

Rothienorman School Newsletter

July 2023

Dear Families,

I can't believe it is the end of the school year already. I'd like to say a huge thank you to the pupils, staff, families and school community for giving us such a great year in school. It has been very positive with a lot of successes and fun.

Staffing

We have a few changes to our team next session. Miss Sim (P1/2 Teacher) and Mrs Gould (PSA) will be leaving us for new ventures. We wish them all the best in their new schools and in the future.

Mrs Robertson (Family Link Worker and PSA) is taking a career break to engage in study for a year. She will return to Rothie School in session 24/25. We wish her all the best in her studies.

We will be welcoming a probationer teacher, Miss Taylor, to the team who will be our P3/4 teacher. Miss Taylor has visited the school a few times and some of you may have met her during Sports Day.

Mrs Hughes (PSA) will be joining us a few more days a week to cover during Mrs Robertson's career break.

Transitions

We are looking forward to welcoming our new pupils who are joining us next session as P1's. They have had positive visits up to school in the last few weeks, I'm sure they will enjoy P1 as much as they have enjoyed their visits.

We will be saying goodbye and all the best to our P7 pupils who are moving on to Meldrum Academy and Inverurie Academy. They are really excited about this move following their 3-day visits earlier this month. They celebrated the end of Primary School with a fantastic residential trip to Loch Insh. Miss Burdge and I could not have been more proud of the pupils who represented the school brilliantly.

Their time at Rothienorman will finish on Friday with a P7 Leavers Assembly. P7 parents are invited to attend this assembly, get your tissues ready! The assembly is on Friday at 9:30am in the school hall followed by tea's and coffee's.



REMINDER DATES:

Term 4

Mon 3rd July – Nursery Sing-a-long afternoon

Tues 4th July – Thank you Tea for parents

Fri 7th July – Dress Down Day

Fri 7th July – P7 Leavers Assembly – P7 families welcome

Fri 7th July – Last day of term 4

Session 2023/24

Term 1

Mon 21st Aug – Inservice Day (no pupils)

Tues 22nd Aug – Start of term 1

Tues 22nd – Fri 1st Sept - P1 pupils in half days

Mon 4th Sept – P1 pupils in full days

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

Achieve your SPARK!



Reporting to Parents Consultation

Many thanks to those of you took the time to share your views on our Reporting to Parents Questionnaire. These were mainly very positive, but it came across very clearly that Seesaw is very much missed by families (and staff!). We have been investigating a replacement for this and have decided to purchase Learning Journals for the whole school. This is currently used successfully in the nursery. Learning Journals provides us with a tool to share learning and also to be used as a profiling tool to track the learning journey of our pupils. This is an area that the other platforms were not able to provide for us. More information about Learning Journals will come out early term 1.

Feedback from the QIM/QIO Visit

In June we had a support visit from our QIM/QIO team. As part of the visit, they engaged in classroom visits, met with staff, pupils and a parent. The feedback following the visit was overwhelmingly positive. They found that the main strengths observed in the school was the sense of 'team' within the school community, the positive and nurturing relationships within the school as well as the positive behaviour of the pupils. They agreed with our next steps of ensuring that there is appropriate pace and challenge for learners however they recognised that the initial steps of having consistent and progressive approaches to learning were already in place that allow us to better assess the pupils learning and identify next steps in learning.

Parent Volunteer Thank You

Just a wee reminder that parents are invited to our thank you tea on Tuesday 4th July in the school hall. This will be from 2:15-3:15pm and is a small way of thanking everyone who has helped out this year. Without the help of volunteers, the children would not be able to participate in trips, Bikeability, swimming and more. Without the support of fundraising, we would not be able to provide such a rich experience for our learners.



Some Great News!!



We have been successful in our bid to Aberdeenshire Council for a maths approach for the school. We have secured a 3-year licence of Big Maths for the school. We look forward to implementing this in the school early next session.

Looking Forward

We are continuing with our improvements in Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing next session. New improvements made in these areas will be:

Literacy:

Introducing [Accelerated Reader](#) to support a culture of reading, hone reading skills and provide data on progress and next steps.


Numeracy:

Introducing [Big Maths](#) as a whole school approach to learning, teaching and assessment of numeracy and maths.

Health and Wellbeing

Introducing the [CIRCLE Resource](#) to support an inclusive environment for our learners.














Summer Reading Challenge through Live Life Aberdeenshire



The banner features a central title 'Summer Reading 2023' in large white font on an orange background. It is surrounded by six stylized open book icons in purple, red, yellow, blue, green, and light green, each with small stars above it. Below the title, the dates 'Thursday 15th June to Saturday 26th August' are written in white. At the bottom left is the 'LIVE LIFE ABERDEENSHIRE' logo. In the center, text says 'Check our website or scan the QR code for more details: www.livelifeberdeenshire.org.uk/live-life-at-home/'. On the right is a QR code.

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](#). Here is a grid to show some of the information available on this site:

What adults can do? 	Relaxation 	Babies brains  
Self-regulation 	Managing feelings 	Emotion coaching 
Positive thinking 	Thinking skills 	Sleep 
Understanding brains 	Growth mindset 	Supporting Wellbeing 

And Finally...

I'd like to wish you all a wonderful summer holiday from me and the Rothie Team. We look forward to seeing you all in August and good luck to all our pupils moving on to Academy!

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.

Kind regards,

Mrs M Strachan,
Head Teacher



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

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