

# Gourdon Primary School Newsletter



McGill Terrace, Gourdon. DD10 0LU Tel: 01561 400680

Issue No: 77

January 2024



Happy New Year to everyone and welcome back to Term 3. As always, this newsletter will be posted on our school website along with our calendar of events which we aim to update each month.

As always, I endeavour to keep you all up to date with what's happening and share relevant information as soon as possible.

Please contact the school with any questions or queries you might have about any of the items in our newsletter.

Miss A Wells (Head Teacher)

## FUNDRAISING

Our Christmas Show last term, Lights, Camel, Action! was a huge success thanks to the hard work of our amazing pupils, support from staff and families. With everyone's support, we have raised a total of £342 which will go towards costumes and licences for future productions.



Thank you again to everyone involved for their generous contributions and support. The feedback from the show has been shared with our pupils and is displayed in our school.

## SCOTTISH HERITAGE LEARNING



Term 3 sees all our pupils invited to learn and perform a Scottish poem. This is part of our Scottish poetry competition which takes place at the end of January.

This year we are delighted that the judging is supported again by the Stonehaven Burns Club. Finalists from each stage will be selected by Thursday 1st February and go through to the final which is judged on Friday 2nd February. A winner and a runner-up is then selected from each stage.

On Friday 2nd February, we will have a celebration assembly at 11.15am in the school, where parents are invited to join us. At the celebration assembly, the winners and runners-up are announced, certificates awarded and the winners from each stage will be invited to perform.

Best of luck to all our pupils.

## SCHOOL CLUBS

Active Schools have organised a P1 to P3 Multi Sports club starting on Wednesday 17th January until Wednesday 7th February in the school hall from 3.30pm to 4.15pm. Pupils attending the P1 to P3 club should come to school wearing their PE clothes and go to the hall at 3.30pm.



Parents/carers should collect pupils from the main door at 4.15pm. Active schools are responsible for the pupils during this club and please see the link if you wish to register your child before the 17th January. [Active Schools Mackie Network - Online Booking Form \(office.com\)](https://www.office.com)

Thank you to pupils who were able to attend the Netball taster sessions last term. Due to the number of pupils who attended, the club is unable to continue. I would wish to thank Mrs Shakespeare for all her support with the club over the years and inspiring so many of our pupils to take up the sport.

## SHARING OUR LEARNING

Curriculum newsletters will be shared with families this term detailing the main learning planned for Term 3 including topics, Literacy and Numeracy focus.

We have planned an open afternoon on Friday 8th March from 2.30pm to 3.30pm to allow parents/carers an opportunity to visit their child(ren's) classroom and share in their current learning. Please note, as with previous open afternoons, teachers will not be discussing individual pupil progress as this would not be the appropriate setting.

A full school report will be shared with families at the beginning of Term 4 with parent consultations to follow soon after the reports go home. As with previous terms, parents are invited to have a face to face meeting with teaching staff or a phone consultation.



## PE DAYS REMINDER

P1/2/3 - PE on Wednesdays

P4/5 and P6/7 - PE on Tuesdays

Pupils should come to school dressed in their PE clothes, with all jewellery removed and hair tied back.

## IT UPDATE

We are planning on ordering 3 new Smartboards for our classes this term due to the age of the existing smartboards at a cost of £2600 for each board. Two smartboards will be purchased from our school funds and one is being purchased by TAG, which we are very grateful for.



## PERSONAL PROPERTY



We have a few parents asking about lost items in school. Due to the size of the school, we do not have a lost property as such. At the end of the day we encourage pupils to take home their belongings, which is always easier to manage when clothing and personal items are named. Parents are always welcome to come and identify clothing and personal items at the end of the day.

Pupils should not bring any personal items such as toys to school, unless there is an agreed reason. When toys come into school, they can be broken, lost and distract from the learning of pupils. I would ask for your support in ensuring that only essential items are brought to school by all pupils.

## MUD, MUD, GLORIOUS MUD!

It is most helpful if pupils can have a complete change of clothing in their school bags each day as the number of pupils who are in need of clean, dry, mud free clothes after break and lunch is increasing. We do have a limited amount of clothes in school but obviously not in every size for pupils. We do our best to find clothes for pupils and will only phone home if necessary.

Any pupil who has borrowed clean clothes at school should return them washed as soon as possible. Thank you for your help with this.

## INDOOR SHOES

A change of outdoor to indoor shoes is also most helpful. Please ensure that indoors shoes are safe and practical as pupils also use their indoor shoes for indoor PE activities.

## STAFFING

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs MacFarlane this term. Mrs MacFarlane will resume her NCCT timetable starting this week.

## HWB

Aberdeenshire policy is for **no nuts** or nut products to be brought into school and we are grateful for the support of our families to help us follow this guidance for the safety of our pupils.

To help to maintain and ensure the safety of our pupils, could I please remind everyone to check ingredients of all foods before considering bringing them into school as we would have to ask food items to be removed from school if they contained nuts or traces of nuts. Products which contain nuts can include Nutella, Bueno and some cereal bars.

**WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL**  
Please do not bring any nuts or products containing nuts to school.



Thank you for keeping our school safe.

### SCHOOL HOURS

A reminder our school hours are 9:15am to 3.30pm. Pupils should not be in the school grounds before 9:15am and parents/carers are responsible for them until then. Parents/carers are responsible for confirming with the school before 9:15am if pupils are unable to attend school each day. When a pupil who does not attend school and school has not been notified, parents/carers will be contacted to confirm attendance.

### OFFICE HOURS

Our school office is manned Monday to Thursday 9.15am to 3.45pm and 9.15am to 1.45pm on Fridays.

### VOLUNTEERS



We are always happy to be supported in school by any parents who feel they can contribute some of their time.

Previously, volunteers have supported in class, in the playground and with school clubs.

Any parents who wish to volunteer or simply know more about the process, please contact the school and I will be only too happy to explain the process.

### TAG UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who attended the TAG AGM last term. New office bearers were appointed which ensures the continuation of TAG and their support to the school.

**Chairperson:** Nicola Greig

**Vice-Chairperson:** Natalie Aitken

**Secretary:** Sarah Kemlo & Stacey Barbour (Shared Position)

**Treasurer:** Katie Reid



### TAG MINUTES

The minutes of the last TAG meeting held on Wednesday 6th December will be sent out via Groupcall.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

TAG dress as you please chocolate donation day **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March**. Donations of chocolate are for a hamper to be raffled at the Bunny Drive.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Wednesday 17th, 24th, 31st January & 7th February—P1 to P3 Sports Club 3.30pm-4.15pm**

**Thursday 25th January—Mackie Maths visit to P7**

**Friday 26th January—Café 2020**

**Friday 2nd February—Scottish Poetry Celebration Assembly 11:15am**

**Friday 9th February—Mid Term Holiday**

**Monday 12th February—Mid Term Holiday**

**Tuesday 13th February & Wednesday 14th February—In-Service Days**

**Friday 23rd February—Café 2020**

**Friday 8th March—Open Afternoon between 2.30pm and 3.30pm**

**Friday 22nd March—Café 2020**

**Thursday 28th March—Term 3 Ends**

**Monday 15th April—Term 4 Begins**

**Monday 6th May—May Day Holiday**

**Monday 3rd June—Occasional Holiday**

**Friday 7th June—Café 2020**

**Friday 5th July—Term 4 Ends**

