



Anna Ritchie School

# NEWS LETTER

September 2017

The end of the term is not too far away, what a busy 6 weeks it has been so far! Thank you for all the support received so far this year, working in partnership is essential to ensure our pupils receive the best experience they possibly can.

## Dates for Your Diary

- 3<sup>rd</sup> October Parent Council AGM
- 4<sup>th</sup> October Introduction to Adult Services
- 11<sup>th</sup> October Parent Council Bingo
- 13<sup>th</sup> October Dress-down day (end of term)

## MacMillan Coffee Morning



We had another very successful day of fundraising for MacMillan Cancer Support this year. Events like this really show how fantastically well the whole school community including staff, pupils and parents pull together. Thanks in particular to:



- Mr Hepburn and Mrs Campbell for organising the day.
- Mrs Ritchie and her pupils for running the event – they all did a brilliant job and the service was second to none!
- Mrs Finnie for providing the fabulous crockery out of her own collection.
- All the donations of raffle prizes and home bakes by staff and parents.
- A special thank you to Milly Lorenz for her generous donation.



And of course, thank you to all the people who came to support the school and Macmillan. The donations have been tallied and this year we raised a grand total of £664.87!



### **Swimming Gala**

Some of our senior pupils took part in this year's Grampian Disability Sport's swimming gala at Aberdeen Sports Village. They managed to achieve very good results in the races. Glenn won a bronze medal and Luke and Owen both won a gold. Well done!

### **Celebrating Success**

Congratulations to Dylan Coates who recently won a national quad biking competition. Dylan participates in many competitions and we always look forward to hearing about his successes!

### **Aberdeenshire Youth Volunteer Awards**

Do you know a young person who has made a difference in their school or community through their volunteering efforts? Aberdeenshire's Pupil Participation Forum (PPF) are inviting nominations for this year's Aberdeenshire Youth Volunteer Awards. This year the nominations have been opened up to include any young people of school age. Anyone can nominate by completing this survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3PTDKXW>

Further details can be found on the school website.

### **NAS Autism Accreditation**

Our current certification for Autistic Accreditation expires in April, 2018. In order to maintain this status, a 2-day

review visit is scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2018. In preparation for this visit, a working group of staff are currently working through an auditing tool containing standards where evidence of our current practice is detailed along with possible developments for the future. The gathering of information in order to understand the autistic youngster is a key point and parents both formally and informally supply this information to us.

### **PAMIS – Postural Care Event**

The 24 Hour Postural Care Taster Session was held at the school on 5<sup>th</sup> September. It was attended very well by parents and carers as well as professionals from across the locality and the organisers were very positive about how it went.

### **Big Conversation**

Thank you to everybody who completed the Big Conversation surveys. We had a very good return rate and will be publishing the results as soon as we can.

### **Illness**

We would like to remind parents/carers that Aberdeenshire's policy around illness states that anyone who has had vomiting and diarrhoea must be absent from school for 48 hours after the last symptoms.

### **Parent Council**

There is a rescheduled AGM for the Parent Council on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. It will be held from 1-3 at the school. Please attend and support your council if at all possible.

### **Parent Council Bingo**

Instead of asking for £1 for dress down day, this year we would very much appreciate donations of small raffle prizes for the bingo on 11<sup>th</sup> October.