

# Glenbervie School Newsletter

Article 29

Autumn 2018

*You have the right to education which develops your personality,  
respect for other's rights and the environment*



In this, my first newsletter of the new school year I am delighted to welcome you all to a new school session at Glenbervie School. A very special welcome to those of you who are joining Glenbervie for the first time. We very much look forward to working with you and your children in the coming years. Do make sure to look out for our Parent Partnership events for the many opportunities to take part in school life. We are always keen to have new helpers.

In addition to emailing a full-colour copy to all parents, and posting a copy on the school website, we will continue (if requested) to send home a photocopied copy. Please let us know if you require this paper copy, as we are trying to be an Eco friendly school now going for our fifth green flag. You will notice that much of this newsletter is covering important procedures and provides a reminder of some of the items covered in the autumn newsletter of previous years.

Please retain this newsletter for future reference.

## Welcome to Glenbervie

We are delighted to welcome our Primary 1 pupils to school. They have been looking very smart in their new uniforms and they have already settled in to school life very well. We look forward to meeting our P1 parents in the trial P1 lunch on Wednesday 29th August and then having a short chat with you about our P1 Curriculum in the afternoon after lunch at 1pm. The pupils will be looked after by Mrs Glennie so you can chat to the teachers. Our buddies from P7 have done an excellent job helping the P1s to settle into school routines and the School House captains have been exceptional in this short time.



## Staffing

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Gail Sangster as our job share P1 Teacher. We also welcome Mrs Cerretti back after her maternity Leave in January but she will be in over the next two terms to keep in touch and get to know the children prior to her return.



We also welcome Dawn Campbell who joins the school as our new cleaner. I thought it may be useful to confirm with you again the present staffing configuration:

P1 - Mrs Gail Sangster (M, T, W ) Mrs Lisa McConachie (W, Th, F)

P2/3- Miss Stephen (M,- F)

P5/6- Mrs Fiona Ingram (M, T, W) Mrs Trudi Brown (Th, F)

P6/7 - Miss Lynsey Houston (M-F)

Ms Chris Gowie - SfL Teacher - Monday

Mrs Anderson SfL support- Wednesday

Mrs Jenny Glennie- Head Teacher and Core Teaching days (all classes)- (T, W, Th pm)

Administrator- Kathleen Wilson

Admin Support-Alison Meston

PSA- Sheena Hodgkinson & Alison Meston

Janitor- Ernie Gordon

Cleaner- Dawn Campbell

Kitchen Team-Jane and Laura



## **Vision Values and Aims**

Last session thanks to a working group and parent, staff and pupil involvement the school has refreshed its Vision. It was decided that our values were embedded and were to be kept and the majority were happy with the aims, especially the child friendly version. Our new vision came from a combination of ideas and has the tag line- Together we Grow Progress and Succeed (Glenbervie Primary School). This information will be on the school website and in our School Improvement Plan, in which a child friendly version is being sent home.



## **Annual Calendar 2018-2019**

I have attached a list of all planned events which we currently have in the school diary to this newsletter. Obviously these may be subject to change and other events may crop up during the session, but I hope this helps you plan your work and home schedules in advance. The children's class teacher will also send you a



short newsletter to inform you of class information for the term.

**Please use envelopes!**

A reminder of our procedures regarding money that is being brought into school to pay for school dinners, trips etc. The school operates under strict guidelines from Aberdeenshire Council on the handling of money and we would ask you to ensure that you follow these guidelines:

- Ensure all cheques or cash are in a **sealed envelope**
- **Clearly mark on the envelope the nature of the contents**
- Teachers are not allowed to open envelopes that may contain money, therefore **notes for the teacher must be clearly marked.**
- Please ensure that any cheques are completed - 'phone the school if you're unsure about the payee or amounts.

### **Tempest Photographs**

Tempest will be visiting the school on Friday 5th October. Pupils will be photographed individually, with siblings if requested, and in class groups. More details will be included in a separate letter. It would be helpful if a member of the Parent Council (GSP) could attend on the morning to assist.

### **Active Schools**

Pupils were very fortunate to take part in a variety of activities last session led by our co-ordinator Robert Kupris. We hope to get our football, cross country, Volleyball and netball teams up and running this session. Miss Stephen will also try to continue our choir and other activities may be picked up throughout the year. More details will follow.



### **Security Procedures**

We continue to strive to ensure that our security procedures are robust. We value our 'open door' policy, and want to encourage parents to feel free to visit school to talk with us. However, please note the following:



Visit our school website: <http://www.glenbervie.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/>  
(An overview of the school and a source of school news and documents)

- Any parent visiting the school should sign-in; even if only 'popping in' for a few minutes.
- Visitors will be asked to remain at the reception area and the member of staff they wish to see will meet them there and, if necessary, accompany them to a place to talk.
- Pupils are instructed not to open the security door to any adult - even one who is known to them.



### School Start Time and Pupil Absence

It is essential that we know, a.s.a.p., if a pupil is going to be absent. Please note the following:



- School starts at **8:55am sharp**. It is essential that all pupils are present by that time as it is extremely disruptive to have pupils arriving late.
- Please contact the school in the morning if your child is going to be absent (there is an answer machine to leave a message). Please do not send email notification of an absence as this may not be received before 'safe arrival at school' procedures commence.
- If a pupil has not arrived at school by 9:05am it is likely that a text message or phone call will be made to a parent querying their absence.
- If a pupil is not at school by 9:15 we will follow our safe arrival at school procedures, which includes contacting parents, and if necessary emergency contacts, until we have an explanation for the pupil's absence.

