



33Rothienorman Primary School



Bulletin No 9: 8th May 2017

Dear Parents

Nursery Trip to Windyhills

Children, parents and staff had a great day on 28th March taking part in an Easter trail with lots of fun environmental activities. They had a lovely picnic and enjoyed the puppet show from Kidgloves. Thank you to all the friends and family who were able to join us and make the day such a success.

Outdoor Learning at Fyvie

P5,6,7 visited Fyvie on 29th March where they enjoyed exploring the environment and having fun with various Easter activities. P1 have started their topic on Fairytales and enjoyed using their imaginations at Fyvie on 2nd May. Nursery children are continuing to benefit from their weekly visits to Fyvie and seeing the changes with the seasons; they are particularly enjoying watching the swans as they build and sit on their nest.

Staff Training

Staff have recently taken part in the following professional development:

- The Learning Environment in the Early Years (EY Federations)
- Modern Languages: French: Using Songs and Games
- Tapestry - Improving Transition to Secondary
- Early Years: Seeing the Wood for the Trees
- How Good is Our Early learning and Childcare: Self Evaluation 3
- First Aid
- Dodgeball
- Leadership in Early Years

Care Commission

Maureen Mathieson from the Care Inspectorate carried out an unannounced visit to our nursery on Tuesday 2nd May. She accompanied the morning session to Fyvie then looked through paperwork and spoke with staff in the afternoon. It was a light touch inspection due to our previous inspections being of a consistently high standard. Both areas that she inspected were found to be 'very good' and in general she was very impressed with our nursery and the experiences that we provide for the children.

Meldrum Rotary Primary Schools Quiz

Our P7s did really well at the Rotary Quiz on 23rd March.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Egg Hunt organised by the PPG went very well on Sunday 23rd April and raised £266.70 for school funds. This event was well attended and everyone seemed to enjoy the walk and working out the clues. Thank you to everyone who helped make this such a success.

Assemblies

As part of our work on developing a **Growth Mindset** at our assembly on 18th April we focused on learning from our mistakes (PowerPoint and link to Sesame Street song we used can be found on *Glow*).

Ian Begg from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) joined us for assembly and visited both nursery classes on 25th April to discuss the dangers of water and how we can keep ourselves safe. Thanks to Kyle for being 'lifeguard' for the day! Many of our nursery parents joined us for the presentation. If you would like to see the PowerPoint or video that was shown, it can be accessed in the RNLI folder in the Assemblies folder in the documents store.



Well done to Cameron and Libby who won our Road Safety group's competition to design a safe outfit. They received exciting prizes (compass to attach to their bike or bike toolkit). Adrianna and Tabby from Grampian Regional Equality Council (GREC) joined us for assembly on 2nd May to discuss the importance of diversity and treating everyone with respect. They also joined the P6,7 and P5,6,7 classes to have further discussions on these important issues.

On 9th May the **EcoWarriors** helped present an assembly on how we can improve how we do our recycling. The classes are all going to audit what goes in our **recycling** and rubbish bins over the next fortnight in order to ensure better use of our bins. We also discussed how there should be no food remains going into the food recycling and children suggested that they could take the likes of yogurt pots from packed lunches home to wash so that they too can be recycled. Thank you for any support and encouragement you can provide at home on this topic.

PPG Coffee Morning

Our P6,7 pupils sang 'Waltzing Matilda', Australia's best known bush ballad to our PPG coffee morning on Thursday 27th April. They also challenged the parents to a quiz about Australia (this is their topic this term) which Xander and Ellis delivered very well.

Staff and Pupil Changes

I am pleased to welcome Arlene Rae to the post of Early Years practitioner for Kylie's maternity leave. She started with us on Tuesday 2nd May. We are also delighted to welcome Leo to P3. Our 3 students are also back with us this term; Ms Chloe Cattell (P1), Ms Angela Eddie (P6,7) and Ms Katy Henderson (P4,5).

