

# Glenbervie School Newsletter

Article 29

Autumn 2020

*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, although different 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, although perhaps in a very different virtual way. 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 also put a copy on Seesaw for all classes to access. Please let us know if you require this paper copy, as we are trying to be an Eco friendly school having gained 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 into school life very well. We sadly are unable to meet our P1 parents in the trial P1 lunch this year, but are glad we met most of

you in our introduction sessions prior to lockdown and P1 tours. Our P1 team will send you out any information you need to know in terms of the curriculum and routines through Seesaw. Our buddies and House Captains from P7 have done an excellent job helping the P1s to settle into school routines and have been exceptional in this short time.



## Staffing

I thought it may be useful to confirm with you again the present staffing configuration:

P1/2/3 - Miss Stephen (M, - F)

P3/4- Mrs Cerretti (M, T), Mrs McConachie (W, Th, F)

P5- Miss Houston (M-F)

P6/7—Mr Tattersall (M, T, W )Mrs Sangster (Th, F)

Mrs Brown ( T, W) - ASL Teacher

Mr Tattersall PE and Core support (Th F)

Mrs Jenny Glennie— Head Teacher and Core Teaching days

Administrator— Kathleen Wilson

Admin Support—Alison Meston

PSA's- Sheena Hodgkinson , Alison Meston

Janitor- Ernie Gordon

Cleaner— Dawn Campbell

Kitchen Team—Jane and Laura

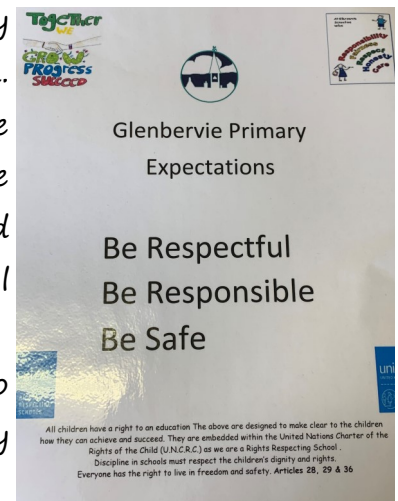
## Vision Values and Aims & Expectations

Thanks to a working group and parent, staff and pupil involvement, the school 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). The Rights Respecting Group also decided that we needed one clear set of expectations for the school which underpins everything we do at Glenbervie. This information will be on the school website where you can also find our School Improvement Plan, in which a child friendly version is being sent home.



## Annual Calendar 2020-2021

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 many events this year may have to take a different format such as online, different venues, or perhaps be moved to later in year when restrictions reduce. 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. In this we will try to cover as much information as we can



with changes linked to Covid recovery. It will be very challenging as guidance changes frequently and Risk Assessments will be a working document which we adapt and change as the term and indeed school year progresses. We appreciate your patience and continued support.

### **Please use envelopes!**

A reminder of our procedures regarding money that is being brought into school to pay for tuckshop, 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.

This year it is even more important as Cash handling has to be approached with caution and will be left for 72hours before handling. Please try to use online lunch system and any money for tuck, please put in an envelope on the first day for the week, labelled with child's name/amount to spend over the week.

### **Parent Portal**

Make life easier by signing up to [parentsportal.scot](https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/parentsportal), a new online platform which from the new term in August, will allow you to receive updates and carry out transactions with schools all in one place – saving money, time and paper. In #Aberdeenshire you need to register by joining [myAberdeenshire](https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/parentsportal), which allows you to access a whole host of council services at a touch of a button.

For more visit <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/parentsportal>

Schools will begin reviewing [parentsportal.scot](https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/parentsportal) linked children requests from 12 August 2020.

More information/support will come out to parents through the school office.

We have **twitter** and **Facebook**. I will try to communicate information through this



too. The **GSP Facebook** and **twitter** page will be updated regularly. Find us at **twitter** on [@glenbervieps](https://twitter.com/glenbervieps) and **Glenbervie school Partnership** on **facebook**.



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



## Active Schools



Pupils were very fortunate to take part in a variety of activities last session led by our co-ordinator Robert Kupris. We also had choir, cross country, football and Lego club, but these are run purely on a voluntary basis by staff and parents. At the moment as we are not allowed any parents within our buildings we are unable to start these clubs. I am currently seeking clarity for outside activities such as our cross country and football and if we can facilitate we will try to do so, but perhaps with different guidelines and small groups. We hope to hear from Active Schools shortly to see what the position is with sports coaches visiting our school.

