



Anna Ritchie School

NEWS LETTER

February 2018

Welcome to the February newsletter. We hope you have had a good month and were not too badly affected by the 'beastly' weather. We appreciate your patience and understanding given the school closures but I'm sure you appreciate that safety for all comes first.

Dates for Your Diary

12 th March	Refurbishment works begin
14 th March	Generation Science – Space Base Show
21 st March	PAMIS SDS Event
29 th March	Last day of term
16 th April	Start of summer term

School Reviews

The annual school review meetings will continue to take place every week until the Easter holidays. Any meetings that have had to be cancelled, for example due to the weather, will be rearranged as soon as possible.

Autism Accreditation

As announced in the last newsletter, the school was visited by the Autistic Accreditation team this month. They carried out classroom observations on 27th February. Unfortunately they were not able to complete the assessment due to the weather. However, they will return later on in March to complete the process. We will keep you updated in regards to their conclusions.

Fundraising

A huge thank you to Kai's granny and grandad for another brilliant effort in

raising money for the school. They raised a fantastic £700 by organising an 80s quiz night.

Please watch this space for announcements in regards to how we will be spending the funds that have been raised this year.

Morrisons Trip

Mrs Sangster's class visited Morrisons supermarket as part of their topic and were warmly welcomed by staff there. They had a great time, learning all about how a supermarket works and even got a bite to eat in the staff cafe!



Building Works

After a significant period of waiting for the technical room to be refurbished we are delighted to announce that the works are almost ready to begin. The week beginning 12th March should see the contractors start preparing to turn

the area into an up-to-date multi-sensory room. We have been assured that disruption will be kept to a minimum as the contractors will be working away from the pupils in the technical room during the school day. In the holidays there will be further improvements made throughout the school. A more secure entrance area with a refurbished disabled ramp will be put in place and the school office, meeting room, staffroom, Depute Head Teacher office and senior school corridor will be freshened up with new flooring and paintwork. The end result should make a significant difference to the daily experiences of our pupils and staff and we look forward to sharing photos of the progress that is being made.

Preparing for these works has involved, and will continue to involve, a significant amount of work on behalf of the school staff. We would like to acknowledge this effort and recognise that the way in which people pull together when the need is greatest says a lot for the ethos of the school.

We would also like to thank Peterhead Men's Shed for all their help in removing the machinery and various unwanted equipment. It would not have been possible to clear the room without them, what a difference!



LEAD Scotland Sessions

LEAD (Linking Education and Disability) Scotland have, in partnership with the school, continued to work with a parental group this

month. This time the pupils got involved with their parents using iPads to make a book on the Book Creator app. They then took the iPads home to continue to work together out of school. Unfortunately the project is almost at an end, however, on 9th March the parents will join with a group from Westfield school and share their experiences.

Going forward both Anna Ritchie and Westfield are committed to supporting the parent groups by facilitating meetings, purchasing resources and helping to arrange speakers. Both schools have really enjoyed working in this way with parents and hope that the cohort continues to develop and grow in numbers.

Scottish Fisheries Visit

Jane Mills from the Scottish Fisheries Department in Aberdeen visited the school and brought along a selection of fish caught in Scottish waters. The pupils really enjoyed learning about the different fish that swim in our local seas (though some did not enjoy the smells so much!)

