

Meldrum School Newsletter

3rd May 2022



Welcome back to Term 4 at Meldrum School. This is always a busy and exciting term and we are looking forward to inviting parents into school again as Covid restrictions ease.

Staffing

Congratulations to Lauren Cunningham and Katie Witt who both had baby boys last term.

Hannah Moir takes up her new Early Years Practitioner post in nursery today. Janice Collie left her Pupil Support Assistant post at the end of last term. This post will be filled this term by Zahra Abdul working Monday – Wednesday each week.

School Calendar

With Covid restrictions easing, we have been able to plan some events for this term.

Sports Day (school and nursery) – parents are invited along to Sports Day. We are currently planning for this and further details/timings etc will be shared in due course.

P1-7 Open Morning/Afternoon – parents are invited into school for a session either morning or afternoon to do a craft activity in class with your child. This will be Jubilee themed. Further information will be shared in due course.

Jubilee Celebration – children from nursery – P7 will be taking part in activities in school to celebrate the Jubilee

The calendar for this term is attached below.

School Wear

A reminder to complete your school wear orders by Sunday 8th May. Information about this was emailed to you on 26th April.

Bounce Back

Our current Bounce Back focus is Humour. Further information for parents/carers is attached below.

Tempest Class Photographs

A Tempest Photographer will be coming to Meldrum School on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th May to take P1-P7 class photographs and will be back on the 16th May to take Nursery group photos. Nursery parents/carers will receive more information about timings in next few days. Tempest will also be returning to school in the Autumn to take individual and family group photos. If you would prefer your child not to be in their class photo, please contact the school office by 4pm on Friday 5th May.



Seesaw Update

As you will know, we use Seesaw as a valuable tool for our P1-7 children to share their learning with parents/carers at home. Aberdeenshire Council have recently completed a new Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) for Seesaw. As a result of this, we require parents/carers to provide new consent for your child to use Seesaw.



To complete the consent you should -

- read the attached Seesaw Privacy Notice
- complete this [form](#). Please note you must complete a separate form for each child.

We have been asked to remind parents that Seesaw is only for sharing information related to children's learning and work in school and should not be used for other communication between home and school. Any communication related to your child/children should be communicated via the school office.

Google Legends

In school, we use Google Legends to teach children about internet safety. We use the Internet Legends Code to promote safe use of the internet. Further information, including a section for parents, is available [here](#).

The Internet Legends Code

- Be Internet **Sharp**
- Be Internet **Alert**
- Be Internet **Secure**
- Be Internet **Kind**
- Be Internet **Brave**



Webinar Opportunity

Staff from Meldrum Academy have organised a free webinar for parents, pupils and staff on using ICT and Assistive Technology to Support Literacy Difficulties. This is an exciting opportunity to see the assistive technology available in Aberdeenshire Schools, what can be available on your home devices, and see how some features can be used. There will be an opportunity to ask questions from the experts at the end of the session. This session is on Wednesday 4th May 7.00 – 8.30pm and you can join the session by using this link.

Microsoft Teams meeting

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Join on your computer or mobile app

Head Lice

A reminder to please check your children's hair regularly (ideally weekly) for head lice. Further information about checking for head lice and treatment is available [here](#). If you discover your child has head lice, please let the school office know as this allows us to track cases and issue class letters as necessary.

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It's OK to Worry About War and Conflict Resource Packs

Attached with this newsletter is information from Aberdeenshire Council Educational Psychology Service and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services about supporting children with what they may be seeing and hearing in relation to the conflict in Ukraine.

British Legion Garden

The British Legion have asked us to create a community garden space in their garden. Each P1-7 class will have a small space and the children have been busy planning what they would like to do with their space. Our next step is to bring these plans to life and we are hoping to gather some resources to help with this.

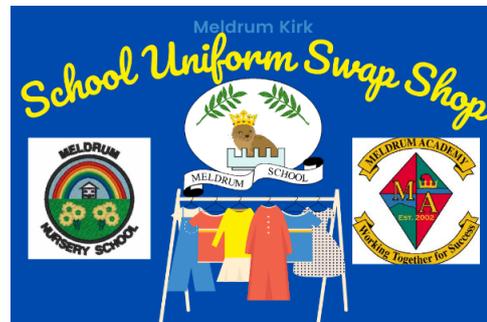
We would appreciate donations of the following items

- Bedding plants
- Garden herbs
- Vegetable plants
- Butterfly and bee friendly plants like lavender
- Hanging baskets with plants
- Containers such as pots, old welly boots, bowls for water features/bird baths
- Canes for supporting plants
- Smooth pebbles

Donations can be left outside the school office during week beginning 16th May.

Community News

Meldrum Kirk School Uniform Swap Shop – The next swap shop dates are 14th May, 28th May, 11th June, 25th Jun and 9th July. There will be a full week of uniform swap shop week commencing 15th August which is the week before school begins. All donations can be made on the day or to the manse (17 Benview Gardens) at any time.



