

# Rothienorman School Newsletter

April 2023

Dear Families,

The Easter holidays are here already! I wish you all a lovely holiday and look forward to seeing you in term 4! As you can see from the list of dates and the length of this newsletter, term 4 is going to be a very busy term!

## Staff Update

Danielle Barrow, Early Years Lead Practitioner, in the nursery has been successful in securing a PSA position in a nearby school and will be starting there immediately after the Easter Break. We would like to thank Danielle for all her efforts over the years and wish her all the best in her new job. Luckily Danielle remains as part of the school community as one of our parents.

## School Improvements

We are continuing to progress with our 3 school improvements for the session:

### School improvement 1: Literacy

Teaching staff have completed 3 sessions of Big Writing training and are working collegiately to ensure that there is a consistent and progressive approach to writing throughout the school.

We have recognised that we are still limited in upper primary novels and are exploring options for novels that will appeal to our pupils. We are looking forward to adding to our collection in term 4.

### School Improvement 2: Maths

The Maths Development Group continue to explore mental maths approaches that would support learning in Rothie School. They have also been adding resources to our maths progressions to support a consistent approach. We will have more of a focus on maths in session 2023/24.

### School Improvement 3: Health and Wellbeing

We are continuing to develop our understanding of emotions and feelings through Zones of Regulation. Our Health and Wellbeing Development Group are working on a Positive Relationships Policy and have created pupil and staff questionnaires to inform this policy. They are also creating a parental questionnaire that will be sent out in term 4.



## REMINDER DATES:

Fri 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 – Last day of term 3

### Term 4

Mon 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 – First day of term 4

Tues 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 – Class Photographs

Wed 19<sup>th</sup> April – Library Van Visit

Mon 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 – May Day holiday

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> May – King's Coronation Holiday

Sat 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – Spring Fair

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – P1 Induction Evening

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – Formal Reports to parents

Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> & Wed 24<sup>th</sup> May – Parents Night

Wed 31<sup>st</sup> May – Library Van Visit

Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> & Mon 5<sup>th</sup> June – Occasional Days – no school or nursery

Wed 14<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day (TBC)

Tues 20<sup>th</sup>, Wed 21<sup>st</sup>, Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> June – P7 Transition to Meldrum Academy

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> June – Step-up day

Mon 26<sup>th</sup> – Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> June – P7 Residential Trip to Loch Insh

Fri 7<sup>th</sup> July – Last day of term 4

Please click [here](#) for the annual calendar 2022/23

## Class Photos

The photographer will be in school on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April to take class photographs.

## Upcoming dates

Please note, there are a few holidays that land in term 4 this year. These are:

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May – May Day

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May – King's Coronation

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Occasional Day

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June – Occasional Day

## Library Visits

Live Life Aberdeenshire library services will be visiting Rothie School and Nursery in a Library van equip with books on three occasions during term 4 with the first visit taking place on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April. They will offer a Bookbug session with our nursery pupils and each class including the nursery will visit the van to borrow books. Pupils who are members of the library will be able to borrow books to take home on the day, however they **must** have their library card with them. Those who aren't members will receive a flyer to take home with them on how to join the library and will be able to borrow books to read in their classroom. The library van will be back to Rothie on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May and again at the end of June and into term 1 of next session. This is a fantastic opportunity for pupils to read for pleasure and we are grateful to the library service for offering these sessions to us.



## Spring Fair

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May Rothie School and the PPG are holding a Spring Fair. This will be from 10am to 12pm and we will be looking for pupils from each class to volunteer approx. 30 mins to work on their class stall. More information and volunteer requests will come out next term. The PPG are looking for raffles to be donated, please hand these into the school office.

## Bikeability

This session P6 and P7 will be undertaking Bikeability training during term 4. Pupils have taken their bikes into school to ensure that they are safe and roadworthy for the training sessions in term 4. If any repairs or adjustments are required one of our parents, Mr Hawcutt, has kindly offered to repair the bikes for free! He can be contacted through his business AB51 Carbon Clean and would only require the parts for any repairs. I'm sure you will all join me in thanking Mr Hawcutt for this.

Further information about dates of these sessions have been sent home in separate letter. Please get in touch with the school if you can volunteer your time on any Tuesday or Thursday mornings next term, thank you.



### Reporting to parents

This session we will be sending our formal reports home in term 4 via Parent's Portal. This will be followed up by a parent interview to discuss your child's progress. Reports will be sent out on Parent's Portal on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May with our parent interviews taking place on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May. If you have not signed up to Parent's Portal please follow this link: <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school-info/parents-portal/>

We only have a handful of families not signed up to Parents Portal, therefore anyone not signed up will be asked to collect their child's school report from the school office, these would be available from 3:15pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May. Unfortunately, we are unable to send reports home in pupils's schoolbags.

I will be seeking feedback from families on our reporting process after the parent interviews to ensure that the process fits the needs of our school community.

### EPS leaflets

Aberdeenshire Educational Psychology Service have some useful leaflets on key topics that contain advice for parents and carers. The aim of these leaflets is to help parents and carers help build resilience, connections and secure attachments. These leaflets can be found [here](#).

### And Finally...

I hope you all have a wonderful Easter Break. As always, please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or comments via the email address [rothienorman.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:rothienorman.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk).

Kind regards,

Mrs M Strachan,  
Head Teacher



@RothieSchool

<http://rothienorman.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/>



@CrudenHilton