

Cairney School aspires to be a happy, safe and inclusive learning community where everyone is treated fairly and with respect and encouraged to be the best they can be. Through high-quality, enjoyable, learning experiences, we strive to inspire and challenge our learners to achieve their fullest potential. In our school, learning is an active, exciting, positive experience. We work in partnership with parents, carers and the wider community to enable our children to become

- **Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors.**



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## Cairney School Newsletter No. 1: 26<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back everyone – it so lovely to see the children back in school again! We also extend a warm welcome to Cairney School to our new P1 children and their families. All the children are adapting well to the new routines that have been introduced and are clearly enjoying seeing their friends again. They are looking really smart in their school uniforms. Thank you for supporting the wearing of our school uniform - we discourage the wearing of fashionable clothing and accessories. Please could you make sure all clothing is clearly labeled. Thank you.



One of the changes we have had to make in school is the windows in the classroom are to be left open every day. This means that the classroom is cooler than what the children have experienced in the past. It would therefore be beneficial if they had their school jumper/sweatshirt or cardigan in school every day. The children also need a change of shoes for indoor use.

PE lessons have to take place outside; we are unable to have PE lessons inside at the moment. PE lessons will be on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please ensure the children have suitable clothing for use outside including appropriate footwear for wet conditions.

We will be outside as much as possible. As we are approaching Autumn/Winter weather and it is likely to be wet more often, if it is possible for the children to take a spare pair of wellies to school that they could leave in school that would be really appreciated.

### CHILD PROTECTION

To ensure our children's safety, it is important for us to have your help with the following:

- Please keep the school up to date with your telephone number, including mobile phone if you have one, and other details for emergency contacts.
- Please inform the school of any pre-arranged absence, e.g. attendance at a hospital appointment or other unavoidable event, prior to the absence-taking place.
- Please inform the school of your child's absence by 9.15 a.m. on the morning of the first day of absence. For afternoon sessions, inform the school no later than half an hour into the afternoon session.
- Respond promptly to contact from the school.

### **Attendance at school (Aberdeenshire Policy August 2016)**

The school monitors attendance at school and will discuss this with pupils and parents as appropriate. We deal sensitively with a pupil's needs and concerns and try to address any needs identified at an early stage, involving parents/carers and other sources of expertise as appropriate.

As a parent/carer, you will be informed of concerns about the level of your child/children's attendance **(i.e. when attendance falls below 90% as of August 2016)** at an early stage and invited to a meeting to discuss how we can work together to support your child's attendance and to draw up a plan of support. You and your child will always be asked about what kind of support you think is needed.

If you are planning to take your child/children out of school during school time for e.g. a holiday, family event etc., we would ask that you put ***this request in writing*** stating the dates of intended absence. Thank you. *Please note: holidays taken during term time are recorded as unauthorised absences.*

If your child/children have sickness and/or diarrhea, **they should be kept at home for 48 hours** to help prevent the infection spreading to their classmates and to staff.

**Your child/children must not attend school if they or anyone in your household has COVID-like symptoms or has a positive test. They cannot return to school until self-isolation is over.**

Please phone the school to inform us of your child/children's absence; please do not email the school to explain an absence as there isn't someone in the school office all the time and there will be times when your email might not be picked by us.

### **School closures and transport changes**

Parents/carers can receive online alerts about school closures and changes to school transport. You can sign up for these notifications through *myaccount* on the Aberdeenshire Council website – if you currently pay for school meals online, you will already be registered. *myaccount* is a simple, secure way of accessing a range of Scottish public services using just one username and password and 13,000 parents/carers across Aberdeenshire are already enjoying the benefit of it. As well as being able to sign up for alerts, your home page will automatically give you handy information such as your bin collection days, where your nearest recycling centre is and the names of your local councilors.

So if you want to be kept up to date and take advantage of the other *myaccount* benefits, sign up to the system by going to the Aberdeenshire Council website and clicking on the red **register** button in the top right-hand corner.



### **Improved reporting to parents: Sharing our learning - school Twitter Account**

As part of the on-going process of regular sharing of information about the children's learning and what is going on in school throughout the school year, we have a school 'Twitter' account. **This is a closed account and only those given permission to access to it will be able to see the content.** If you wish to follow us on Twitter, please search for Cairney School and click on the request to follow us and we will give you access to the account. The number of people following us on Twitter is growing! Thank you to those who are already following us– we hope you are enjoying finding out what we are learning in school and seeing what we are doing in the classroom!

**News from the staffroom**

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs. Wills, an art visiting specialist teacher, who will be working with the children on Tuesday mornings up until the October holidays. Mrs. Mitchell will be teaching the children on Wednesdays and Thursdays and I will be teaching the class on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. Mrs. Morrison (our Pupil Support Assistant) will be in the classroom every day.



**News from the classroom**

We have started the term by enjoying being together, re-establishing relationships and working together to make our outdoor space attractive again. We will continue to be outside as much as possible for different learning activities – not just PE. We will be talking about feelings and emotions and learning about The Body. We are learning to write stories and in Maths we are working on direction, compass points, symmetry, shape and working with numbers.

These continue to be unprecedented times. Remember if there is something worrying you – please talk to us. If there is something you would like to discuss, please call the school and arrange a time to talk about it.

**Dates for your diary**

- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October: School closes for the October Holidays
- Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October: School re-opens for Term 2
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November: School closed to pupils for In-service day
- Friday 18<sup>th</sup>: December: School closes for Christmas.
- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>: January: School opens for Term 3

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Kim C Aplin  
Head Teacher

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<b>Parent Comments and Ideas</b>
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<b>Please share your child/children’s out of school achievements</b>
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Name: .....

Signed: .....