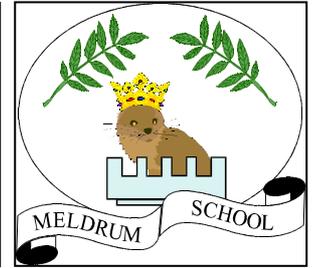


***Meldrum School aspires to be a vibrant and inclusive learning community where learners can realise their full potential within a safe and nurturing environment, promoting equality and fairness, with a focus on continuous improvement and developing the capacity of all to embrace lifelong learning.***



## **Meldrum School Newsletter**

### **Newsletter No. 3**

**25<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Free School Meals for All P1 to P3 Pupils**

From Monday 5 January 2015 all Primary 1 to Primary 3 pupils will be entitled to Free School Meals in all of Aberdeenshire's Primary Schools.

Lunch tickets will no longer be required for these pupils and parents and guardians of Primary 1 to Primary 3 pupils are advised to ensure that any tickets they have purchased should be used before the end of this current term (Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2014) as refunds cannot be made by the School Meal Service for any unused tickets.

For parents or guardians of pupils that have not previously taken lunch in school, the current primary school menu cycle and information on primary school meals can be viewed on the school catering web pages at:

[http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school\\_meals/primary.asp](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school_meals/primary.asp)

Lunch tickets will still require to be purchased for pupils in Primary 4 to Primary 7 unless pupils are entitled to Free School Meals.

### **Staffing Update**

Mrs Nicola Mackay begins her maternity leave at the end of this month. Her last day with P4M will be Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> November. Mrs Brown will be taking the class on a permanent basis for the remainder of this school year. From January 2015, Mrs Brown will be out of class on Wednesdays to allow her to undertake DHT management duties. I'm pleased to be welcoming Mrs Lorna Thomson back to Meldrum. Mrs Thomson will teach the class on Wednesdays as Mrs Brown's DHT Relief from January 2015. I'm sorry for the delay in notifying P4 parents of this change, but the majority of teacher vacancies are now being interviewed centrally and it was only this morning that I received confirmation that no central appointment had been made to cover Mrs Mackay's maternity leave.

Our congratulations go to Mrs Rebecca Elder who is expecting a baby in June. Mrs Elder will commence her maternity leave at Easter. I will advise parents of maternity cover for our P1E class later in the year.

Our congratulations also go to Mrs Hepburn, who will be leaving us next month to take up a new permanent teaching post at Hatton School. Mrs Hepburn's last day with us will be Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> December. I met with the Early Years Team earlier today to discuss the filling of this vacancy and will advise parents of cover arrangements in the weeks ahead.

I'm pleased to advise that interviews for our vacant post of Support for Learning (SfL) Teacher took place last Thursday and that we have appointed Mrs Lesley McCranor to the post previously held by Mrs Main.

Mrs McCranor is currently Principal Teacher at Sunnybank School, Aberdeen and should be joining us in early January.

We have been without our full allocation of SfL since last December and Mrs McCranor's appointment will allow us to bring much needed support to children in all classes across the school.

### **Children in Need**

I'm delighted to advise that we raised a total of £1157.36 for Children in Need earlier this month. Our thanks go to the pupils and teachers in our P5 - 6 classes for organising our fund raising activities, and to Mrs MacDonald and Mrs Winton for all the Pudsey baking that was sold at Tuck Shop over the week.

### **Christmas Fair**

Just a brief reminder that the MPip Christmas Fair will be held this Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> November from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon.

To make this event a great success, MPip are still requesting donations of the following for our stalls:

**Chocolate** for the tombola (eg kiddies selection box)

**Bottles** (anything in a bottle!)

**Raffles**

Please send all donations in with the children or drop in to the school office.

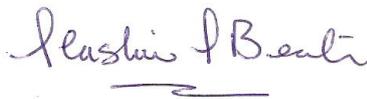
If anyone is a keen baker, MPip would really appreciate some **home-baking** for our stall.

Please contact [elaineyeats@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:elaineyeats@tiscali.co.uk) if you can help. Thank you to all those who have donated items already.

### **School Answering Machine**

And finally, please note that the school answer machine has been out of order since the October holidays. Engineers and technicians from both Aberdeenshire Council and Robertson FM have been called in over the last few weeks, but we're no further forward. I'll update you all when repairs have been completed.

Yours faithfully



Alastair A Beaton  
Head Teacher