very good at bringing ideas from their classes to the meetings so that everyone's voice can be heard and will be running another Open Surgery to gather ideas and suggestions. Well done!

### **Clubs & After School Activities**

We are delighted at the range of activities which are available for children this term and hope those who've signed up to attend have a great time developing their skills and knowledge through the fun activities planned.

Monday - Lunchtime Art Club, Netball & Science Club

Tuesday - Streetdance

Wednesday - Cookery Club, Gardening Club & Knitting Club

Thursday - Streetdance

Friday - Lunchtime Fitness Club, Cookery Club & Read and Write Gold Ambassadors

### **Well Done!**

Congratulations to all those who entered the Rotary Photography Competition. The judges were impressed by the high standard of your entries. Pupils from many of our cluster primaries took part and we were delighted when one of our pupils, Kyle Thomson, P5, was selected as the heat winner in the 7-11years category. We wish Kyle all the best for the next round of the competition.

All our pupils, as well as the children at Inverbervie Pre-School Group, were given the opportunity to submit entries to a competition run by the Bervie Art Show Committee. This year's theme was 'Space'. The winners were chosen at the opening of the Art Show at the beginning of the holidays. They are as follows:

Nursery & Pre-School - 1<sup>st</sup> Isla F (Inverbervie Pre-School)

P1 & 2 - 1<sup>st</sup> Lily Kennedy (P2/3)

P3 & 4 - 1<sup>st</sup> Robyn Faith (P4)

P5 & 7 - 1<sup>st</sup> Lily Fell (P7)

Overall Winner - Lily Fell (P7)

Congratulations to all our successful budding artists but also well done to everyone who took part. Mr John Hamilton, from the Art Show Committee, will present prizes at an upcoming assembly.

We also need to say well done to the P4 & P5 pupils who represented us here in Bervie in the Sportshall Badminton Challenge last term. Our team made it through to the next round which takes place in Banchory today. Good Luck!

### **Head Lice**

Unfortunately we are aware that there are still a few cases of Head Lice which have recurred since the holidays. We share the frustration of parents who have had to treat their child on numerous occasions but the only way to try and eradicate this is for all parents to make regular checks of their child's head. The advice we received from our school nurse is still available on our school website. Aberdeenshire Policy requires 10% of the pupils in one class to be confirmed cases before we can notify parents of all the other pupils in the class to check or treat their children. We would urge you to let the school office know each time your child is infected. Information is treated in strict confidence and individuals are never identified. We would therefore ask that all parents/carers check your child's head this weekend and treat as necessary and then continue to check regularly. Many thanks for your support.

## **Aberdeenshire's Smoke Free Policy**

In May, Aberdeenshire Council will introduce a new Smoke Free Grounds Policy in all of its establishments. Council buildings have been smoke-free for some time now but under the terms of the new policy, school grounds will also be included. This will come into force for schools in August 2017 so we thought it would be useful to flag it up in advance. Given that we are unaware of many parents/carers smoking within the school grounds, this should not have a major impact on existing arrangements. This policy will however extend to events such as social evenings such as the Family BBQ etc and will mean that if anyone wishes to light up, they will have to go beyond the perimeter fence of the school grounds to do so from August 2017.

## **Upcoming Events**

On Thursday, 2nd June our P7s will be staging their show, 'Cinderella Rockerfella'. They have been busy rehearsing and will be working on props and scenery in the coming weeks too. Primary 7 parents will be given first opportunity to buy tickets however there are usually still some seats available. Information will be sent out nearer the time but put the date in your diaries - it promises to be a great show! Tickets are priced at £3 each or £10 for a family of 4.

On the subject of great performances, we must mention P5 and P5/6 who each presented fantastic adaptations of 'MacBeth' to parents, family & friends, in the last week of term. This was a culmination of all the work they did during the term and there were many moments of high drama as they managed to capture the tension and emotion of one of Shakespeare's most well-known plays. Many budding thespians between the classes!

During the session, several of our classes have shared elements of their learning through a class assembly and we are always delighted when parents, wider family members and friends are able to join us for these. A number of class assemblies are due to take place this term and class teachers will issue more information to parents however dates are included in the list below.

