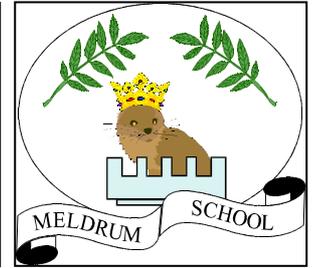


Meldrum School aspires to be a vibrant and inclusive learning community where learners can realise their full potential within a safe and nurturing environment, promoting equality and fairness, with a focus on continuous improvement and developing the capacity of all to embrace lifelong learning.



Meldrum School Newsletter No.6

8th January 2016

Dear Parents

Admission to P1: Session 2016/17

Registration Week for children starting Primary 1 in August 2016 will be from Monday 11th January to Friday 15th January 2016. The following information was released to the press on Monday:

‘All children who reach their fifth birthday by 28th February 2017 are invited to register for Primary 1 for admissions in August 2016.

Aberdeenshire Education and Children’s Services has a common starting date for all its school in the middle of August in any particular year. You will be informed of this year’s starting date at the time of registration at school.

Parents are asked to visit the Primary school of their choice during Registration Week. If this is not possible, parents should try and visit the school by the end of February 2016. To register for Primary 1 the child’s birth certificate is required as evidence of their date of birth.

Aberdeenshire Education and Children’s Services make no provision to admit any children who are five after the end of February, unless that child has previously been registered and has commenced full-time attendance (excluding induction) in a state supported or Forces school and is transferring into Aberdeenshire. In this case, the local authority can exercise discretion. Registration for a nursery for playgroup does not count for the purposes of this exception”.

Enrolment packs will be distributed within our Nursery and will also be available at the School Office from Monday.

Nursery Enrolment

Nursery Enrolment for session 2016.17 runs from Monday 18th to Friday 29th January.

Children who are three before 31 August 2016 are eligible for a funded Early Learning and Childcare place in August 2016; children who are three before 31 December 2016 are eligible for a funded Early Learning and Childcare place in January 2017 and children who are three before 28 February 2017 are eligible for a funded Early Learning and Childcare place in April 2017 either at a local authority provision or with a playgroup or private nursery (partner provider) commissioned by the authority. Parents should enrol by completing the relevant form in the application pack.

Application packs for admission to Nursery will be available on the school website from Monday 18th January 2016. These can also be obtained from <http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/information/early-learningand-childcare-information/> . There will also be a small supply of the ‘Applying for Early Learning and Childcare’ application packs available from the school office.

Parents should remember to bring their child’s birth certificate and evidence of home address (eg a recent utility bill) when coming to register.

Staffing Update

I'm pleased to advise that our new School Administrator, Mrs Michelle Meyer, takes up post in the School Office from Monday 11th January.

Later this term we will be welcoming Mrs Nicola Mackay back to Meldrum following her maternity leave. Mrs Mackay will be returning to school on reduced hours and will be teaching across both Nursery and Primary classes for the remainder of this session providing staff cover for development work and delivering Support for Learning input. Mrs Mackay will return to a class teaching commitment on a job-share basis from August of this year. Mrs Thomson and Mrs Brown will continue teaching our P5BT class for the remainder of this school year.

Celebration of Burns and Scots Poetry

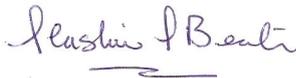
In January we look to celebrate the poetry of Robbie Burns and that of the North east of Scotland, a major part of this being the children's participation in the Burns Federation Poetry Recitation Competition. Children in P1-5 will once again have a choice of three - four, mostly Doric poems to choose from. P6 and P7 will have a choice of two Burns poems as in previous years. This is a marvellous opportunity for the children to experience the literary culture of Scotland and the North east. We hope that you will enjoy helping your son/daughter practice their choice of poem over the coming weeks.

Restorative Approaches Update

Developments for this term will involve staff and pupils working together to explore:

- Moving away from Golden Rules towards creating our own set of expectations of each other within classrooms and across the whole school.
- Moving away from Golden Time towards planned learning experiences that focus on positive relationship building across classes, year groups and the whole school.

Yours sincerely



Alastair A Beaton
Head Teacher