**Kemnay Primary School Bulletin** 

**March 2020**

It’s always tricky getting through the long term 3 with its lack of daylight, cold wintry weather and illnesses, etc. but by turning into March we see the bright light of spring and summer on the horizon.

**Staffing**

A very warm welcome to Mrs Barbara Smale.  We have been lucky to have acquired a very experienced additional support needs (ASN) teacher to cover for Mrs Seator in her maternity leave.  I am delighted to let you know that Mrs Seator has had a healthy baby girl born on Thursday 27th February.

**Headphones**

We politely request for all pupils to bring their own auxiliary lead headphones/earbuds to school for the next school term.  Some of the reasons for this are: Lots of the pupils prefer to wear earbuds but this is not hygienic for us to permit sharing.  The school earphones can catch longer hair and lack the quality that private headphones have.  The pupils take better care of their own headphones rather than the often tangled mess that our headphones often end up in.

The school headphones will still be available for those that don’t have.

**Nursery**

As part of a [government initiative](https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/childcare-and-early-learning/childcare-extended-hours/), the number of funded early learning and childcare hours is being almost doubled from 600 hours to 1140 hours.  Our school nursery is scheduled to start in Tuesday 18th August 2020.

A parent information evening has been arranged for Thursday 2nd April at both 2.30pm and 6.30pm.  Further information can be found on our school websitein the nursery tab.

Please see "Diary Dates” on back page for 2020 Primary 1 induction/transition schedule.

**Football Team**

I am delighted to announce that the Kemnay Primary School Football team strip is ready to be distributed to our players.  We will have a full try-on on Wednesday 11th March.  We will then have our launch on Friday 13th March with a squad photograph including our sponsor, ‘Premier Coaches’ director Mr Alan Findlater, and Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust (AFCCT) representative Mr Stephen Boddie taken by the Evening Express.  The players will then take part in an exciting ‘catwalk’ parade in our assembly.  The players will be responsible for their kit until the last training session on Wednesday 24th June.

I have signed up for our first tournament, the Kintore Football Festival, on Saturday 16th May.

Our training schedule is on Wednesday’s from 3.15-4.30pm as follows;

**Term 3**

4th Mar

11th Mar

18th Mar

25th Mar

**Term 4**

29th April

13th May

18th May

20th May

27th May

3rd June

17th June

24th June

**School Residential Trips**

We are hosting a consultation evening on Tuesday 24th March from 6pm to consider our current arrangements and possible changes going forward.

**World Book Day**

We are looking forward to [World Book Day](https://twitter.com/WorldBookDayUK) next Thursday 5th March. There is no need to dress up this year! We are going to do a 'World Book Day Treasure Hunt' where the pupils can scavenge in class, around the school & even in our playground for the answers to the clues!

**ALEC**

A special thank you to Harold the Giraffe and lead ‘Andy Musselwhite’ for his excellent input for all our pupils, staff and parents on a variety of Health and Wellbeing Topics.

**Appeals for help!!**

We are aiming to build our own mud kitchen on-top of our old dilapidated infant sand-pit.  If you have any artificial turf approx. 4 meters squared and 2 wooden pallets that we could use to build our own, please let us know.

We are looking for a car mechanic (or similar vocation) to work with a small number of pupils.  This would involve a morning where you can show them the insides of a car, how one or two things work, make reference to how literacy and numeracy are important to your job and finally what other characteristics are necessary to be successful in your job (teamwork, communication, sharing, polite, patient, etc.).

If you are able to help with either of these appeals please contact the school.

**Behaviour**

I am ever so proud of the way our pupils conduct themselves at events, assemblies, one-to-one however we do have an increasing concern with low-level undesirable behaviours that do not meet our values of being caring, cooperative, respectful and good manners.  These incidents are not significant enough to contact you directly on their own merits however, when put together, form a pattern of behaviour that is disruptive, disrespectful and not conducive to a positive classroom ethos.

We have therefore taken the step of recording incidents (shouting out, answering back, deliberate inappropriate noises, laughing/smirking at reprimands, mocking peers, etc.), after the pupil has been given a warning, so that the pupils know that once a certain number of incidents have been recorded the sheet will be sent home.  Hopefully the list going home detailing the incidents will be enough for them to rethink the easily dispelled behaviours but if they persist we will arrange a meeting to discuss further.  Obviously more serious incidents will continue to be dealt with directly.

**Lost Property**

Our lost property unit is being moved to the rear of the school for pupils to rake through the mass of clothing left behind over a term.  This is to make the reception area of the school tidier and remove an unnecessary hazard as people are entering/leaving the school.

**News from Kemnay School Parent Group (KSPG)**

* KSPG Tea Party on Sat. 7th March at 1pm - 5pm, Kemnay Golf Club.  Tickets £20.
* KSPG Beetle Drive! Children welcome. Thur. 12th Mar, 7pm, Kemnay Primary Sch.

Yours sincerely,

David Williams, Head Teacher

**Diary Dates**

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| Tues 3rd March | Rotary Quiz 6.30pm @Kintore School |
| Wed 4th March | KSPG Meeting @7pm  |
| Sat 7th March | KSPG Tea Party @Kemnay Golf Club 1-5pm  |
| Thurs 12th March | Beetle Drive @School 7pm  |
| Thurs 26th March | Family Technology Challenge 6-8pm  |
| Fri 3rd April | Last day of Term 3  |
| Mon 20th April | First Day of Term 4  |
| Wed 29th April | KSPG @7pm  |
| Wed 6th May | Parents Evening 3.30-6pm  |
| Thurs 7th May | Parents Evening 5-7pm  |
| Fri 8th May | School Closed – May/VE Day Holiday  |
| Wed 13th May | P1 Induction Meeting 6-7pm  |
| Mon 18th May | Sports Day  |
| Wed 20th May | P1 pupil visit 1 @9.50am  |
| Mon 25th May | Back-up Sports Day  |
| Wed 27th May | P1 pupil visit 2 @9.50am  |
| Mon 1st June | School Closed – Local Holiday  |
| Wed 3rd June | P1 pupil visit 3 @9.50am, KSPG AGM @ 7pm  |
| Mon 8th June | Last option for Sports Day  |
| Wed 10th June | P1 pupil visit 4 @9.50am  |
| Mon 15th/16th June | Term 3/4 House Reward  |
| Wed 17th June | P7 Show Afternoon  |
| Thurs 18th June | P7 Show Evening  |
| Fri 19th June | P7 End of Year Trip  |
| Tues 23rd June | P7 Last Primary School Day, Church Service @11am Leavers Ceremony @6.30pm  |
| 24/25/26th June | P7 Transition Days at Kemnay Academy  |
| Fri 26th June | Buddy Lunch & Parties Nursery New Starts 9.30-10.30am  |
| Mon 29th June-3rd July | P7 Abernethy Outdoor Residential Trip  |
| Friday 3rd July | Last Day of Term 4  |
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