

ST CYRUS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter – October 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

As the term draws to a close, I would firstly like to thank you, the children and our staff for all the hard work and efforts you have put in for the benefit of the school, it really has been a very successful term.

Staffing

During the term, we bid farewell to Mrs Jean Johnstone, who very kindly and ably stepped in to the position of supply support for learning teacher until a permanent teacher could be appointed. I am pleased to say that an appointment has now been made! Ms Alison Middleton joined the staff last week and has been meeting the children with whom she will be working. Ms Middleton will work in school on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday this session. We wish her a very warm welcome and hope that she enjoys her time with us.

Mrs Lizzy Balmer left us mid-term, to start her maternity leave. Mrs Jamieson will also take up her maternity leave on Friday.

As these positions were filled in August by Mrs Goldsworthy and Miss Miller, we only had the three days Mrs Jamieson has been doing in P5 to fill. We advertised for this position during the term and unfortunately had no applicants. The post has now been re-advertised, with a closing date of 21 October. Hopefully we will have better luck this time! Until an appointment can be made I will be teaching the P5 class on a Wednesday/Thursday/Friday along-side Mrs Brand.

Classes

Each class has been very busy and enjoyed a variety of experiences throughout the term. Hopefully you have had a flavour of this, through the personal learning plans that have gone home, or perhaps you have had a look at our website (st-cyrus.aberdeenshire.sch.uk).

The open morning also proved to be a great success. Leaflets which were available for uplift during this morning, are now also available to view on the school website under “school newsletters”.

We will be holding parents evenings next term, where you will be able to meet your child’s class teacher on an individual basis to discuss their progress. The dates for these have been set as:

Tuesday, 22 November 6.00 – 8.00 p.m.

Thursday, 24 November 3.30 – 5.30 p.m.

As part of their class project this term P7 have been looking at the parliament and what a democracy is. Within the class, a number of parties were formed who then created manifestos and presented these to the school. Polling day was last week, when the Purple Bees were elected. This group promised a golden time day on the last day of term (this Friday, 7 October). To this end, the P7’s will be hosting a number of activities for each class, covering many areas of the curriculum throughout the day, in addition to the children’s usual golden time. Class teachers

will obviously be supporting these activities. It is set to be a day with a difference but one which will hopefully allow the P7's to develop their leadership skills and to further enthuse and extend the other children in their learning. All children should come to school in school uniform. It is not a non-uniform day

Can you help?

You may be aware, that we have the on-going problem of litter in our playground. Many of our pupils volunteer to litter pick during playtimes and lunch times and our janitors clear the bins twice a week. The wind, however, is still managing to whip up a lot of the rubbish throughout the week thus allowing it to exit the bins back into the playground. There has been a suggestion that we perhaps cover the bins with fishing nets at the end of each playtime thus allowing nowhere for the rubbish to go. We would love to give this a go – if you have access to some old fishing nets and would happily donate them to the school, could you please do so, we would greatly appreciate it. Thank you!

For your attention

Lyme disease

A parent has asked that we bring to your attention – Lyme Disease. We unfortunately have had a member of our school community very poorly this term due to this illness and would ask you to read the following, in the hope of preventing any more cases. Thank you.

Early symptoms

Many people with early-stage Lyme disease develop a distinctive circular rash at the site of the tick bite, usually around three to 30 days after being bitten. This is known as erythema migrans.



The rash is often described as looking like a bull's-eye on a dart board. The affected area of skin will be red and the edges may feel slightly raised.

The size of the rash can vary significantly and it may expand over several days or weeks. Typically it's around 15cm (6 inches) across, but it can be much larger or smaller than this. Some people may develop several rashes in different parts of their body.

It should be noted however, that around one in three people with Lyme disease won't develop this rash.

Some people with Lyme disease also experience [flu-like symptoms](#) in the early stages, such as tiredness (fatigue), muscle pain, joint pain, [headaches](#), a high temperature (fever), chills and neck stiffness.

As always, should you have any concerns regarding your or your children's health, you should contact your family doctor as soon as possible.

Beaver, Cub and Scout groups

We have also been asked to bring the following about the Beaver, Cub and Scout groups in the areas to your attention.

“We are currently looking to recruit boys and girls who love doing indoor/outdoor activities and tackling a challenge to join all our scout groups in the village.

Beavers 5 1/2 - 8 years
Cubs 8 - 10 1/2 years
Scouts 10 1/2 - 14 years

The Beavers and Cubs meet on a Monday night 6.00-7.00pm and 7.15-8.30pm respectively, Scouts a Sunday afternoon 1.30-4.30pm all in the Scout Hut. The groups carry out exciting and energetic activities at each meeting with the opportunity to go camping, trips and work towards and accomplish new skills.

If you know of someone that would be interested in joining us and you would like more information, please contact Bob Forbes, 07840 338640/robforbes71@btinternet.com, or come along to one of our meetings.

The groups are having a break during the holidays but will resume on Monday 24th October with lots of activities planned including helping with the building and running of the village bonfire.”

Future Events

The Parent Council will be holding their annual Christmas Fair on Saturday, 19 November (10.00 am to 2.00 pm). We will have a wide variety of stalls including:

Body Shop, Braw Sweets, Bubilicious, Cats protection, Charlie's Bling, Cherubs Jewellery, Davina Jewellery, Express Logo, Fairy Crafts, Feed Me Full, Hearts & Crafts, Jamberry Nails, LD Bags, Princess Bows & Balloons, Rustic Home Creations, Sillycotts Home Produce, StCyrus Church, StCyrus Woodcraft, The Highlnd Cosy Co, Usborne Books, Wonderful Book Company, White Rose Confectionery and more

That seems to be all just now, it just leaves me to wish you all a very happy holiday.

Isla Mann

Head Teacher