



Newsletter August 2021

Welcome to the start of a new school year. We hope you all enjoyed the lovely summer break.

Welcome to all our new pupils



Welcome back to all pupils from P2-7, we are delighted to have seven new P1 pupils joining our school.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new pupils and families.

P1 pupils will attend school for mornings only initially and will begin full days on Monday 30th August.

Classroom Projects

Projects for this term are as follows:-

P1-3 Seashore to Seafloor Mrs Fraser/Mrs Crowley

P4-7 Deserts & Rainforests Mrs Crowley/Mrs Smith

Specialist Teachers

Our Visiting Specialist teachers this term are Mrs Storer (Support for Learners), Mrs Jardine (Drama & Mindfulness), Mrs Webster (Violin) and Mrs Shearer (French P4-7 & PE P1-3/P4-7).

School Uniform



Under current Covid-19 restrictions pupils are not changing for PE. PE lessons and running sessions will be outside and parents/carers are invited to provide a pair of outdoor trainers for this.

All pupils are also required to have an art shirt to protect their clothes during art and craft activities. This can also be stored on pupils' cloakroom pegs. We encourage the children to play outside as much as possible so pupils should also bring a waterproof jacket every day.

Please ensure that your child's name is on all their school clothes.

Gardening

P2-7 pupils will be tidying up our school garden on:

Thursday 19th August 1.30 - 2.45pm

Thursday 26th August 1.30 - 2.45pm

Please ensure your child has boots, trousers, jacket and gardening gloves (if available).



Cycle Training



P6/7 pupils will begin cycle training with Mrs Fraser on Thursday 2nd September.

P6/7 parents please click on the following link for more information:

[Bikeability Training Term 1 2021.22](#)

Please could we ask parents of P6/7 pupils to complete the following Microsoft Form, by **Wednesday 25th August**, confirming consent for your child to take part. Unfortunately pupils who do not submit this completed form will not be able to take part in the training:

<https://forms.office.com/r/nXpVcAf8xe>

School Photographs - Thursday 2nd September



Deeside Photographics will be coming to school on Thursday 2nd September. Individual and class photographs will be taken as well as a school group photo.

If your child has a school sweatshirt please could he/she wear it for the school group photograph.

All the children will be photographed individually unless you let us know otherwise via e:mail to susan.strachan@aberdeenshire.gov.uk by **Wednesday 25th August**.

Once the photographs have been taken you will receive a sample photograph and then you can order what you would like. There is no obligation to buy.

Dates for your Diary

- Friday 27th August P6/7 Bike Check prior to cycle training sessions
- Thursday 2nd September School Photographs

- Tuesday 7th September Parent Council meeting 7pm



Car Park Safety



To ensure the safety of all pupils we would ask that the parking spaces next to the pedestrian gate be used solely by the school buses.

Staff will park on the side next to the school road and parents/visitors are encouraged to use the remaining spaces.

Please note that pupils are not permitted to walk through the car park unaccompanied by an adult and pedestrians are requested to use the footpaths at all times.

Library



The library days for each class this term are:

P1-3 Monday

P4-7 Wednesday

Reminder Pupil Absence Procedure

All Aberdeenshire schools have clear procedures for dealing with unexplained pupil absence, particularly where a pupil is absent without reason, first thing in the morning or afternoon. To assist us with this we would ask all parents/carers to do the following:

1. Notify the school, by telephone (01330 700395) **before** 9am if their child is going to be absent. **Please do not use email to notify the school of absences.**
2. Parents must supply an absence note upon their child's return to school. **It is also very important that you notify the school if any of your child's home or emergency contact numbers change.** Thank you for your co-operation regarding this matter.

School Term Dates



Please click on the following link for the School Term Dates 2021/2022:

[School Holiday Dates 2021.2022](#)

Deeside Rugby Club

Please click on the following link for information:

[Deeside Rugby](#)

This activity is being organised by Deeside Rugby Club, Aberdeenshire Council is not responsible for the acts and omissions of Deeside Rugby Club and members of the public engaging in the activity do so at their own risk.

Banchory Community Football Club

Please click on the following link for information:

[Banchory Community FC](#)

This activity is being organised by Banchory Community Football Club, Aberdeenshire Council is not responsible for the acts and omissions of Banchory Community Football Club and members of the public engaging in the activity do so at their own risk.

Transport Scotland - Young Person's Free Bus Travel



On 27 July, the Scottish Government announced plans to begin the new Young Person's Free Bus Travel Scheme from 31 January 2022. Legislation was passed by the Scottish Parliament in March enabling the introduction of a new free bus travel scheme for those aged under 19, and further legislation will be laid in August to extend this to include those aged up to 21 (inclusive). This means all residents of Scotland aged 5-21 will benefit from the new scheme at the same time – from 31 January 2022.

The scheme is a crucial step in embedding more sustainable travel behaviours from a young age, as well as opening up opportunities and access to education, leisure and work.

Young people aged 5– 21 will be able to travel using the new free bus scheme from 31 January 2022 using the National Entitlement Card (NEC) or Young Scot branded NEC. Information on how to apply for this scheme will be released later this year, please check the Transport Scotland website for updates. [Young Persons' Free Bus Travel Scheme \(transport.gov.scot\)](https://transport.gov.scot)

Parents or guardians will be required to approve applications for young people under the age of 16 to ensure that they can exercise their responsibility for their children's safety. This includes providing approval for existing cardholders to access the scheme. Only registered local bus services are included in the scheme, meaning dedicated school transport services are not covered.

Any queries regarding the Young Persons' Free Bus Travel Scheme should be directed to Transport Scotland at concessionarytravel@transport.gov.scot

NEWSLETTER COMMENTS

Your comments are always welcome and support our continued school improvement. Parents/carers are invited to e: mail the school with any feedback.