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July will be our final 'Dress as You Please' day. We are once again planning to have a whole school picnic lunch that day with everyone encouraged to take a packed lunch which, weather permitting, we will enjoy outside. Our school kitchen can prepare a school packed lunch if required and leaflets about this will be sent out nearer the end of term. The Can Do Council will be helping us with our plans for fun activities throughout the day. More information will follow.

## **Bits 'n' Bobs**

FoBS host their Race Night this evening and it promises to be an event full of fun! Many thanks to all involved whether organising or attending and to the generosity of those sponsoring the races. We really appreciate the support from our parents and these amazing fundraising efforts help us to provide so many additional benefits for your child's learning.

Police Scotland have been running a Road Safety Initiative across Kincardine & Mearns during April. We would like to highlight their advice in reminding everyone that parking in restricted areas around the school increases the risk to our pupils. It is also important to observe recommended speed limits- especially close to the school. Finally we would gently remind parents that the school car park is for staff only and children should not be walked through it to attend school or nursery. Thank you in advance for helping to keep all those in our school community safe.

Portlethen Basketball Club are holding an event in Inverbervie Sports Centre and would love to see many of you go along - whether you've played basketball before or not. Details are included at the end of this newsletter.

Finally the African Children's Choir will perform a concert on Saturday 14th May at 7.30pm in Bervie Parish Church. Tickets are £5, available from from Bervie Post Office or Zandra Taylor on tel: 07860103400. The Choir consists of 18 orphan children, age 7-11, from Uganda and their incredible singing and dancing will amaze and uplift you. A great night out for all the family!

### **Dates for your diary this term:**

Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	FoBS Race Night
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	MAY DAY HOLIDAY - School closed to everyone
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	P5 Class Assembly
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	P7 trip to Ardeonaig & P6 Bikeability training starts
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	BSA Meeting 7pm
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	P1L Class Assembly
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Nursery reports out
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	P7 & Nursery Group photos - Tempest
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Book Fair begins
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Nursery Parent Consultations (9.30-11.30am)
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	P2 Class Assembly & Nursery Parent Consultations (4-6pm)
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Nursery Parent Consultations (1-3pm)
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Sports Day P1-3 potted sports 9-10.30am, P4-7 flat races 11-12.15pm & P4-7 potted sports 1.30-3pm (weather permitting)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	FoBS Family BBQ
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	P1 Induction Meetings 2.30pm and 6pm
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	P7 Show - 'Cinderella Rockerfella'
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	P7 Aiming High session in Bervie (other schools attending)
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Nursery Sports 10.15am and 2pm (weather permitting)
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Rights Respecting School Reaccreditation Visit
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Whole school celebration of success
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 v Parents netball/football matches (am) & whole school walk to Gourdon, weather permitting (pm)
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	P1MS Class Assembly
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 3-day induction visit to Mackie
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	New P1 pupils - class visit and internal class transitions - 'Meet Your New Teacher'
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Goblin Green Power Car Event at Alford Transport Museum all day
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Pert Netball & Football tournaments (early evening)
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Rag Bag collection
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Dress as You Please & whole school picnic lunch
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	P7 Leavers Church Service, 1.30pm, end of term.

### **Dates for Session 2016-2017**

Staff Development Day	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> August 2016
Term 1 begins for pupils	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> August 2016
Term 1 ends	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2016
Term 2 begins	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2016
Staff Development Days	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2016
Term 2 ends	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2016
Term 3 begins	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2017
Holiday	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2017
Staff Development Days	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2017
Term 3 ends	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2017
Term 4 begins	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2017
May Day Holiday	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2017
Term 4 ends	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2017

Please keep our list of dates somewhere handy for reference. There are still additional dates to be agreed by the Mackie Schools Network and we will inform you of these once they have been decided.

You'll see from our diary dates that we are hosting another Book Fair this term. It will run on Thursday 19th May, Monday 23rd May and Tuesday 24th May. If you think you might be able to help out with manning the fair at the end of the school day, please contact Mrs Simpson who will be putting a rota of helpers together. Any support with this is always very much appreciated, thank you.

As always, if you have any queries or concerns about any of the information above please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours Sincerely

Susan Smith  
Head Teacher