



Anna Ritchie School

NEWS LETTER

October 2017

So here we are at the start of the Christmas term, I hope you had a great October Holiday and are ready for all the fun this term will bring! I would like to welcome Mrs Fiona Burns to the staff, she is a very experienced teacher of children with additional support needs and will be joining the team in the junior school. Unfortunately we will be saying goodbye to Kathleen, who leaves the school having carried out her escort duties for 16 years! We wish her all the best for the future.

Please make a note in your diaries of all the events listed below. As ever we will be looking for your help with donations for our Christmas raffles so keep us in mind if you see any bargains please.

You will see that parents take up the vast majority of this newsletter. Never underestimate how important you are to your child's learning and to the school. We do know how lucky we are to have such a fantastic group of parents.

Best regards,

Mrs Ferguson

Be at the heart of your child's learning.



Dates for Your Diary

- 3rd November Road safety magic show (junior School only)
- 8th November Remembrance assembly (Mrs W Ritchie's class)
- 10th November Flu immunisations (junior School only)
- 13th & 14th November In-Service days – school closed
- 15th November Children in Need assembly (Mrs Easton's class)
- 17th November Children in Need activities
- 21st November Parent Council meeting (1-3)
- 29th November Parent Council film night
- 5th December Pantomime - 'Pinocchio' (M&M Productions, performance in school)
- 11th December Nativity dress rehearsal
- 12th December Nativity performance PM
- 13th December Nativity performance AM
- 14th December Christmas lunch
- 18th December Junior & senior School Christmas parties
- 20th December Church service
- 22nd December Christmas sing-a-long

Parent Council Extraordinary General Meeting

We were absolutely delighted to see 12 parents attend the rescheduled AGM. It means so much to us as a staff and as a school to see so many of you prepared to give up your time. The parents who came were spread across the whole school which is also very important in making sure everyone has a voice. Of the parents who attended, some wished to be full members of the council and some wished just to help out with fundraising activities. Either is brilliant and please remember that all parents are

always welcome at Parent Council meetings.

For this session the office bearers are as follows.

Chairperson: Cath Robertson
Secretary: Judith Scofield
Treasurer: Hilary Leel

If you wish to contact any of them please pop a note in to school and we will pass it on. Also keep an eye out for minutes of meetings arriving by email.



Parent Council Bingo

Many thanks to all of the parents who donated raffle prizes, helped out at the very successful fundraising bingo, and to all of you who attended. A great time was had by pupils, parents, staff and friends of Anna Ritchie and a whopping **£509** was raised.

Film night

You are all invited to our next movie night Wednesday 29th November at 6.15pm. This time we will be showing Despicable Me 3. Using our Into Film subscription means we can do this free of charge and offer a relaxed evening for all the family.



Introduction to Adult Services

This event took place on Wednesday 4th October and was well attended by parents of pupils approaching transition from school. Many thanks to the representatives from the Adult Services Learning Disability and Physical Disability teams who took the time to come and deliver a very informative presentation. If you were unable to attend but would like a copy of the presentation please get in touch.

National Swimming Gala

We are very proud to announce that a group of Anna Ritchie pupils will be representing the school again this year at the national event in Glasgow on 23rd November. We wish Glenn, Luke and Owen all the best!

Drake Music

We look forward to welcoming Drake Music Scotland in to the school again this year. The project will involve a musician coming into school to work with some of our pupils. A small group will also take part in a performance at Haddo House on 5th June 2018.

Lunch-time Clubs

Working in partnership with Active Schools, we have arranged for Peterhead Football Club to come in to school and deliver a football lunch-time club. This will be available for all interested junior and senior school pupils.

Autism Accreditation

Our hard work continues this term in regards to preparing for our Autism re-accreditation visit in February. There will be a particular focus on Total Communication including our use of symbols. Please see our new Total Communication display at the front entrance!