



New Deer School Newsletter

Thursday 24 August 2017

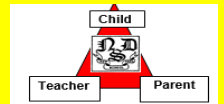
Welcome back to the new session and a big welcome to our new Primary one Pupils - photo to follow when we have them all in together!

Groupcall Xpressions

We hope to communicate with you through Groupcall Xpressions – if you are not already signed up, please do so, to make sure you continue to receive all school communications. See note attached.

Meet the Teachers - Wednesday 30 August

As in previous years we will hold a 'Back to School' evening meeting for all parents. This is an opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher and to find out how things will work in the classroom this session. These meetings have proved very useful in the past and we would encourage you to come along.



6.00pm – Primary 5/6

6.15pm – Primary 6/7, Primary 1/2

6.30pm – Primary 3/4

6.45pm – Primary 2/3



Some pupils will also be present to show you how to access our glow page - do speak to them, so that you are sure you can see the class blogs and any information we share on glow. Some homework tasks will also be set through glow, so it is important you can access the New Deer glow page.

You may remember a letter you received from Aberdeenshire Director of Education, asking for your feedback on how well the school, and Aberdeenshire Council, engage with parents. You will be given the opportunity to complete a questionnaire in school on Meet the Teacher evening, or if you prefer you can access and complete it at home, by following this link,

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CQ8B78Y> or using this QR code



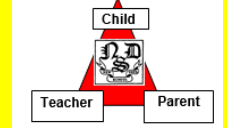
Accelerated Reading

Many of the children in the school are reading through the Accelerated Reading Scheme. We are aware, from feedback from last year, that parents would like some instruction and help to support their children in this. We will arrange an evening when you will be invited into school and a member of staff and pupils will show you how it works. Look out for a date coming soon. We are most grateful to the PTA for funding AR in the school – the children love it and we are proud to be a reading school!

The Power of Three

I attach a calendar of events where parents are involved or invited to visit the school. We see these events as opportunities for teachers, pupils and parents to liaise and are part of our 'reporting to parents' agenda. Each of these is a time when you can find out how your child is progressing academically, socially and emotionally.

While we will try to adhere to these dates, changes may become necessary over the year.



Breakfast Club

There has been a lot of research completed showing that children who have had breakfast are able to learn more effectively. Similarly, children who have emotional and/or behavioural problems should be more settled, thereby able to concentrate on their day and so be more able to learn to moderate their behaviour. There would be an added benefit of a period of time, with no academic pressure, where staff are able to just talk with some of our quieter pupils, giving them a time and place where they can have a pressure free chat. It will also give staff an opportunity to observe children in a relaxed atmosphere and they can then share their observations with class teachers, adding to the overall assessment of your child. Older children coming along will be expected to take some responsibility for the younger children, and this in itself will raise self-esteem in the children.

Please let class teachers or the office know if your child would be interested in coming along to a breakfast club.

Extra-Curricular Activities

We are indebted to the many parent helpers who run all our after school clubs. This is a huge commitment of time and effort and it is much appreciated by the pupils and staff at the school. If you would be willing to help out at any of our existing clubs, or you have an idea for any other clubs, please get in touch. The children also enjoy lunchtime clubs if that would be a more suitable time for you, we would love to have you!

Netball Club on a Monday and Jogging on a Tuesday urgently require another coach to join their teams. If your child is attending any of these clubs we will arrange a rota of parent help to allow us to get started in the first week of September.

As a Rights Respecting School we welcome feedback from the children, parent and carers. Please send us any comments, compliments or dare I say it complaints!