## Security Procedures

We continue to strive to ensure that our security procedures are robust. We value our 'open door' policy, and normally wish to encourage parents to feel free to visit school to talk with us. However, at this time, other than with a pre-planned appointment please try to communicate with staff through our lovely admin team by phone or email, use seesaw and if you do come in for an appointment note the following:

- Hand sanitise on arrival/exit and try to maintain 2m social distancing on entering and exiting. Masks are encouraged, but it will be left to your discretion.
- 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 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, unless you are a 9am staggered start. It is essential that all pupils are present by that time as it is extremely disruptive to have pupils arriving late. This is even more important now with different entrances being used and care taken with congestion, handwashing etc.
- 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 9:15am 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 9:30 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 nearest to their entrance to school and when waiting to enter can stand on the class stars until the door opens. Doors should be open to allow a smooth, straight in non congested entrance from 8.50am.
- 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.
- Please **avoid congregating** at school entrances and try to remember the 2m social distance between family groups. Our younger pupils will stand on their stars and we will dismiss them through the gate safely when they arrive and it is safe to do so. **Face Coverings** are encouraged to be worn by adults to protect our families.



### Tuckshop

Our school kitchen run a tuck shop at break time for our pupils. Here is our current price list. If this changes I will let you know, but this is currently what our kitchen have on offer.

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
Rich Tea/Crackers	10p
Vegetable sticks	20p

## School Dinners

Just a short reminder that the cost for a dinner is £2.50 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. For August M-W they will be £1.25 as Eat Out to Help Out.



**!!!NUT FREE SCHOOL!!!** Can we please remind all parents and pupils that Glenbervie is a Nut free School. One of our pupils has a severe nut allergy. Any exposure to nuts or food items containing nuts may cause a life threatening allergic reaction that requires emergency medical treatment. To reduce the chance of this occurring, we are asking that you do not send any nuts or products containing nuts to school with your child as part of a packed lunch or home baked item. Your support for this arrangement is much appreciated.



## 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. We accept this year may be very different and are mindful that circumstances may have changed for many families. Many of activities may be put on hold or delivered in a different way, but we will try our best to come up with some ideas.

## 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 AGM meeting likely to be held through Google Meet on **Tuesday 8th September** – 7pm. Information will follow. If you would like more details please contact the school office or speak to Dawn Campbell – Chairs or Aileen Davidson – secretary.

## School Transport



As many of you are aware our transport is now provided by two companies Central 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. Please familiarise yourself and your child with the extra measures in place for protecting our children and drivers as we navigate Covid 19.

## School Rabbits

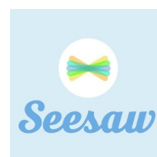
As ever, a big thankyou to our parents and pupils who assist Mrs Meston to look after our rabbit Thumper through out the holidays.

## 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 outdoor shoes and suitable clothing at school **EVERY** day. Class teachers will give more details of their plans. We currently are not allowed to change into PE kits, but will monitor guidance and update you if this changes. On occasion pupils may be asked to bring an 'outdoor kit'. There will be the opportunity of Forest Schools too and we will inform you when we need these kits.

## Home-School Diaries & Seesaw

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 and update Seesaw. We have opted to continue with diary this year, but with careful control measures.. We will still be using them as a homework record 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.** Seesaw, our online profiling tool, which you can access through the app on your mobile or on any computer, will be used by all the staff to communicate information, share learning, highlight assessments and reflect on work done with pupils to plan next steps. When you receive the information from the class teacher, please follow the steps to save any photos/archive from previous year's class and to join the new classes being set up. This is where you will see instantly what is going on at Glenbervie. This is also the main method alongside Google Classroom we will use should we have to revert to the blended learning model.





## Reporting with Parents

You will notice in our annual calendar that there has been some dates included for shared learning events and parent consultations. We may have to alter these or find different ways of doing these events in light of recent government guidance. We will use our Seesaw, social media and online learning platforms to share as much as possible. We will adapt and try our best to maintain good reporting throughout this year! This year we will be continuing our Parent's Evening booking system, where parents can book appointments online, but it may be through the Parent Portal..

## 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 may already be registered. This is also how you can link and register with the Parent Portal.

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. By signing up to it, this reduces our costs significantly for messages.

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

