

# Meldrum School

## Newsletter

### 2017-18

We're on Twitter!



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## 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017

**Dobry den, Hola, Bonjour, Guten tag,  
Zdravstvuyte, Ola, Hallo, Hej**

Hello and welcome to our second newsletter of the new term. This week we have European Day of Languages and classes will be undertaking a number of activities including a homework task just to find out how many different languages are spoken at home.

Our newsletter will take a slightly different form as we will now include Nursery News within the one newsletter. This allows the parents and carers who do not have children in the school yet to find out what's happening in the school as well as the Nursery.

### **Termly Updates**

A reminder that class Termly Updates are available on the school website by the third week of each term. They can be found by clicking on the blue 'Our Classes' tab at the top of the page. <http://meldrum-pri.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/>

### **Supervision in the morning**

The weather has continued to be rather wet and miserable and so I thought it was a good time to remind parents and carers that there is no supervision in the morning until 9.15am. If the weather is particularly bad, children should arrive in school no earlier than the warning bell as per school handbook guidance.

If children are arriving prior to this time for any reason, it is therefore important that children do arrive to school with appropriate clothing suitable for the weather.

We will always endeavour to bring in our children as quickly, practically and safely as possible. Your support in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

### **School Improvement Priorities Progress**

#### **1. Positive Relationships (Discipline)**

We have begun the process of reviewing our Behaviour Policy in the school. Adults in school have provided feedback in ways we can work together to provide consistently high standards in our school expectations and also the staged interventions to address consistency in the school. Our next step is to ask for input and feedback from our Pupil Council and pupils and also issuing a Survey Monkey to parents/carers to help us move to producing a draft updated policy.

#### **2. Assessment and Moderation**

An audit of our practice will be undertaken this term. This will highlight where we need to work to ensure standards are consistent and ensuring we are maximising the attainment opportunities for our pupils.

#### **3. Review Curriculum Programmes**

This process will begin next week when school staff will look at school planning of learning to ensure it provides a good record of learning, minimising bureaucracy and ensuring our teachers have more time to focus on learning and teaching.

#### **4. Improving Health and Wellbeing**

All of the schools in Meldrum will be adopting the "Bounce Back" approach. This is to improve pupil resilience and empower pupils to make good choices and also to support others to make good choices. A training event will take place on one of our November INSET Days and I will share more about this with you after this event has taken place.

#### **5. Nursery Improvement Focus**

Nursery will focus on assessment and tracking of skills including pre-writing skills.

## Nursery News

Welcome to everyone joining us at Meldrum Nursery. We are very much looking forward to the year ahead.

Our staff this year in the Rainbow Room will be myself, Nicola Park as Early Years Lead Practitioner, Carolyn Leggat full-time Early Years Practitioner, Gillian Simpson, Early Years Practitioner for the morning session, Lorna Blake, Early Years Practitioner for the afternoon session and Lesley Robinson, Early Years Practitioner who joins us from 11.30am to 1.30pm each day.

Welcome to everyone joining us in the Otter Room. Our staff this year will be myself, Sarah Menzies as Early Years Lead Practitioner, Lisa Fairley full-time Early Years Practitioner, Lauren Profeit full time Early Years Practitioner, Donna Duguid full time Early Years Practitioner, Gillian Patterson part time Early Years Practitioner, Emma Searle part time Early Years Practitioner and Morag Reidford part time Early Years Practitioner.

Should you have any queries or anything you feel we should know about your child, please do not hesitate to come and have a chat with us

The new children have all settled happily and the returning boys and girls have been most supportive and friendly towards their new peers.

Please take note of pick up and drop off times as children can become upset having to wait for returning parents/carers.

This session we will be developing outdoor play in particular 'loose parts' play, creating a mud kitchen and den making.

'Loose parts can be natural or synthetic. In a pre-school outdoor environment we can provide an array of loose parts for use in play such as stones, stumps, sand, gravel, fabric, twigs, wood, pallets, balls, buckets, baskets, crates, boxes, logs, stones, flowers, rope, balls, shells and seedpods.'

We are trying to collect items for our loose parts play and would be grateful for any contributions. We need crates, pipes, tubes, planks etc.

We also want to create a 'water wall' where flexible pipes, funnels and tubes are connected, by the children, to a wire or mesh grating, allowing the children to investigate the flow of water.



### *water wall and portable mud kitchen examples*

If you are handy with tools and would like to help, we would be most appreciative. Please talk to any staff member to offer your services.

We would like to make a portable mud kitchen for the playground and a stationary one for the courtyard.

Please dress children appropriately for outdoor play and be prepared for muddy or wet clothing!

### **Dates for the diary**

- Tue 10th Oct** Nursery Parent interviews– during session times  
School Parent interviews – 6.00-8.30pm
- Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Oct** Nursery Parent interviews– during session times  
School Parent interviews – 4.00-6.30pm
- Thur 12<sup>th</sup> Oct** Nursery Parent interviews – during session time
- Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Oct** End of term 3.30pm
- Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Oct** New term starts 9.15am
- Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov** Halloween Disco