

# Fettercairn Primary Newsletter



December 2011

Issue No 37

Another busy time ahead!



As ever, this term has been a flurry of activity! We have had two days of In-service training for the teachers on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> November. The staff attended a range of training about Big Writing, Developing Young Workforce, Outdoor Learning and Nurture, Dance and Challenging Learning presented by James Nottingham.

Mr I Clarke  
Head Teacher

Parent Interviews

We have been busy speaking to parents over the last couple of weeks about the children's progress. If you have been unable to attend please contact the school to arrange an interview at a convenient time.

Poppy Appeal

This year the school and community collected £114.71 in support of our service men and women. We would like to thank all those who contributed to this wonderful cause.

Children in Need

I would like to congratulate the Pupil Council for organising a very successful day. All the children enjoyed the day and they collected a total of £74.96 which was similar to last year's total. Well done!

Aladdin Pantomime

Again this year there is a Pantomime in the school for Nursery and Primary pupils on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December beginning at 2pm. Like last year parents are invited to join the school children for the afternoon and share in the entertainment. However due to seating and space in the hall we will have to restrict each family to two adult seats. Parents with younger children will be allowed to bring them as they can be seated with them.

Christmas Tree

This year's school Christmas tree was again kindly donated by the Mr. S. Pettersen. We would like to thank him for this kind gesture./

### Christmas Show

Our Christmas Show, 'Bethlehem', will be held in **West Mearns Parish Church, Fettercairn at 6:30pm on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December. *Please could you bring your child to the Church at 6.15pm.*** At the end of the concert Nursery children should be collected from the church and the school pupils will be walked back to school with staff and parents/carers are asked to collect children from classrooms. There will be hot chocolate again at a charge of £1.00 per cup of "Hot Chocolate" served by the Parent Council in the Adult Lounge, to which everyone is invited. We look forward to seeing you there. Thank you to all who have worked so hard with the preparations. There will be a monetary collection in aid of the Church at the door.

### Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December the children will be allowed to come to school wearing a Christmas Jumper and casual clothes. Please do not buy a jumper especially for this. If your child does not own one then anything festive will do, including Santa hats!

### Christmas Parties

On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 1.30pm school children will be having their Christmas Party. As with any party there will be a number of different games and activities that they will be able to take part in. To help the children get ready for the party they can either come dressed in their Party clothes for the day or bring party clothes with them to change into at lunchtime. The Nursery Christmas party will be held during the session on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December.

### Extra-Curricular Activities

I have continued our Monday Dodgeball Club for P1-7 and our Morning Multi-sports for P1-4 on a Tuesday. I would like to thank Miss Oberlander and Mrs Armstrong for all their efforts in delivering the Art Club this term. The children have really enjoyed this and produced some excellent work. I would also like to thank Mrs Fleming for overseeing the Homework Club. I would also like to thank Charlie Smith, Ellie Dalgetty, Melina Pavlantis, Lily Greengrass, Emma Watson, Becky King and Ellie-Jane Fotheringham for all their efforts in the Dance Club, Choir and Performance Club. Well done girls.

### Emergency Contacts

It is very important that you keep all your details up to date with the school, just in case we need to contact you about anything. Please if you have recently changed mobile etc. let us know so we can update our records.

### Parking

I realise that there is limited areas around the school to park especially before and after school but it is very important that when parking/dropping off/picking up you are very aware of our children's safety and the needs of our neighbours. Recently I have been in contact with the Police who will be patrolling to ensure that the parking around the school is safe and legal. During these discussions with the Police it was brought to my attention that if there was a serious incident in the village it could be very difficult for the emergency services to pass during these busy periods. Please can you be aware of your own parking and if possible park in the square and walk to meet your child. Thank you./

## Head Lice

Please check your child's head regularly (we recommend weekly) and notify the school if you find head lice. Current advice on the treatment of head lice is available from your local pharmacist.

## SNOW PROCEDURE

In times of severe weather it is sometimes necessary for the school to remain closed. This decision is made as soon as it is evident that pupils and staff may be putting themselves at risk by travelling to school. The decision is not taken lightly by any Head Teacher and in the event that the weather does turn inclement I will be liaising with the transport companies, members of staff and Mearns Academy before making my decision. Occasionally parents feel that the conditions in their area do not justify us closing but we hope that you can appreciate that we have to make an overall judgement that covers many miles and that at the time the decision was made, it was the right decision for all concerned.



To hear whether or not the school is closed you can-  
Call our School Information Line on  
0870 054 4999 entering the code 021690 when prompted  
or  
listen to the radio stations  
BBC Scotland, Northsound  
Or



Go onto the internet on [www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/closures](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/closures)

We understand and share your frustration on these days but are at the mercy of the weather I'm afraid. The staff are prepared for these, having identified work that is to be carried out at home, should the school be closed.

## Fettercairn Parent Council News

**SOUP & SWEET:** We are delighted to inform you the event was a huge success and to date we have raised the fantastic amount of £2250 towards our playground enhancement fund. Thank you all for your support, generous donations and help on the run up to the day and on the day itself. We have had many comments from the public saying what a lovely day they had and the lunches were delicious so **WELL DONE EVERYONE.**

There will be a short informal evaluation meeting on **TUESDAY 19th DECEMBER @ 7pm**, all welcome to attend. If you are unable to attend and have any comments/suggestions for the next event please let us know via our email address.

**CHRISTMAS SHOW REFRESHMENTS:** Our "Hot Chocolate Station" will be available again in the adult lounge after the Christmas Show. As in previous years there will be a charge of £1.00 per cup. Tea/coffee will also be available.

**OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB:** Many thanks to all who have completed and returned their questionnaires. We have had a good response so a meeting will be arranged in the New Year to discuss further.

**RAG BAG COLLECTION:** Thank you for your continued support of this invaluable resource. Please bear with us when the bin is full as it can take up to a fortnight for the company to come and empty it./

**CEILIDH:** Following the success of the ceilidh in February we are currently in the process of arranging next years' one. It will be held on the evening of **WEDNESDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2018** and once again music will be provided by "Hipflask". To cover the band costs there will be a charge of £15 per family which will also include light refreshments. Look out for further information and tickets in the New Year.

**AND FINALLY:** Our next parent council meeting will be held on **TUESDAY 23rd JANUARY 2018 @ 9am in the adult lounge.** As always if you have anything you would like added to the agenda please let us know via email (**fettercairnpc@gmail.com**).

May we take this opportunity in thanking your for your support during 2017 and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Date of next meeting: Tuesday 17th January 2017 @ 7pm in Adult Lounge. All welcome.**

## Dates for your Diaries

<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Pantomime in School at 1.45pm for 2pm start.
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Nursery Nativity in School Hall at 11am School Show in the Parish Church at 6.30pm for School Pupils
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	School Pupils perform at QE court
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Jumper Day for School and Nursery Pupils
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>December</b>	Nursery Party AM Christmas Party for P1-7 (PM)
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	School Closes for Christmas at 3.15pm
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018</b>	<b>School Re-opens.</b>