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Newsletter 5 2017-18

Friday 19th January 2018

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Monymusk School,

We are nearing the third week of term three already and have yet to see much snow! I do enjoy having snow at some point over the winter so have my fingers crossed that we get a bit more. I know not everyone agrees with me!

A variety of events are coming up that I would like to draw your attention to:

Natasha Robinson, our Educational Psychologist has been working alongside school staff as we review and re-visit Restorative Practice within Monymusk School. The parent/community evening will be on Wednesday, 21st February 7-8pm. It will be an opportunity to learn more about our approach to encouraging positive behaviour.

In the last newsletter I made a request for parents and possibly members of the community to support us in two different events linked to 'Developing the Young Workforce'. We need people from different trades and professions to share their knowledge and experiences with our pupils. MCMEDS (Monymusk, Cluny, Midmar, Echt, Dunecht and Skene) schools are planning a P7 transition event in March and Monymusk School would like to hold a similar event in term four for P4-7. If you have any questions please contact me (Gillian Watt) at school during school hours. I have included the information from the last newsletter. Please see below.

P4-7 are currently going through PawsB training. This is an introduction to Mindfulness, which includes the science and history of where it originated and how it is now being applied. There will be an information evening for parents and carers on Tuesday 6th March, 7:00pm – 8:00pm, so you can learn more about what your children have been learning.

Please let me know if you and your family would like to be included on our rota for looking after the guinea pigs and hens at weekends and during the holidays. We do have volunteers but I am aware of a few pupils who have expressed interest.

Regards
Gillian Watt
Head Teacher

Developing the Young Workforce:

Our local cluster schools: Midmar, Cluny, Monymusk, Echt, Dunecht and Skene (MCMEDS) often work collaboratively on a number of projects throughout the year to support effective pupil transitions to Alford Academy or other destinations. This year we plan to hold a Careers Fair for P7 pupils as part of a new cluster transition project linked to Developing the Young Workforce (DYW)

'An ambition of Developing the Young Workforce is that education and employers work closely together to equip all young people with the skills and knowledge they will need to flourish in work, and to support diversity in the workforce.'

*Developing the Young Workforce School/Employer Partnerships Guidance for schools
September 2015*

The aim of the Careers Fair would be three fold:

1. For pupils to be able to identify the skills and qualities required for a range of different jobs/careers directly from the employers in a real life context.
2. For cluster schools to form mutually beneficial links with wide range of local employers to support effective learning and teaching of the skills for learning, life and work.
3. To provide a transition opportunity for P7 pupils to work collaboratively with local businesses and their peers in preparation for S1 next year.

We are hoping to make this an ongoing project and aim to build strong links between schools and local businesses. If you own a business, work for a company, are self-employed or feel you may be able to contribute to creating effective partnerships between schools and businesses please let us know by email by Friday, 26th January. We intend to build a database of businesses from every sector who we can work closely with over the coming months and years. By giving your details you are agreeing to be part of a database of businesses willing to support local cluster schools.

Please give the following details:

Name and contact number/email address

Name of business and which sector it is part of.

Are you interested in supporting the Careers Fair in March.

If you would like to know more about 'Developing the Young Workforce' please have a look at the Aberdeenshire website <http://dywaberdeenshire.org/>.

Advent Foodbank

The food donated during our Advent Foodbank collection was very well received. When I arrived, the worker said she was about to visit a family with no food and had been wondering what she would do. Our food met that family's need. Thank you to everyone who donated. The food bank was linked to learning about one of the Global Goals - 'No Hunger'.

Muddy Monymusketeers (Running): We will re-start around the February mid-term. Watch this space!

Football & Netball: Netball practice will be held in the village hall over the winter months. Good to have such enthusiasm! The netball team have entered a tournament and both teams are planning to invite other schools for joint training.

Active Schools: Please check the school website for details of a number of new after-school activities run by Active Schools at the Alford community Campus, as a number of activities have been added in the past couple of weeks.

Dates for your Diary - Session 2017 – 2018

Tuesday 23 rd January 2018	NSPCC visit to all classes and Pupil Council
Friday 9th February 2018	Holiday
Monday 12th February 2018	Holiday
Tuesday 13th February 2018	In-service day 4 (school closed for pupils)
Wednesday 14th February 2018	In-service day 5 (school closed for pupils)
Wednesday 21 st February 2018	Restorative Practice workshop for parents and carers 7:00 – 8:00pm
Thursday 1 st March 2018	P4-7 visit to Aberdeen Science Centre (details to follow)
Tuesday 6 th March 2018	7:00-8:00pm Parents' and Carers' Information evening re PawsB
Friday 9 th March 2018	DYW (Developing the Young Workforce) transition event for P7
Tuesday 20 th –	
Friday 23 rd March 2018	P6,7 residential trip to Loch Insh
Wednesday 28 th March 2018	Sharing Our Learning: Maths & Science 2:00 – 3:30pm and 6:00 – 7:30pm
Thursday 29 th March 2018	Church Service (to be confirmed)
Thursday 29th March 2018	School closes
Monday 16th April 2018	School opens
Friday 20 th April 2018	SSPCA Workshops for all classes
Tuesday 24 th April 2018	P7 visit to Alford Academy - Tree of Knowledge Workshop
Wednesday 2 nd May 2018	Induction 1 for new P1s 9:30 – 10:15am
Monday 7th May 2018	Holiday
Tuesday 15 th May	Police Liaison Officer visiting all classes
	Induction 2 for new P1s: Literacy & Numeracy walk 6:15 – 7:30pm
Thursday 17 th May 2018	P7 Link Day, Alford Academy
Sunday 20 th May 2018	Muddy Monymusk Run

