



August Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to warmly welcome you all to the start of a new school year. I trust you had an enjoyable summer break with your child/ren and I hope they are looking forward to beginning a new term. I am pleased to welcome our new Nursery and Primary 1 pupils as well as the children joining Macduff Primary for the first time and entering other classes. The children all seem to be settling in well and the teachers are enjoying getting to know your lovely children.

I would like to update you on staffing changes that have taken place. Unfortunately Mrs Cooper will not be returning to Macduff Primary due to ill health. I feel very privileged to be given the opportunity to continue my duties as Acting Head Teacher until a new Head Teacher is appointed.

Sadly Mr Taylor has returned back to Longside Primary School and congratulations to Mrs Taylor who will be Acting Depute Head Teacher whilst the position is advertised.

I would like to welcome our three probationers Mrs Ironside, Miss Hanlon and Miss Hadley to the school and wish them all the best during this school year, I know they will love working with our children, families and colleagues.

I would also like to congratulate Mr Cox, Mr Killbane and Miss Wyper on successfully completing their probationer year and are remaining at Macduff Primary.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Louise Chisholm

Head Teacher (Acting)

School Uniform

What a good impression our pupils make as they wear their uniforms with pride! In order to minimise loss of property, it would be very helpful if all property is named.

Medical

Inhalers - If your child uses an inhaler, please supply two. One will be kept in the classroom and the other in the filing cabinet.

Medication - If your child requires medication please take this to the school office. A permission form must be completed for new medication and it should be in its original packaging.

Snack

As part of our Health and Wellbeing philosophy, children should bring a small, healthy snack for playtime. Snacks are also available to buy from the tuck shop.

RRSA Article 24 "All children have a right to the best health care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food...".

Road Safety

Please drive carefully on the approach to school and do not park on the yellow zig-zag lines. Please encourage your child to cross the road along with the Crossing Patrol Officer.

Staff Training

First Aid & Epi-pen Training was completed last week; A big thanks to all those staff who undertook this training; this is a huge benefit to the School. The P5-7 pupils have also completed First Aid training, well done! The pupils who took part will be presented with certificates during assembly.

Some teachers also attended iPad training, this will benefit children in the classroom and help them engage with technology.

Parent Council

The AGM and next PC meeting are planned for Tuesday 20 September at 7pm at Macduff Primary School.

Parent Support Group

The Macduff Parent Support Group (PSG) held their AGM on Monday 22nd August 2016. At this meeting a new Chairperson could not be recruited. If a new chairperson fails to be found the PSG will require to fold which will result in major loss of funds to the school which leads to our children missing out in many ways which you may not be aware of.

The PSG at Macduff Primary School has always been a very successful group. They currently organise discos, Christmas parties (including providing food and Santa gifts) and fund a lot of school trips and activities. They have provided money for transport, helped the Primary 7 pupils to buy hoodies for their London trip and also provided funds to buy equipment such as iPads and cameras for use in the school.

The role of Chairperson does not need to be done by one person, it could be a joint effort or even more than two people. Many of the Committee members have been on the committee previously and will happily support anyone who would like to come forward for

this role but feel they might not have the experience. The Chairperson does not have to attend and organise everything. The current group is very supportive and everyone is very keen to help.

If anyone would be interested in saving our PSG and would like more information please contact the school, Kerry Mair (Current Chairperson) or Alison Nicol (Secretary).

Attendance and Punctuality

It is the legal responsibility of parents to ensure their child attends school regularly. Good attendance at school enables children to cope more easily with school routines and work, thereby making learning more satisfying and ensuring greater progress both socially and academically. Attached to this newsletter is a copy of the new Cluster Attendance Policy. Please take the time to read this as there are significant changes including a flow chart to explain what steps we will be taking from now on.

Macduff Lions Football Club

Are you a budding Bale or Ronaldo then Macduff Lions could be the place for you, we are looking for new recruits to join all age groups (boys and girls). Training takes place on the following nights at Macduff School 6pm so come alone and give it a try.



Nursery - Monday Night.
P5 - Tuesday Night.
P1, P2 - Wednesday Night
P2, P3, P5 & P7 Thursday Night.

Should you require further information please do not hesitate to contact any of the committee members detailed below -

President - Mr Kevin Mair (kevinamair@hotmail.com) - Tel. 01261 832535

Vice President - Mr Barry Kidd (barryjkidd@tiscali.co.uk) - Tel. 01261 831858

Go on you never know you might really enjoy it, you'll never know if you don't give it a go!

Diary Dates:

Tuesday 20 th September	Book Fair (in school the whole week)
Tuesday 20 th September	Parent Council Meeting at 7pm
Wednesday 21 st September	Parents Evening
Thursday 22 nd September	Parents Afternoon
Thursday 22 nd September 2016	Individual Nursery Photographs
Tuesday 4 th October 2016	P1-P7 - Individual Photos
Friday 7 th October 2016	Last day of Term 1
Monday 24 th October 2016	School starts Term 2
Wednesday 9 th November 2016	Christmas Fair
Monday 14 th November 2016	In Service Day
Tuesday 15 th November 2016	In Service Day
Week beginning Monday 5 th December 2016	Nativity Week
Week beginning Monday 12 th December 2016	Party Week
Tuesday 20 nd December 2016	Church Service
Wednesday 21 st December 2016	Last day of Term 2
Thursday 5 th January 2017	School starts Term 3
Friday 10 th February 2017	Mid Term Break
Monday 13 th February 2017	Mid Term Break
Tuesday 14 th February 2017	In Service Day
Wednesday 15 th February 2017	In Service Day
Friday 31 st March 2017	Last day of Term 3
Tuesday 18 th April 2017	School starts Term 4
Monday 1 st May 2017	May Day Holiday
Week beginning 15 th May 2017	P7 Residential Trip
Monday 5 th June 2017	Occasional Day
Tuesday 13 th June 2017	Book Fair (in school all week)
Thursday 15 th June 2017	School Open Evening
Friday 30 th June 2017	Last day of Term 4

All dates are accurate at time of print; any changes will be notified in later Newsletters