P4 Swimming

Our P4 pupils have begun their block of swimming lessons at Inverurie pool.

P6,7 Dalguise PGL Residential Trip

Most of our P6,7 pupils will be going to Dalguise from Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June with Mr Wood, Mrs Whytock, Mrs Murray and Mrs Gibson. The P5s from the P5,6,7 class and the remaining P6,7 children will have Ms Eddie as their main teacher that week. Ms Maclean and Mrs Ward will be the main teachers for the P3 class that week.

Chanter Demonstration and Tuition

Mr Andrew Gray from Aberdeenshire Music Service provided chanter demonstrations to P4,5; P5,6,7 and P6.7 classes on Monday 8th May. Pupils interested in being considered for chanter lessons took home a letter with further information for parents.

Our Musicians

We have a number of children who get lessons in a variety of instruments both within and out with school time. We always enjoy hearing how they are progressing so if anyone would like to play to the rest of the school at assembly either individually or as part of a group then please let me know so that we can organise this over the next few weeks.

Open Event on Friday 12th May

We are looking forward to seeing as many parents as possible at our open session at 9am on Friday 12th May. Please let us know if you are able to come along as it helps us to plan for the event. Thus will be a good opportunity for you to see and hear more about what we have been focussing on in school this session e.g. Glow, Growth Mindset, jazz, numeracy, learning through play, modern languages, outdoor learning, etc. There will also be further information on the important role that the PPG play at Rothienorman School.

Summer Reading Challenge

Aberdeenshire Libraries' Summer Reading Challenge is a fun and accessible activity for children of all ages and aims to promote reading, encourage progression, support curricular outcomes and involve children in cultural activity. The organisers design the challenge to ensure that children of all abilities are able to take part and encourage participants to read their own choice of books, listen to talking books or download and read e-books over the school summer holiday period. Library staff across Aberdeenshire promote

the Challenge within their CSN and local community and as a result participation has grown year on year. The theme for this year's reading challenge is all about Books and their Illustrations - "**Be Drawn into a Good Book**". The Challenge starts on **Thursday 22nd June** and will run until **Saturday 26th August 2017**. Alongside the reading challenge, there will be a creative competition for children to enter. The link shows an introduction to the Challenge from our "Virtual Librarian". <https://youtu.be/S4FyiV2J8hs>



Photographs

The Evening Express photographer will be visiting on Tuesday 16th May to take the P7 photograph for their 'Last Class' feature. Shoot Bamboo is visiting on Friday 26th May to take class photographs.

Transition Arrangements

Information regarding transition arrangements for children starting Nursery, children starting Primary 1 and children moving to Secondary has been communicated to the relevant families.

Regards

Ms. Julie Symington,
Head Teacher.

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2016-2017

Friday 12 th May 2017	Open Event, all welcome, 9.00-10.30
Tuesday 16 th May 2017	Evening Express: Last Class P7 photo
Wednesday 17 th May 2017	P4,5 and P5 to Fyvie
Thursday 18 th May 2017	Football Tournament, 4pm
Friday 19 th May 2017	P2,3 and P3 trip to Aden Country Park
Monday 22 nd May 2017	P1 trip to Castle Fraser
Friday 26 th May 2017	Shoot Bamboo Class Photographs
Monday 29 th May - Friday 2 nd June 2017	P6,7 pupils to PGL, Dalguise residential trip
Monday 5 th June 2017	School closed (occasional day)
Tuesday 3 rd - Thursday 5 th June 2017	P7 to Academy
Wednesday 7 th June 2017	P3 outdoor learning at Fyvie
Thursday 8 th June 2017	Step Up Afternoon
Wednesday 14 th June 2017	P1 to Fyvie
Thursday 15 th June 2017	Sports Day (1 st choice)
Wednesday 21 st June 2017	P2,3 to Fyvie
Thursday 22 nd June 2017	Sports Day (2 nd choice)
Wednesday 28 th June 2017	P3 to Fyvie
Friday 30 th June 2017	School closes