Come to any Community Connect Café
(2nd & 4th) Sat. of the month 10am-12pm or the
Meldrum Kirk Nearly New Sale (wk 15 August) to swap
uniform or school essentials from Nursery - Academy



For more information please email:
Alisa.McDonald@churchofscotland
.org.uk



Pre-Loved Uniform Appeal - The Village Church in Oldmeldrum are once again organising a pre-loved uniform appeal. If you have any school/nursery uniform in good condition which you no longer require this can be donated to the appeal. Throughout the month of May, you can drop this off outside the school office (inside if it is raining!). These will be washed, ironed and distributed by local volunteers.

School Calendar 2021/22 Term 4



		Children	Parents	
Week beginning Monday 2 nd May	Nursery Open Sessions	√	√	Various days/times
Week beginning Monday 9 th May	Nursery Open Sessions	√	√	Various days/times
Monday 9 th May	P1-7 Class Photographs	√		
Tuesday 10 th May		√		
Week beginning Monday 16 th May	ALEC Caravan visiting	√		
Monday 16 th May	Nursery Group Photographs	√		
Monday 23 rd May	Reports Issued			
Wednesday 24 th May	MPiP meeting		√	6.30 – 7.30pm, GP Room
Thursday 26 th May	Sports Day	√	√	Timings tbc
Monday 30 th May	Alternate Sports Day (in case of bad weather on Thursday)	√	√	Timings tbc
Tuesday 31 st May	P1-7 Open Morning/Afternoon	√	√	9.45 – 10.30pm or 2.30 – 3.15pm
Wednesday 1 st June	Jubilee Celebration Day	√		
Thursday 2 nd , Friday 3 rd and Monday 6 th June	Holidays			
Tuesday 7 th June	Optional Parent Consultations	√	√	4.00 - 6.30pm
Thursday 9 th June	Optional Parent Consultations	√	√	4.00 - 6.30pm
Thursday 9 th June	Nursery Outdoor Stay and Play	√	√	Timings tbc
Saturday 11 th June	MPiP Summer Fayre	√	√	10.30am – 2.30pm
Tuesday 14 th June	Nursery Sports Day	√	√	AM. Timings tbc
Tuesday 14 th , Wednesday 15 th and Thursday 16 th June	P7 Academy Transition Days	√		
Thursday 16 th June	Nursery Sports Day	√	√	PM. Timings tbc
Week beginning Monday 29 th June	P7 Activity Week	√		
Tuesday 21 st June	Nursery Induction meeting		√	5.00pm
Monday 27 th June	Meet the Teacher	√		
Tuesday 28 th June	Dance Off	√		
Wednesday 29 th June	Nursery Teddy Bear's Picnic	√		AM
Wednesday 29 th June	P7 Leavers Celebration	√	√	2.00pm
Friday 1 st July	Nursery Teddy Bear's Picnic	√		PM
Friday 1 st July	Last day of term			

Parent Information: Humour

Enjoying a laugh with others is a unique human bond that helps us connect with others. Finding something funny about a difficult situation can also help us to feel more hopeful. Humour helps us to gain a sense of perspective on our problems, because it can throw a little light on an otherwise dark situation. It reminds us that life goes on. It allows us to release the tension created by strong and uncomfortable feelings such as sadness, disappointment, anxiety and anger. Having a laugh also helps us to stay healthy and well because of the changes that laughter creates in our bodies. The use of laughter in children's hospital wards is an example of how humour can help us cope and deal with hard times.

Key messages to communicate to your child about humour

Humour helps us to stay healthy.

Laughter helps our body to fight disease and illness. Humour is like exercise for our mind and our feelings.

Humour can help you to feel better.

Having a laugh and finding the funny side of a situation can help you feel a little bit better when you are feeling unhappy, sad or worried, or when things are difficult.

You can use laughter and humour to help someone else feel a little bit better.

You can cheer someone up when they have a problem, or they are feeling sad or worried, by being funny in a nice gentle way. Stop doing it if they don't like it.

Humour should not be used to pretend that you don't feel sad or worried.

Even though laughter can help you feel better when you have a problem, you still need to try to solve the problem, or deal with the unhappy feeling. Laughter doesn't make problems go away. It just helps you to cope with them a little better.

Humour shouldn't be used to hurt someone's feelings.

It's unkind to laugh at someone else's problems or bad luck, or make fun of the way another person looks, thinks, speaks or acts.

What can you do to help your child learn about humour?

- Share funny songs or movies and TV shows with your child. This is a great way to connect and enjoy each other's company.
- Read funny stories or poems to your child and enjoy the humour together.
- Share riddles and jokes that don't rely on put-downs or insulting humour.
- Help your child learn how to tell a riddle or joke well.
- Encourage your child to make a funny card, drawing or banner to cheer up a family member or a friend who is sick or having a difficult time.
- Create opportunities for your child to have fun and some laughs with their friends (e.g. when your child has friends around to play you could show a funny movie, encourage a joke-telling session, play silly or fun games, provide funny dress-ups or encourage them to put on a funny skit).
- Point out to your child when they are using humour in an inappropriate way (e.g. to put down someone such as their younger brother or sister, or to trivialise something important, or to deny a problem or a feeling they are having). Discuss this with them.