



Meldrum School Newsletter

1st December 2020



I am delighted to be writing this newsletter as now permanent Head Teacher at Meldrum School. Thank you for all your well wishes and support and I look forward to continuing to work with you all in the years ahead. The Depute Head Teacher post has now been advertised and I will update you about that recruitment in due course.

Updates

As you will be aware, COVID infections rates continue to rise so it is important that we all continue to follow guidelines to do our bit to halt the spread of infection.

We have noticed that some children are arriving at school quite early each morning. Particularly as the weather gets colder, children should arrive at school as close to 9.15am as possible.

In school, we continue to keep windows open for ventilation purposes so please ensure your child has a jumper/cardigan with them each day.

Interim Reports

Your child's Interim Report will be emailed to you on Monday 7th December. It is important to note that these emails will be sent individually to you so will not all arrive at the same time. Please take the opportunity to click the link at the bottom of the report to leave some feedback on your child's learning.

Twitter

Our Twitter page is a great way for you to keep up to date with what is happening at Meldrum School. Please follow us @MeldrumSchool. If you are new to Twitter, it is really easy to sign up. Our account is private so you will need to request to follow us.

Christmas

As mentioned in our last newsletter, Christmas will look a bit different this year at Meldrum School.

Meldrum Advent Calendar

Instead of our usual Christmas Show, Singalong, Craft Afternoon and Stay and Play, our children and staff have been working hard to create a Meldrum Advent Calendar! Each day in December a new advent surprise will be shared with children and parents via Google Classroom, email and Twitter. Our advent journey starts today with P2L and their Christmas Robins and P2MP's Makaton song <https://bit.ly/3lsmZkS>



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Christmas Jumper and Online Pantomime Day

Instead of our usual year group Christmas Parties, on Friday 11th December, children are encouraged to join in with Christmas Jumper Day. Children should dress in their regular school uniform and can wear a Christmas Jumper if they choose.

On this day, Children will also watch an online pantomime, 'Robin Hood and His Socially Distanced Men', in their classroom. Thank you to MPiP for kindly paying for this pantomime for us and for buying an individual bag of popcorn and carton of juice for each child to enjoy whilst watching the pantomime.

End of Term Church Service

Instead of our usual visit to Meldrum Parish Church, the church have very kindly put together an Advent Gift Bag for each child in school. These have been quarantined in school for over 72 hours to ensure they can safely be given to children to take home. Look out for a special Christmas Advent message from Reverend Alisa McDonald as part of our Meldrum Advent Calendar too!

Christmas Dinner Day

This will go ahead as normal on Thursday 10th December. A traditional Christmas dinner will replace Sausage Roll on the menu that day.

Christmas Cards/Gifts

In line with current COVID arrangements and risk assessments, we ask that children do not bring Christmas cards and presents to be distributed in school. Should you be considering a gift for school or nursery staff this year, we would like to suggest a donation to support some local community work instead as staff will be unable to accept gifts this year.

If you choose to donate to charity, please feel free to email us to let us know and we can forward your email to the appropriate staff to let them know about your donation.



Oldmeldrum Community Foodbank are accepting donations on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am – 2pm at The Royal British Legion, Market Square, Oldmeldrum. Donations can also be dropped off at Oldmeldrum Coop, Colpy Rd, Oldmeldrum.



The Stitch House (Community Café), 2 Urquhart Rd, Oldmeldrum are offering meals on Christmas Day to anyone who is on their own or struggling to meet the cost of a Christmas Dinner. There are two sittings (at 12.30pm and 2.00pm) and tables can be booked by calling Tracey Morris on 07539286350.

The Stitch House also have a Just Giving page, taking donations to go towards this https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/thestitchhousexmasmeal?utm_term=EWzaE5JBQ



Aberdeenshire North Foodbank supports families across our area. You can donate food at the following collection points (please note, we cannot accept donations at school this year):

Oldmeldrum: Coop and Keystore

Inverurie: Tesco, Morrisons, Poundland, McLeish's, Marks & Spencer, Nemesis Kickboxing Academy, Co-op North Street, Co-op Burghmuir Road and the Royal Mail Sorting Office

Pitmedden: Coop

You can also donate money online

<https://aberdeenshirenorth.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>



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Calendar

Monday 7 th December	Interim Reports issued
Thursday 10 th December	Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 11 th December	Christmas Jumper and Online Pantomime Day
Friday 18 th December	School Closes at 3.30pm for Christmas Holidays

Yours sincerely

Carol Harper

Carol Harper
Head Teacher