Kintore Primary School

Bulletin No. 5 – Session 2017-2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to what is likely to be a very busy term in the lead up to that special event in December. The children have returned refreshed and full of energy. Thank you for continuing to support us in the wearing of school colours and uniform.

**Annual Calendar**

You should have your copy of this and spare copies will be available in the foyer. Despite our best efforts we have already noticed one or two minor errors but we will make sure the parents concerned are aware.

**‘Flu Vaccine**

This has now taken place. If your child missed the opportunity to have this done, the Health Centre may be able to oblige.

**Scottish National Standardised Assessment (SNSA)**

You will be aware that this is the first year of the new assessments; we now have a programme of when these tests will take place:

 P7 – Mid January

 P4 – March

 P1 – May

Pupils will be tested in numeracy, literacy and writing.

In addition, Aberdeenshire has decided to continue standarised assessment (INCAS) as follows:

 P5 – November

 P3 – February/March

Over the last few sessions, we as a school decided to track pupil progress at all stages and will continue to do so this term. We expect therefore to test P6 during November/December and P2 in May. We also tested P1 in August as normal.

We have also a small cohort of children selected to try out SNSA for one curricular area during November. The

details of this are just coming through. The purpose of this is to begin the ‘norming’ process for each year group at P1, P4 and P7.

**Parent Evenings**

As part of the above you will have discussed your child’s ‘settling-in’ report. If you took these home, please return to the class teacher and we will organise a copy for our files and send the original back to you.

We appreciate that the allocated time at these events is rather tight but we are always happy to rearrange an alternative meeting should you wish to discuss your child’s progress further. This can be arranged with the class teacher or through the office.

**Internet Safety**

Paul Hay’s work with pupils, staff and parents seemed to go very well. Paul has provided us with a parent help sheet which we will soon customise and put on to the website.

This is an important area and hopefully our young people will learn to use social media with appropriate care and attention. It is very easy to pass comment and not take responsibility for its impact.

Please remember, if you have a concern or question, we are always here to help.

**‘The Big Conversation’**

Many thanks for taking the time to complete these questionnaires. They are now with the Council but before sending them off we did take note of any comments made – purely in the interest of self-improvement.

Just to say that at the end of every bulleting we leave a space for comment/queries. Please feel free to complete and return to the office and we will get back to you.

**Basketball**

Basketball will resume on Thursday, 9 November and finish on Thursday, 7 December 2017.

**School Football**

School football resumed on 6 November and is as follows:

Monday – 5.45-7.00pm – (P6 Astro)

Tuesday – 5.45-7.00pm – (P3 Hall)

Tuesday – 5.30–6.30pm – (P4 Astro)

Tuesday – 6.45-8.00pm – (P7 Astro)

Wednesday – 5.45-7.00pm – (P1 Hall)

Thursday – 5.45-7.00pm – (P5 Astro)

Friday – 5.45-7.00pm – (P2 Hall)

**Netball**

Netball resumed on Monday, 6 November after school and will continue until Monday, 11 December. All pupils involved are aware of details.

**Dance**

Dance with Mrs Armstrong will start again on Tuesday 21 November and continue until Tuesday 19 December.

**Brazilian Samba**

Pupils in P5 and some P6 classes will participate in Samba drumming sessions. Each will have 6 sessions throughout the year from a drumming group called *‘Louder than Life’*.

**Music using the ipad**

Pupils in P7, P6/7 and P6P will begin a ten week course (beginning Wednesday 15 November) creating music using the ipad. This course will be delivered by Mr Douglas Watt, a piano tutor with Aberdeenshire Council.

**Staffing**

Mrs East and Mrs McIntosh have both returned from maternity leave. Mrs East will replace Mrs Laura Flett in P5K and Mrs McIntosh will provide cover in a number of classes throughout the school.

Ms Beata Szpanko will finish with us in a few weeks time to begin her teacher probationary teaching-year in Brechin; we wish Beata every success in the future.

We would like to welcome a number of new PSA staff to the school: Mrs Donna Snowie, Mrs Gemma Williamson, Mrs Theresa Solomon, Mrs Wendy Donovan, Mrs Jill Marr, Mrs Mel Binfiled and Ms Helen O’Reilley.

**AFCCT Football**

Aberdeen Football Community Trust are running ‘Kicks for Kids’ on the In-service days (Monday 13 November and Tuesday 14 November) at the Garioch Sports Centre 10 am – 4 pm for 5 – 12 year olds. Please see the flyer on website for further information.

Aberdeen Football Community Trust also run football centres for P1 – P7 at various venues in Aberdeen and Shire. More information can be found on the flyer in the school foyer.

**Childcare Changes – Give yourself a choice**

There are changes being made to the Aberdeenshire Council’s childcare voucher scheme. You can find more information about the TFC scheme on the governments Childcare Choices website, [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

**Children In Need Family Ceilidh**

On Friday 17 November at 7.00pm there will be a family ceilidh in aid of Children In Need at the Kintore Church Hall. Tickets are available from Kintore Church or contact 01467 634887; £3.00 per adult and £1.50 per child.

**Forthcoming Events**

Tuesday 7 November - PTA Meeting

Friday 10 November - P6/7 Assembly

 - PTA Disco

Monday 13 November - In-Service Day

Tuesday 14 November - In-Service Day

Friday 17 November - P4K Assembly

- Children in Need (Nursery)

Monday 20 November - Parent Council

Tuesday 21 November - Nursery Cafes (am & pm)

Wednesday 22 November - Nursery Cafes (am & pm)

Thursday 23 November - Nursery Cafes (am & pm)

Friday 24 November - P4P Assembly

Tuesday 28 November - P3K Café (am)

- PTA Meeting

Wednesday 29 November - P3P Café (am)

Thursday 30 November - P3S Café (am)

- St Andrew’s Day Ceilidh (Nursery)

Wednesday 13 December - Pupil Christmas lunch

**Parent/Guardian Comments**

**Holidays for 2017/2018 Session**

**(for those who like to plan ahead)**

Monday 25 December to - Christmas Holidays

Friday 5 January 2018

(Inclusive)

Friday 9 February 2018 - Occasional Day

Monday 12 February 2018 - Mid-term

Tuesday 13 February 2018 - In-Service Day

Wednesday 14 February 2018- In-Service Day

Friday 30 March to - Easter Break

Friday 13 April 2018

(Inclusive)

Monday 7 May 2018 - May Day Holiday

Monday 4 June 2018 - Occasional Day

Friday 6 July 2018 - Last Day of School

Tuesday 21 August 2018 - Start of session 2018 – 2019



WILMA WALKER

8 November 2017

