

Meldrum School

Newsletter

2016-17



Tel. 01651 871100

e-mail: Meldrum.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

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Welcome to our May Newsletter. We hope that you are enjoying some better weather now and we look forward to warmer weather still and the exciting events ahead in this busy summer term.

We're now on Twitter!

Follow us on Twitter @MeldrumSchool for regular news and updates. We are hoping that we can share some of the exciting things happening in Meldrum School.

Also, because of security, our tweets are protected, and this also means that any requests to follow will require to be approved so there will be a slight delay in accepting any follower requests.

Summer Reading Challenge

Aberdeenshire Libraries' Summer Reading Challenge is a fun and accessible activity for children of all ages and aims to promote reading, encourage progression, support curricular outcomes and involve children in cultural activity. The organisers design the challenge to ensure that children of all abilities are able to take part and encourage participants to read their own choice of books, listen to talking books or download and read e-books over the school summer holiday period. Library staff across Aberdeenshire promote the Challenge within their CSN and local community and as a result participation has grown year on year.

The theme for this year's reading challenge is all about Books and their Illustrations - "**Be Drawn into a Good Book**". The Challenge starts on **Thursday 22nd June** and will run until **Saturday 26th August 2017**. Alongside the reading challenge, there will be a creative competition for children to enter.

Health & Safety with Bicycles

Would you please remember in the interests of health and safety that bicycles should be guided and not ridden in any part of the school playground. As you will imagine, with so many children about it is not safe to ride bicycles in school. Your support in this would be greatly appreciated.

Supervision before school

Just a reminder that, with the exception of Early Stages Playground, there is no adult supervision in the playgrounds before 9.15am which is in line with Aberdeenshire Council guidance. Please note, that the school assumes responsibility for your child from 9.15am.

Dyslexia Parent Event

Aberdeenshire Council are holding a Dyslexia Parent Event at Meldrum Academy on Monday 12th June from 7.00 – 9.00pm. For more information and to register, please click the link below.

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dyslexia-practical-information-advice-for-parents-tickets-34426094375?utm_source=eb_email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=order_confirmation_email&utm_term=eventname&ref=eemailordconf

Restorative Approaches

Following the series of Restorative Approaches parent meetings being held this term, we will be producing a Restorative Approaches Parent Leaflet for those of you who were not able to attend your year group meeting and those of you who returned slips requesting more information. We plan to put out this leaflet with the first newsletter of next session.

Sun cream

As we head towards sunnier weather, it would be a great help for the school if you would please apply any sun cream your child needs before they come to school and not send sun cream into school with your child.

May we suggest that children bring a sun hat into school to protect from the strong summer sun.

Fidget Spinners

You may be aware that the latest popular children's toy is the "Fidget Spinner". This is a toy aimed at all children but has been said that it is helpful for children including those with additional needs.

As there is a "no toy" rule in school, we ask for your support in that children do not bring these into school. This is a commercial toy and anyone who requires any support aids like these will be supplied by the school.

Children are free to use the spinners before they come to school or on their way home but these must be kept in schoolbags and out of sight.

If children do bring them to school and are used during the school day then they will be looked after by the school and returned at the end of the day.

School Review of Security and School Hours

Over the rest of the session, we will be reviewing security arrangements in the school which includes access to the school and safety of our pupils. This will include how adults access the school during the school day and how we can maximise the security of all of our pupils. Once this has been done our recommendations will be shared with you.

We will also be reviewing the current school and nursery hours. Currently the school is open from 9.15am to 3.30pm, and Nursery from 9.00 to 3.40pm.

There is an Aberdeenshire protocol for reviewing school hours and what will happen if it is decided the times require changing and more details of this will follow shortly.

Email Communication

As you know, we send most school communication via email. Our new email system allows us to see if emails have been delivered, opened or have bounced back. If an email has bounced back, we will endeavour to ensure a paper copy is sent home. To ensure you receive all communications, we suggest you regularly check your Junk Mail Box in case emails have been delivered there and also please ensure that you make the school aware of any changes to your email address.

Currently there is also an app you may choose to download called Groupcall Xpressions. This allows you to see all communication from the school, for example emails and text messages, in one place. Please note that you do not require to install the app to receive messages from the school. This is simply an app to use that you can review previous messages sent via Groupcall.

P6 Languages Day

Recently all of the pupils participated in a very successful Languages Day at Meldrum Academy. This involved all P6 pupils from all of the Meldrum Cluster Schools.

Rights Respecting Schools

Congratulations to Mrs Harvie, the Roaring Rights Group and pupils at the school has now reached its first level of recognition as part of the Rights Respecting School Award. The school has reached the committed stage and we now look forward to building and developing Meldrum as a Rights Respecting School

Dates for your diary

Sat 3 rd June	MPIP Car Boot Sale
Mon 5 th June	Occasional Day Holiday
6 th – 8 th June	P7 Academy Induction Days
Fri 9 th June	Sports Day
Wed 14 th June	Open Afternoon 2.30 -3.15pm
Wed 21 st June	MPIP Meeting 7pm
Fri 30 th June	P7 Leavers assembly 10am
Fri 30 th June	End of Session 3.30pm

Ian Mitchell