



Anna Ritchie School

# NEWS LETTER

November 2017

We are on the final stretch of the term, Christmas is not far away now! The children are getting very excited for what the next few weeks will bring and we hope you are too!

## Dates for Your Diary

- 11<sup>th</sup> December Nativity dress rehearsal
- 12<sup>th</sup> December Nativity performance  
(1.30)
- 13<sup>th</sup> December Nativity performance  
(10.00)
- 14<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Lunch
- 15<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Jumper Day
- 18<sup>th</sup> December Senior school film  
afternoon & junior school  
Christmas party
- 20<sup>th</sup> December Church Service
- 22<sup>nd</sup> December Final Day of term.  
Christmas sing-a-long.

## Autism Accreditation

Early in the new term, we will be in contact with parents of autistic young people by means of a confidential questionnaire to collect the views of those we work with, so that we can reflect on our working practice and the impact this has on our autistic young people.

## Children in Need

A massive thank you to everybody for all their hard work in raising money for Children in Need. Mrs Easton's class hosted the fundraising activities again and we raised a fantastic £320.10!

## Road Safety Magic Show

The junior school enjoyed a Magic Show all about Road Safety on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. The children were reminded

to 'Stop, Look, Listen & Think' and to wait for the green man at traffic lights before crossing the road. We hope your children told you all about it and that you join us in reinforcing this message when out and about in the community.



## Swimming Gala

Two pupils attended the national swimming gala in Glasgow. They competed brilliantly with Owen Shields winning both a gold and bronze medal. Luke Anderson also had a fantastic swim.

## St. Andrew's Day

The junior school had a rare auld time celebrating St. Andrew's Day. The classes were piped into the hall by Josh Bruce (a pupil from Dales Park Primary). Many thanks to Veronica Reid (Local Area Coordinator) who somehow managed to pick a winner from all the excellent entries to our 'Design a Castle' competition. Mrs Burns' class eventually received that honour, while Samuel Anderson won an individual prize for his entry.

After that the Highland Games began with the children taking part in haggis hurling, caber tossing, rugby passing and highland dancing as demonstrated by Simone Robertson,

another volunteer whose wonderful help was invaluable.



### **Lunchtime Clubs**

Groups of pupils from both the junior and senior school have really enjoyed the lunchtime clubs this term. We want to say a big thank you to Cath Robertson and Marna McDonald for running Boccia, we look forward to welcoming them back in the new year when the club starts again.



A huge thank you also goes out to Nat Porter from Peterhead Football Club who led four football coaching sessions. The pupils really enjoyed taking part in different drills and learning about the teamwork skills a footballer needs!



### **Get Out Get Active**

Get Out Get Active is a project run by Grampian Disability Sport. It provides lots of opportunities for people to get involved in physical activity and sport. A list of sessions available can be found on the school website (<http://annaritchie.aberdeenshire.sch.uk>) in the 'What's happening in the Community' section. Sessions are added every week so keep an eye on Grampian Disability Sport's facebook page.

### **Donations to the School**

The school received £400 from the Lunar Foundation on 4<sup>th</sup> December. The Foundation donates to many different causes and have donated to Anna Ritchie School on an annual basis. On behalf of all the stakeholders we would like to acknowledge this generous donation and extend our gratitude.

### **Growing Up Training**

SensationALL are holding an information session on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December from 1.00 – 4.00 at SensationALL, Old School, Westhill Road, Westhill.

This practical workshop will explore specific issues associated with growing up, including relationship issues and physical changes. The focus will be on practical strategies with support materials available. Further information can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hoHS0W7LU2Y>.