### Arrangements for Dropping Off and Collecting Pupils - Important



Please ensure when you are dropping-off and collecting pupils that you adhere to the following procedures:

- Pupils walking to school should enter by the gate next to the rabbits in the morning and exit by the main school gates at the end of the day.
- Parents **MUST** avoid blocking the school road by stopping their car to drop off pupils. This is extremely frustrating for other road users and a

real concern for pupil safety.

- Parents **MUST NOT** park in the bus bay area. This can cause significant problems for school transport.

### Tuckshop

Our school kitchen run a tuck shop at break time for our pupils. Here is our current price list.

Glass of milk	20p
Milk Carton	30p
Apple or orange juice cuplet	15p
Aqua juice Carton	25p
Bottled Water	25p
Fruit	25p
Raisins	15p
Bread Rolls	20p
Home bake	20p
Cheese and Biscuits	20p
Vegetable sticks	20p



### **School Dinners**

Just a short reminder that the cost for a dinner is £2.30 per day. Aberdeenshire Council have moved onto the ipay online system, but should you have any problems using this please contact the school office, who will be happy to help. Can we try and ensure we keep our accounts in credit, to reduce the admin involved by the Kitchen and admin Team

### **Fundraising**

Yet again, we have been able to purchase resources and provide fun, quality learning activities due to the generosity of parents, families and the local community. For this we have to thank our Glenbervie School Partnership and you our parent body for the magnificent fundraising efforts last session. It allows us to enhance the experiences and learning in the school and is greatly appreciated by us all. We look forward to another successful year and once again ask as many parents as possible to come forward and give up time to help with this very much appreciated aspect of work within our school community.

### **Parent Council (Glenbervie School Partnership)**

We would like to encourage more parents to get involved in the Parent Council. The group meets approximately once a term for a short meeting to discuss school issues and plan fundraising activities. If you are interested we would welcome your attendance at our next meeting at the school. Information will follow. Our AGM will be held in November. If you would like more details please contact the school office or speak to Mhari Mitchell, Chairperson.



### **School Transport**

As many of you are aware our transport is now provided by two companies Nicolls and A & I. Parents are reminded that it is essential that the drivers of the school bus are kept informed of any changes to arrangements. Parents must ensure that the driver is aware when a pupil does not require transport in the morning or after school. Failure to communicate effectively with the transport company impacts on other families using the service.



### **School Rabbits**

As ever, a big thankyou to our parents and pupils who assist Mrs Meston to look after our rabbits through out the holidays.

### **PE Kit Procedures**

Pupils take part in a variety of PE and active health activities every week. In order to ensure that your child is able to benefit fully from these they require a PE kit at school **EVERY** day. On occasion pupils may be asked to bring an 'outdoor kit'. More guidance will be given if this is needed. In term 1 P2/3 and P4/5 will have Forest Schools every second Wednesday and P1 will go on Friday afternoons. This timetable will change over the year so all classes have the opportunity of Forest Schools.



### **Home-School Diaries**

Partnership with parents is central to the way we operate and I am sure that you appreciate the time taken to complete Home-School Diaries. We have opted to continue with diary this year to reduce ink and paper costs in school. We will still be using them as a homework record and as reflective journal between parents, pupils and staff. Staff and pupils will try to use these on a more consistent basis this year to share learning, track behaviour and/or concerns and keep on track with homework. **Please sign the Home-School Diary to acknowledge that you have seen it.**

## **Improved Reporting with Parents**

As part of school improvement work this year we are continuing the new Improved Ways of Reporting to Parents. You will notice in our annual calendar that there has been a change in some of the events we have with parents, with the focus being on more face to face contact, rather than one large written report. We will be holding a Meet the Teacher Session on Wednesday 19th September (5.30-7.00pm) and Mrs Glennie will have a short chat to parents about our School Improvement Plan (5.30pm) on this evening, which you are very welcome to attend. This year we will be piloting a new Parent's Evening booking system, where parents can book appointments online. Please go gentle on us as we trial this, as it is new to us all!

## **Communication for parents**

Aberdeenshire council has changed the way parents receive online alerts about school closures and changes to school transport. You can now sign up for these notifications through *myaccount* on the Aberdeenshire Council website – if you currently pay for school meals online, you will already be registered.

As well as being able to sign up for alerts, your home page will automatically give you handy information such as your bin collection days, where your nearest recycling centre is and the names of your local councillors.

So, if you want to be kept up-to-date and take advantage of the other *myaccount* benefits, sign up to the system by going to the Aberdeenshire Council website .

We also signed up to a new way of receiving information from the school called Xpressions. A copy of the letter is available from the school telling you how to do this and the app can be easily downloaded onto your Smart Phones.

I look forward to working with you all in the coming year as part of the Glenbervie School Community. Please remember that I do have some class commitments, but around this I am happy to discuss anything and I am always at the end of a phone!

Best Wishes

Jenny Glennie

Head Teacher

