



**Riverbank Primary School**  
**Dill Road**  
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**Head Teacher: Mrs S Ironside**

01.11.17

### Weekly Newsletter

#### Diary Dates

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Photographer in school (individual photos)
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Photographer in school (individual photos)
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	5.00 – 8.00 Parent Interviews
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu Vaccinations day
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	4.00 – 6.00 Parent Interviews
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need Day
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Inset Day (school closed to pupils)
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	7.00 – 9.00 Parent Council Meeting
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Pinocchio Pantomime in school P1-P7
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Choir to perform at St Machar Academy
	Christmas concert
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30 & 2.00 P1 - P3 Christmas concert
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30 & 2.00 P4 – P7 Christmas concert
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	P1-P7 to HMT for Pantomime (pm)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	P1 Party (pm)
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	P2 Party (pm)
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	P3 Party (pm)
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	P4 Party (pm)
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	P5 Party (pm)
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	P6 Party (pm)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	9.30 P1-P7 to St George's Church
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	P7 Party (pm)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Last day of term
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	First day of term.

#### Tempest Photographer

The school photographer will be at Riverbank on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> of November. Every child in the school will have an individual photograph taken, as previously mentioned we do not have the capacity to accommodate group photographs this year. You will receive a small copy of the photograph to allow you to decide if you wish to purchase the photograph – you are under no obligation to purchase the photograph.

#### Parent Interviews

By the end of this week you should have received your parent interview time from your child's teacher. It is really important that you attend this appointment to find out more about your child's progress and how you can support this. If for any reason you cannot attend please contact the school to arrange another time, the staff are very flexible and will try to meet you at time convenient to yourself.

## **Parent Council**

### **Dates of meetings**

Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	7.00 – 8.00
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	2.00 – 3.00
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	7.00 – 8.00
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	2.00 – 3.00
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	7.00 – 8.00
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	2.00 – 3.00

### **Planned events**

Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Bonfire Disco
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Bonfire Disco
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Valentines Disco
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Valentines Disco
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Disco
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Disco

You will notice that we are now having some of the parent council meetings in the evening, this will ensure that working parents are not excluding from supporting the parent council.

Parents have expressed an interest in running a homework club in the school. If you are interested in helping organise this please contact the parent council on their email address at [pcriverbank@aberdeen.npfs.org.uk](mailto:pcriverbank@aberdeen.npfs.org.uk) .

The Parent Council shared with the school that it can be difficult to find time to do homework with children on weekdays. In order to support parents with this every class will now issue formal homework on a Wednesday with an expectation that it is returned on a Monday, therefore allowing children the chance to do their homework at the weekend. Reading homework will continue to be issued on during the week. We hope that this change will help support you to ensure your child's homework is completed.

### **Free School Meals – Primary 4 – Primary 7**

If your child receives free school meals you are required to renew their entitlement to this each year, if you have not done this since we returned in August then this is now. The office has contacted many parents to advise them of this but several have not responded. If you do not renew this you will begin to be charged for your child's school meals. To renew please contact the office and they will be able to assist you.

### **Staff news**

We are delighted to welcome Mr Stuart Probart to Riverbank School, Mr Probart will be teaching P6S on a Tuesday and will cover planning time in nearly every other class in the school – so all the children will get to know him quickly.

We are also able to share with you that Mrs Michelle Howarth will be joining the Primary 1 teachers on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> of November. Mrs Howarth is an Early Years Practitioner and she will be working with the Primary 1 teachers to promote play based learning in Primary 1. We have been able to employ Miss Howarth due to the additional funding provided by the Scottish Government through the Scottish Attainment Challenge.

We will also welcome Mr Nuno Duarte to the teaching staff, Mr Duarte will be teaching in P2WS (Monday – Wednesday) and will support in other early stages classes for the remainder of the week.

During the October holidays Miss Gardner and Miss Sutherland got married and they are changing their surnames. Miss Gardner is now Mrs McGregor and Miss Sutherland is now Mrs Campbell.

### **Christmas Events**

All of the children from P1-P7 will have the opportunity to join us on a trip to HMT to see the pantomime on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> of December – more information will follow nearer the time. This booking has meant we have had to change the dates of the Christmas parties as this was due to be the P1 party. Each year group party has moved on one day – the new dates are at the top of the newsletter.

### **Facebook**

We are currently creating a Riverbank Information Page on Facebook; this will allow us to post the newsletter and other information on Facebook. In line with Aberdeen City Council's policy on social media you will not be able to freely post on this page and any post requests will be viewed by school staff before being posted.

We hope that this will ensure that parents are able to view the most up to date information. At the moment we offer the newsletter in a variety of ways (Email, school website and paper copies can be collected from the office) but this will mean a wider audience will be able to view the information. We will let you know when this page will be operational.

### **Class Dojo, Reward schemes & House Points**

Every class teacher operates a 'reward' system in their class. Some of the teachers use Class Dojo and others may use a points system, sticker charts, and marbles in a jar to name a few. These are individual to each class and we have asked the teacher's to share with you their individual class reward system.

We also have a whole school approach which is the use of House Points. Every child in the school is placed in a House (these are Seaton, Kings, St Machar & Hayton) and they earn house points by meeting specific targets (these are created by the House Captains) and by following the school and class charter. The House points are collated and at the end of each term and the winning house gets an extra-long play time. At the end of the school session the winning house for the session went on a cinema trip.

If you have any queries regarding the class rewards please discuss this with the class teacher and any queries regarding the House Points system please contact the school office and they will forward your query.