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3.11.21

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a busy new term at Macduff School. There may only be seven weeks until the holidays but what a busy few weeks they will be. The weather is pretty horrible so please send your child to school with suitable outdoor clothing as we will be going outside in most weathers. Please make sure all clothing is labelled as we have a number of unidentified jumpers in school which we cannot return due to no names on labels.

Reporting to Parents:

We had hoped that restrictions for schools would have lifted but they remain in place. This means that we are still unable to invite you into school. As an interim solution we will continue to communicate via Google Classrooms and class term letters. You will also receive a report for your child later in November so that you have clear information about how they have settled into the academic year and how they are doing. Each class will also hold a virtual open day across our various social media platforms so you can see the wonderful work that has been happening across the school.

Homework:

As you can see from the picture, research has shown that homework has little or no impact on the quality of learning in a primary school, (there is an impact in secondary). We have found that the biggest impact of homework has been stress for our families and that is not what anyone needs or wants. As a result, it is our intention to radically change our approach to homework. We will communicate the learning that is happening in school so that you know what to discuss with your child or revise. There will be various challenges, play scripts, songs etc. which will be homework but the main thing we are looking for from time at home is active learning of life skills, lots of reading for fun, and a good rest ready for learning at school.

Individual Photos:

Individual photos will be taken on Wednesday 10th November. Nursery siblings can be included in photos. If your child is not in nursery that day, please bring them to school in the morning and we will slot them in.

Children in Need:

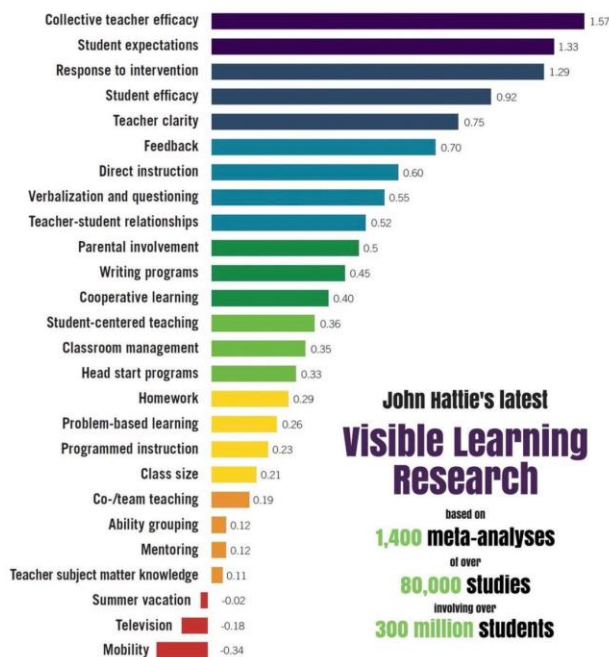
We will be raising money for BBC Children in Need on Wednesday 17th November due to the 18th and 19th of November being in-service days. Please can pupils bring a £1 donation and come to school dressed in pyjamas? We will still be going out to play so suitable shoes and coats will be required.

Christmas Fete:

The PSG Christmas Fete is due to take place at the Deveronside Social Club, Banff on Wednesday 10th November from 6-8pm. The PSG desperately require helpers to serve teas at the Fete and if they do not have enough helpers then unfortunately the Fete will not be able to take place. Donations for the chocolate and bottle stalls are also needed. Please let the school office know if you are able to help at the Fete.

Scottish Book Trust for P1 – P3 Wednesday 10 November 18:30 – 19:30

Scottish Book Trust supporting parenting session – making the most of your child’s Bookbug P1 family bag and P2and P3 Read, Write, Count bag at home.





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Join us as we share some practical advice on how best to use the resources in this year's bags and discover tips and ideas to support learning at home.

Scottish Book Trust are committed to supporting all parents and carers, recognising the important part they play in their child's education and believing that simple, fun, everyday activities can impact greatly on their performance in school.

Our free resources linked to the Bookbug P1 bag and Read, Write Count pupil bag for P2 and 3, provide practical activities for families to read together, play games and participate in number related activities, building confidence in Literacy and Numeracy skills.

Anyone interested in attending this session should enrol by using the following link

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/scottish-book-trust-primary-1-3-supporting-parents-session-tickets-195164170287>

Christmas Nativity

You are cordially invited to join us for our outdoor Christmas Nativity at Netherwood Farm on Wednesday 15th December at 10.30am. As a school we are planning to walk, however there will be a shuttle bus going back and forth for those family members who will not manage the walk. The event will be completely outdoors due to covid restrictions and will only be cancelled in the event of extreme weather conditions so stout footwear and lots of layers will be needed for adults and children. All classes will be taking part and they will be so pleased if you can join us.

Christmas Parties:

The Christmas Party dates are as follows. Pupils can come to school dressed for their party, or have a home lunch and return dressed for their party. Santa has kindly agreed to attend despite his very busy schedule.

P1 – P2 Thursday 16th December

P7 Thursday 16th December 6pm – 7.30pm

P3-P4 Friday 17th December

P5-P6 Monday 20th December

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day:

The school Christmas lunch is on Wednesday 8th 2021. On this day we will be raising money for Save the children by wearing our Christmas Jumpers. Indeed we will be excited to see Christmas jumpers on any day that week.

Pantomime Film:

Having raised money with a very successful magic square, the PTA have very kindly funded £250 for a pantomime film for the children to enjoy as a Christmas treat. We are so grateful for all our parents do to raise funds in this way so that the children can be given those special little extras that add so much to their day.

Church Service:

Our Church Service in Macduff Parish Church will be able to take place using social distancing on Tuesday 21st December. Details about numbers of spaces available will follow.

Kind Regards,

Head Teacher