



NEWSLETTER

November 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Adverse Weather

Aberdeenshire schools operate a website and telephone information service which can be used if there is a risk of closure due to adverse weather. The telephone number for this is **0370 054 4999**.

You will be prompted during the call to enter the schools unique pin number which for **Auchterless School is 021260** (Turriff Academy is 021140).

When severe weather warnings are received we will endeavour to keep the system updated. Please inform school of any change to your contact details or of the pupil's storm address, which may occur during the session.

In the event of stormy weather, children should not wait at their pick-up point longer than fifteen minutes after the normal bus arrival time.

Outdoor Clothing

Please ensure any and all clothing and footwear that may be removed during the school day is clearly named. All children should have a warm waterproof jacket, hood or hat and gloves. If children wish to access the grass during lunch playtime they **MUST** have boots or wellies in school to change into.

Turriff Christmas Lights – Switch on Competition

We are delighted to inform you that the winners for the Turriff Christmas Lights Competition were P1-3 Angus McKell and P4-7 Adam McWilliam. Well done to both.

Eco-Committee

I'm delighted to advise that in the Formartine Beginning to Blossom Schools Competition we achieved the Gold Award for a third year running securing a score in excess of 70 marks. We also achieved the Special Judges Award for the work that we did to encourage butterflies and insects to our grounds. We are hoping to get the gardening club up and running again, and if you are available and interested please speak to Mrs Evans, it is likely to run on a monthly basis, but we need adult volunteers.

Christmas Cards

These can be distributed in school after Wednesday 6th December when the school Christmas post box will be set up. We will be offering the usual stamping service as part of our 'Pupil Enterprise' activities whereby pupils purchase a 'stamp' and the card is then 'posted' in the school's post box to be distributed at break and lunch times. A suggested donation of 5p will be charged per card this year. It is not compulsory for pupils to have their cards stamped, but all money raised goes to the pupils' chosen charity.

Panto – Thursday 7th December

Please see separate letter sent last week.

P6 & 7 Pupils

We have been invited to attend Turriff's Got Talent and Turriff Academy. More details will follow.

Christmas Performance – Thursday 14th December

Parents and carers are asked to ensure pupils arrive at school on Thursday 14th December via the front entrance by **6.15pm** please and we will go across together to the Church for the performance for a 6.30pm start.

After the Christmas Performance we will gather with the Auchterless Residents Association by the Christmas tree and switch on the Auchterless tree lights. Refreshments will be available in the school hall afterwards courtesy of the Parent Council. Donations will be split between the community groups.

Christmas Lunch – Friday 15th December

School Christmas lunch will be served on Friday 16th December at 12:30pm. If your child would like Christmas Lunch, where they normally have a packed lunch, please make sure that your child has pre-ordered. Orders will be taken this week.

Festive Jumper Day - Friday 15th December

Pupils will support the fundraising initiative of 'Wear a Festive Jumper' to raise money for a chosen charity. For a suggested donation of £1, pupils (and staff) can wear their Christmas jumper or T-shirt to school.

Christmas Party - Monday 18th December

On Monday 18th December, lunch will be 15 minutes earlier at 12.15pm and children can then change into their party clothes for the party at 1:25pm. The party will start at 1.45pm and end around 3pm. We will be inviting pupils who will be attending P1 next August and will be expecting a 'Visitor' at 2:30pm. Parents may attend at this time and will be able to take their children home at the end of the party. (If you know of any pre-schoolers who do not currently attend Auchterless Playgroup but will be joining the school in August, please let us know so that they can be included).

Please indicate if you will be attending and therefore collecting your child from school on the attached return slip to allow for changes to be made to buses if necessary.

Last Day of Term – Friday 22nd December

We will have an 'Elf Drive' this year. This will be held in school on Friday 22nd December starting at 1:45pm. Parents, carers, friends and anyone who would like to join us for a fun afternoon will be most welcome for a small donation and refreshments will be available at half time. You will be able to take your child/ren home afterwards if it is your intention to join us.

School Handbook and Standards and Quality Report with Improvement Plans

The updated versions of these are available on our revamped school website.

Absences

All absences need to be reported to school by 9.30 am on the day but if your child uses school transport, the bus driver also needs to be contacted to avoid delays.

Holidays

Friday 22nd December is the last day of Term 2, we return to school on Monday 8th January.

Please see below dates for your diary. Any new or altered dates have been added in red.

November	Friday 24 th	Chritmas Fayre – 6.30-8.00pm
December	<p>Wednesdy 6th</p> <p>Thursday 7th</p> <p>Wednesay 13th</p> <p>Thursday 14th</p> <p>Friday 15th</p> <p>Friday 15th</p> <p>Monday 18th</p> <p>Friday 22nd</p>	<p>Christmas Card Post Box</p> <p>Pantomime Trip</p> <p>P6&7 to Turriff Academy</p> <p>Christmas Show – with Auchterless Residents Association</p> <p>Christmas Lights Switch on</p> <p>Xmas Jumper Day</p> <p>School Christmas Lunch</p> <p>Christmas Party</p> <p>Last Day of Term 2 and Elf Drive in pm</p>
January 2018	Monday 8 th	Term 3 begins
February	<p>Monday 5th</p> <p>Friday 9th</p> <p>Monday 12th</p> <p>Tuesday 13th</p> <p>Wednesday 14th</p> <p>Tuesday 27th</p>	<p>ASPC Meeting – 7pm</p> <p>Occasional day holiday</p> <p>Occasional day holiday</p> <p>Staff In-service – no school for pupils</p> <p>Staff In-Service - no school for pupils</p> <p>School Photos – Group only</p>
March	Thursday 29 th	Last Day of Term 3
April	Monday 16 th	Term 4 begins
May	<p>Monday 7th</p> <p>Thursday 17th</p> <p>Monday 21st -</p> <p>Friday 25th</p>	<p>Occasional day holiday</p> <p>K'next Generation Workshop</p> <p>P7 Loch Insh week</p>
June	Monday 4 th	Occasional day holiday
July	Friday 6 th	Last Day of Term 4
August	<p>Monday 20th</p> <p>Tuesday 21st</p>	<p>In Service – no school for pupils</p> <p>Term 1 begins</p>

NEWSLETTER – November 2017 – Return Slip

Child/ren's Name(s).....

School Christmas Party – Monday 18th December

I will attend the party at 2.30pm and take my child/children from school after the party.

Or

My child will be collected byafter the party.

Or

Usual going home arrangements apply (bus / walking)

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Pupil Council, 'Elf Drive' – Friday 22nd December

I/We will attend and will take my/our child/ren home afterwards.

Or

I/We will not be able to attend & usual going home arrangements apply.

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Name:..... Signed: Dated:
Please print