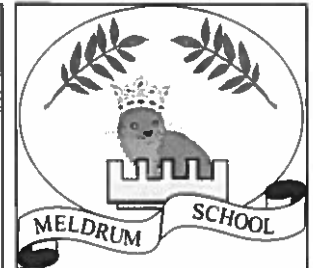


*Meldrum School aspires to be a vibrant and inclusive learning community where learners can realise their full potential within a safe and nurturing environment, promoting equality and fairness, with a focus on continuous improvement and developing the capacity of all to embrace lifelong learning.*



## **Meldrum School Newsletter No. 4 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

Welcome to our very first emailed School Newsletter!

### **Staffing**

We recently said goodbye to Michelle Meyer who has taken up an Administrator post in another school. We are currently going through the process of appointing a new Admin Support Assistant who we hope will take up post early in the New Year. During this recruitment period, please note the School Office will be unattended between 10.45am and 11.00am and 12.00pm and 12.45pm daily.

We have appointed two new Pupil Support Assistants to Meldrum School. Mrs Mary Bomphrey began working with us last week and we hope the other successful candidate will take up post early in the New Year.

### **Christmas**

Christmas preparations are well underway across the whole school and all pupils are getting involved in events to which you are invited.

- **P5, 6 and 7** will be showing three performances of their 'Primary School Christmas Musical' on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December.
- **P1** parents are invited in for a Christmas Singalong at 2.45pm on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Two tickets per family have already been distributed.
- **P2, 3 and 4** will be hosting a Christmas Craft Open Afternoon on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2.30-3.25pm. Parents should enter via the School Office and head to their child's classroom.

### **School Christmas Dinner**

This year, our School Christmas Dinner will be on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Along with the usual 'Christmas Dinner' children will also be able to select Baked Potato with Cheese, Cheese Sandwich or Tuna Sandwich.

### **Christmas Jumper Day**

This year, P1-7 will be taking part in Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Children are encouraged to wear a Christmas Jumper in place of their School Jumper and bring a donation of £1 or more which we will send off to Save the Children.

### **Christmas Parties**

This year's Christmas parties are as follows:

Day	Time	Year Group
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Morning	No Parties
	Afternoon	P1,P2 and P3
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Morning	P4D & P4H
	Afternoon	P5C & P5MP
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Morning	P6C & P6K
	Afternoon	P7B & P7R
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Morning	Morning Nursery Classes
	Afternoon	Afternoon Nursery Classes

On party day, children should come to school in their school uniform and may bring 'party clothes' in a named carrier bag if they wish to get changed for the duration of their party. At each party, there will be a variety of party snacks available, kindly paid for by MPiP. Any dietary requirements that school are already aware of will be catered for. Should there be any change in your child's dietary requirements, please come into the school office to update your child's records as soon as possible.

### **Consultation on Early Learning and Childcare**

Aberdeenshire Council are currently running a survey to find out from parents and carers the types of Early Learning and Childcare that best meet children and parents' needs. With the prospect of the authority being asked to provide 1140 hours per year for eligible two year olds and all three and four year olds, the council are committed to finding provision that best suits the needs of children and their families. The survey runs until the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2016. We would be grateful if you could take the time to complete the survey below. It is a very brief survey and should take between 5 to 10 minutes to complete.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/AberdeenshireELC>

### **Admission to P1**

Session 2016/17 Registration Week for children starting Primary 1 in August 2017 will be from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

All children who reach their fifth birthday by 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 are invited to register for Primary 1 for admissions in August 2017.

Aberdeenshire Education and Children's Services has a common starting date for all its schools 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 2017. 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 or 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 9<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Nursery Enrolment**

Nursery Enrolment for session 2017/18 runs from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Children who are three before 31 August 2017 are eligible for a funded Early Learning and Childcare place in August 2017; children who are three before 31 December 2017 are eligible for a funded Early Learning and Childcare place in January 2018 and children who are three before 28 February 2018 are eligible for a funded Early Learning and Childcare place in April 2018 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 local authority nurseries and to commissioned playgroups and private day nurseries will be available from the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017. These can be obtained from all participating Early Learning and Childcare providers and online from <http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/information/early-learningand-childcare-information/>

Parents should remember to bring their child's birth certificate and evidence of home address (eg. recent utility bill no more than three months old) when coming to register.

### **Trading Cards**

A reminder that children should not be using trading cards (for example Pokemon or football) in school or in the playground. Any cards that are in bags for use before or after school are entirely children's responsibility. If any are seen during school time, they will be kept by an adult for the day and returned at 3.30pm.

### **Rotary Shoe Boxes**

Thank you to everyone who filled a Rotary Shoe Box – we were pleased to hand over 106 boxes which we know will be well received over Christmas time.

### **Children in Need**

We are pleased to announce that Children in Need donations for dress as you please and profits from the Children in Need Tuck Shop totalled a fabulous £645.80. Thank you to everyone who donated and all the members of staff who baked fine pieces for the Tuck Shop!

### **Christmas Fayre**

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Fayre on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November. A grand total of £3000 was raised! A special thank you to the MPiP organisers and volunteers for all their hard work.

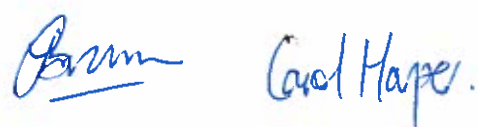
### **Parking within School Grounds**

A reminder once again, if you are parking in the school grounds, please be considerate of other users, particularly at busy times. Bus bays and disabled parking bays are not for general public use.

### **Diary Dates**

Just a reminder that School closes for the Christmas Holiday on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 3.30pm and re-opens on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 9.15am. However you are spending the Christmas break, have a lovely holiday and we look forward to working with you in the New Year.

Yours sincerely



Jane Brown and Carol Harper  
Acting Head Teachers

