



WELCOME  
TO  
CRATHE'S  
SCHOOL

## Newsletter - January 2024



## Inspiring learners to grow bright futures.

Welcome back and a happy, healthy New Year to you all.

The staff would like to thank you for the lovely gifts and messages they received at the end of last term.

## Term 3 Cross Curricular topics

Topics for this term are:

### P1-4 Native Scottish Animals

Romans and Celts

Food and Health

### P5-7 Burns Lunch & Ceilidh

The Jacobites

Food and Health

## Garden Birds



Next week we will be learning more about how to care for our garden birds. Thanks to the support of Leys Estate, each pupil will be creating a garden bird feeder using recycled materials. The feeders are for your family gardens and will come supplied with bird seed.

We would be happy to accept some further donations of plastic bottles for this project.

On Thursday 18th January pupils will be taking part in the RSPB Big School Garden Birdwatch. The bird spotting starts at 9am and parents/carers to assist with this would be most welcome. Please email [maureen.fraser@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:maureen.fraser@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) if you are interested.

## Parent Council Meeting - Wednesday 17th January

The next meeting of the Parent Council is on Wednesday 17th January @ 7pm. All parents/carers are welcome and should email [maureen.fraser@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:maureen.fraser@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) to confirm their attendance by 4pm on Monday 15th January.

Please note we need 6 parents/carers to make up a quorum.

## Touch of Tartan - Rabbie Burns Lunch and Ceilidh



The P5-7 pupils will be hosting a Burns Lunch and Ceilidh for all pupils on the afternoon of Thursday 25th January. The celebrations will start with a traditional lunch of haggis, neeps and tatties followed by shortbread. There will be cheese sandwiches available as an alternative and pupils with a packed lunch will also be accommodated.

The afternoon will continue with the traditional speeches, poems, music and dance.

All staff and pupils are invited to wear something tartan for this special day.

Continuing our Burns celebrations all pupils have been issued with a Scots poem to present in school on Thursday 1st February. Please support your child with this activity.

Many thanks to Mrs McCartan and Mrs Alexander for offering to help pupils with the meaning and pronunciation of some of the trickier words in the poems.

## P7 Transition Activities - Banchory Academy



As part of their transition activities, the Primary 7 pupils will be visiting Banchory Academy on Friday 26th January to solve an escape room challenge at the library. A fun activity and a super introduction to their new school.

The pupils will be transported by Mrs Fraser and Mrs Gilmour. A risk assessment has been undertaken for this activity.

P7 parents should look out for further information coming out soon.

## School Closure - Adverse Weather



Guidance on how school closures are handled in the event of adverse weather and other emergencies can be found in the School Handbook on the website [Crathes-School-Handbook-2023-24.pdf](#).

Parents/carers can [Sign in with myAberdeenshire](#) to register for email alerts or [download the myAberdeenshire app](#) to get notifications when your school(s) updates their closure status.

In the event of a school closure due to adverse weather, parents/carers are reminded that Snow Pack activities can be found in the pupil section of the Crathes School website. The class teachers will also use Google Classroom to issue additional learning activities.

## Childsmiles - Wednesday 31st January



As part of our Health and Wellbeing curriculum we are delighted to have Jessica Jordaan, from Childsmiles, visiting us on Wednesday 31st January to promote good oral health to all our pupils.

## Careers Fair - Thursday 8th February



On Thursday 8th February P5-7 pupils will be attending a Careers Fair at Drumoak School with the senior pupils from Durris and Drumoak schools. This is an opportunity for the children to learn more about the knowledge and skills required for a range of professions. Any parents/carers interested in taking part in this event are invited to email [maureen.fraser@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:maureen.fraser@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

It was agreed at the last Parent Council meeting to ask parents/carers, with PVGs in place, if they would be willing to assist with transporting pupils to and from Drumoak School for this event. Please contact the school office if you are willing to help with this. Thank you.

## Running Club



There is the opportunity for interested pupils in P5-7 to enter the Albyn School Open Cross - Country Championships at Balgownie Playing Fields on Friday 15 March 2024. In preparation for this event Mrs Donohue has offered to organise a lunchtime Running Club on Mondays for keen runners. We would be interested to hear from any parents/carers that might be available to help with the Running Club and/or the competition on 15th March.



Friday 2nd February - P5-7 Curling session @ Curl Aberdeen (Second session)

Thursday 8th February - Careers Fair @ Drumoak School (more information to follow)

Friday 9th February - Occasional Day (school closed)

Monday 12th February - Occasional Day (school closed)

Tuesday 13th February - In Service Day (school closed to pupils)

Wednesday 14th February - In Service Day (school closed to pupils)

Tuesday 26th March - School Show (more information to follow)

Thursday 28th March - Last day of term 3

Tuesday 25th June - Scottish Opera @ Drumoak School (more information to follow)

## Feedback



Your comments are always welcome and support our continued school improvement. Please email [maureen.fraser@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:maureen.fraser@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) with any feedback.