



# NEWS LETTER

August 2017

## **Welcome Back**

It is great to see all the pupils back at school looking so excited for the start of the new session. We hope you have all enjoyed the summer holidays, we are certainly all raring to go for the new school year.

Senior Leadership Team for this session:

Head Teacher – Mrs Ferguson

Depute Head Teacher – Mrs Hendry

Depute Head Teacher – Mr Davies

We would like to thank Mrs Hendry for acting up as Head Teacher on a Friday during the last session.

## **Dates For Your Diary**

w/c 18.09.17	Parent Interviews - IEPs
05.09.17	PAMIS session
13.09.17	Parent Council AGM
26.09.17	Parent Makaton session
29.09.17	MacMillan Coffee Morning
11.10.17	Harvest Service in school
13.10.17	Last day of term
30.10.17	Back to school
13.11.17	In service day
14.11.17	In Service day

## **School Lunches**

As a reminder, Aberdeenshire Council have increased the cost of lunches by 5p to £2.20. Wherever possible lunches should be paid for using the iPayimpact system. You can register for online payments by following the links at [www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk).

The Government continues to fund free school meals for all children in P1-3.

## **School Forms**

Thank you to all those who have returned data and consent forms. Please could you make sure that all outstanding ones are returned to school as soon as possible.

## **I.E.P. Consultation Meetings**

You will be invited to meet your child's class teacher and discuss suitable Individual Education Plan (I.E.P) targets on the week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> September. Parental input is an important part of the I.E.P process, your suggestions are invaluable to meeting the needs of our pupils. We will also be asking for your input to the **Big Conversation** Survey at this time.

## **MacMillan Coffee Morning**

Mr Hepburn will be working with some of our senior pupils to organise this event. It will take place on the 29<sup>th</sup> September, please look out for more information coming soon.



## **Session 2017/2018 School Holidays**

These are inclusive dates, which can be found on the Aberdeenshire Council website.

**October** - Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2017

**Christmas** – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017 to Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018

**Mid Term** – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February, Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018 (school closed to pupils from 9<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>)

**Spring** – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018

**May Day** - Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2018

**Occasional Day** – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018

**Summer** holidays start Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2018

A holiday planner in PDF format is available on the school website.

### **Communication with Parents**

Teachers will continue to communicate using the home-school jotters. Please also keep an eye out for any letters in your child's bag. The Groupcall system will be used to notify parents of events such as unexpected school closures. This system sends out a text message to your mobile phone. Please inform school as soon as possible about changes to your mobile phone number. We are also developing the school website, which you can view at [www.annaritchie.aberdeenshire.sch.uk](http://www.annaritchie.aberdeenshire.sch.uk).

If you have any suggestions as to how the website can be developed Mr Davies would welcome your input.

### **Boccia**

The Boccia lunchtime group will start again on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September. Two sessions will be offered, one each to our junior and senior pupils. Thanks to Cath Robertson and Marna McDonald who have offered to run it again this year.



### **Kidz to Adultz Scotland**

This is an event being held at the Royal Highland Centre in Edinburgh on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September. It is aimed at children and young adults (up to 25 years old) with disabilities and additional needs as well as their families, carers and all the professionals who work with them. More information about the event can be found on their website at <http://www.kidzexhibitions.co.uk/kidz-scotland/>. Entry is free but you need to register to be able to attend. You can register by following the links on the website.



### **RDA**

Sessions will start next week with the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA). Mr Hepburn will be taking a group up every Tuesday.

