

Meldrum School Newsletter

25th January 2021



Staffing

Following the appointment of Lynsey Holland to the permanent Depute Head Teacher post, the Principal Teacher post has now been advertised.

Remote Learning

We have been very pleased with pupil engagement on Google Classroom over the last two weeks and would like to thank you for all your support with this. We have taken advantage of Connecting Scotland funding to secure devices for around forty children and have also been able to lend some school laptops to families. These additional devices have helped more children to engage and almost all children have now been able to log on to Google Classroom. We will continue to track children's engagement and offer support to families as appropriate. Over half of our nursery children have engaged with learning opportunities through their Interactive Learning Diaries (ILD). Nursery staff would love you to post your child's work on their ILD so they can see all the hard work they have been doing. Please contact the school if we can provide any support meldrum.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

This week saw the first of our class Google Meet sessions. The children who took part seemed to very much enjoy interacting with their peers and teachers and it has provided much needed social interaction for the children. Google Meets will continue for P1-7 children twice each week. Teachers will post Google Meet times for the week first thing on Monday morning. Mrs Holland posted a video on each class stream on Friday 15th January with detailed instructions about how to join in with the Google Meet sessions. Children can only take part in Google Meet sessions where we have permissions. Permissions can be completed here if you have not already done so - https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BpPZ_i1NCUSVndDttzBKC_Zl2R4_h1BLpAMOQzqYnmZUQTFYOUhLOE1ITEo0QkIxTVpMVUwzS0NGSi4u Please note, even if you child is currently accessing school, we still require you to complete the permission form.

We have had a couple of queries about the time of day work is posted and requesting we post work earlier in the morning or the evening before. Teachers are balancing the preparation of work with marking and feedback of current work. Often a piece of learning completed one day feeds directly into the planning of tasks for subsequent days so it is not always possible for teachers to post tasks, particularly literacy and numeracy too far in advance. We are aiming to be as consistent as possible across the school and feel that having teachers post tasks each morning is a good way to achieve this. We hope that our approach of having all tasks available for children to access for the whole week will allow you some flexibility to complete tasks at times which suit you. Please do not feel under pressure to complete and submit all tasks on the day they are issued. Teachers will aim to provide feedback on all work which has been submitted. You and your child can then view this feedback together. Information is available on the Class Streams each day so remember to look there for any messages from teachers and other

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children. We hope to get some feedback from the children about their experiences of Remote Learning so far so look out for a pupil survey on the class stream next week.

Some Additional Resources

As part of Education Scotland's National e-Learning offer, e-Sgoil have shared details of Lockdown Live which includes daily live sessions on the e-Sgoil website. Details can be found in their Lockdown Live leaflet [here](#) and live sessions, past sessions and associated resources can be accessed at <http://www.e-sgoil.com/lockdown-live/>

You can access free online books via Aberdeenshire libraries. An email was sent out to all parents last week with information on how to access this service.

Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust's (AFCCT) DONline Learning site is now live. It contains resources to support remote learning. Additional resources will be added every Friday <https://www.afccommunitytrust.org/donline-learning-3/donline-learning-2/>

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Carol Harper'.

Carol Harper

Head Teacher