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21.2.22

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have enjoyed a busy couple of days in school planning for the terms ahead and looking forward to spring time, better weather and with any luck, fewer covid restrictions. Our planning has been with a view to involving our parents and carers as much as possible. There are a number of dates for your diary.

**Staffing:**

Emma Cottingham (acting DHT) will be Acting Head Teacher at Portsoy for two days a week (Wednesday and Thursday) in the short term until the post is advertised.

Lesley Simpson (DHT) and Vicki Grant (acting DHT) will be supporting Bracoden School alongside their Macduff duties during the Bracoden Head Teachers short term period of absence. I am sure all the schools will gain a great deal from sharing skills, ideas and good practice.

**World Book Day Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March:**

Please come to school dressed as a character from a book you enjoy and bring along the book to share. Grown ups, we are looking for volunteers to read stories to the children on the day. This would be online, at the moment, but may change if restrictions lift. Please let the office know if you or perhaps a Grandparent would be able to join in with this. We have some other exciting activities planned during the day. Meanwhile, our challenge to the children is to bring in or email a photo of them self, reading in an usual place.

**Red Nose Day Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March:**

Please wear something red for Red Nose day and we will collect donations in school.

**Time Capsule Event Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March:**

Details about this afternoon event will be released nearer the time. We would like to invite you to an afternoon of fun and entertainment in the school grounds. During this event we will be digging up the time capsule buried by Macduff school pupil for the millennium. We are really keen to extend this invitation to anyone involved with the school at that time and especially the P7 class of the year 2000/2001. If you can let the office know of anyone who should receive an invitation and also, please spread the word.

**Parents Evenings Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May (evening) Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May (afternoon):**

You will receive an invitation for a face to face parents evening here in school. Prior to parents evening you will have received your child's school report. We are looking forward to welcoming you back in to school.

**Sports Day Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May or Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May:**

Weather permitting our sports day will take place on the 17<sup>th</sup> May, however, if it rains that day we will use the second date instead. Any cancellation will be communicated through Groupcall and Facebook, there will be no need to ring the school. If you don't hear from us, it is going ahead. Refreshments may be served but we will update you nearer the time. The PSG will be handing out juice and ice cream to the children (they usually have this in class). Can all children please wear a tshirt in their house colour (your child should know which house they are in)

**P7 Trip to Edinburgh Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May:**

We are delighted to announce that we have been able to arrange a residential trip for our P7 class this year. We have worked closely with our colleagues in the Authority to plan for an adventure that will be both fun and mindful of the ongoing covid situation. Our children have been so patient and resilient during the pandemic, it is a real delight to be able to see them having adventures again. And, of course, they will be looking fabulous in their hoodies, kindly provided by our amazing PSG.



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### **Jubilee Celebration Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June:**

We hope you will be able to join us on the afternoon of the 1<sup>st</sup> of June for a celebration of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We have lots of ideas and we have booked the sunshine. Details to follow.

### **Picnic in the Park:**

The jubilee celebrations will continue with town events across the weekend. The children have been asked to take part in a Picnic at the Park event on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June. This is very much in the planning stages but it would be great to have everyone along and share some of our many talents with the Banff and Macduff communities. Save the date!

### **P7 Leavers Assembly Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June:**

P7 parents and carers are invited to join us for the P7 leavers assembly and school prize giving. We are optimistic that we can hold this in the school hall as we used to.

### **You asked, we did:**

We were asked to restart swimming lessons and we have successfully got these underway for our first group of P4 children. All of P4 will have swimming lessons this year. We also have training planned for Bikeability so that pupil sessions can begin in term 4 for P7. Details to follow.

### **Staff Car Park**

Can we remind parents that the Berrymuir Road Car Park is for **staff only** and you should not be dropping off/picking up your child **at any time** from the Car Park.

Kind Regards,

Head Teacher