

First Class

Issue 77

September 2020

Honesty

Respect

Happiness

Achievement

Term 1

We are now approaching the end of a busy and productive Term 1. It has been great to welcome everyone back to school. Our focus this term has been the Health and Wellbeing of our pupils, closely followed by Literacy and Numeracy.

Pupil Wellbeing

Before leaving your home, please ensure your child is well and that no other members of the household are symptomatic. In line with Government and Local Authority Advice, we have a zero-tolerance approach to any symptoms shown and will use isolation procedures. The 'Test and Protect' approach will be used for any person who reports symptoms.

Remember FACTS for a safer Scotland

F Face coverings

A Avoid crowded places

C Clean your hands regularly

T Two metre distance

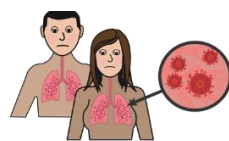
S Self isolate and book a test if you have symptoms

nhsinform.scot/coronavirus #WeAreScotland

Healthier Scotland

CORONAVIRUS STAY SAFE PROTECT OTHERS SAVE LIVES

NHS SCOTLAND



Symptoms and what to do Coronavirus COVID-19

- A high temperature.
- Feel hot to touch on your chest or back.
- A loss or change in what you can normally smell or taste.
- A new continuous cough.
This means coughing a lot for more than one hour or 3 or more coughs in a day.
If you usually have a cough then this might be worse at this time.

As the seasons change, we are aware that there are many bugs and illness circulating. Please take a cautious approach and if in doubt keep your child at home and seek medical advice.

PPE

Children and adults can wear masks/face coverings should they wish to do so although this is not a requirement in the school ground and building. PPE is being provided to staff to administer First Aid etc.

Face covering must be worn on all school transport.



Organisation

We appreciate everyone's efforts with daily organisation. This includes ensuring children physically have everything they need for the day ahead as well as ensuring they are aware of pick-up arrangements.

We need to continue to do this next term to minimise footfall in the office. We regret that we can not accept items dropped off throughout the day. We always encourage parents to try and make appointments out-with school time if possible. Messages regarding changes to pick up arrangements are taken in emergency circumstances only.

Please be aware that any parents or visitors entering the building is required to provide their contact information in line with the Test and Protect strategy.

If you have any questions, please email a member of the admin team.
kinellar.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Cold and Wet Weather

Please ensure your child comes to school prepared for the weather. Be aware that as guidance currently stands all PE must take place outside and the outdoor environment should be used to support learning where possible. This means that children will be spending time outside in all weathers.



During breaks and lunch, the children will always be outside to play unless the weather is extreme. This means they must have suitable warm/waterproof jackets and if you prefer, waterproof trousers and boots too.

Children should always have a change of clothes should their PE day be wet and muddy. We will not be cancelling PE in bad weather unless the weather is extreme or too dangerous.

Windows in classrooms will be open most of the time during the day to allow for the circulation of fresh air, it would be advisable for all pupils to have a school jumper particularly as the weather cools down.

PE and PE Kits

Your child's teacher will inform you of when the class will have PE. Timetables are likely to change in the new term so please be aware that days may alter.



Uniform update

It has come to our attention that some parents are approaching our uniform supplier and other suppliers to produce items which do not form part of our official school uniform. Please refrain from doing this and instead order from the wide range of uniform held by our official supplier [Above all Designs](#). We will be reviewing school uniform with the Parent Council in the new year. We are happy to take suggestions on board if there are items you would like to see added to the range. Please email KSPC with your ideas.



kinellarschoolparentcouncil@yahoo.com

Active Schools

We are keen to get our extra-curricular activities back up and running as soon as we possibly can. The plan is to have some clubs up and running next term. Active Schools will be in touch with more information.



School Arrival and Pick-up

The school playground is becoming increasingly busy. For this reason, we ask that only 1 adult attends drop off and pick up to minimise the number of adults in the playground. Adults are reminded that they **must** observe social distancing guidance whilst on school grounds. Please do not become complacent with this. Remember, once your child has settled in their line please leave the playground promptly.

It is essential that children arrive on time to school. Late children arriving at the office will seriously disrupt our procedures. Teachers will not accept late arrivals at classroom doors.

Handwashing

Handwashing routines are now well embedded within the school day. Children are frequently reminded of the importance of this routine.

Please keep an eye on your child's hands as the weather gets colder, some are already beginning to struggle with dry and cracked hands. We do have a supply of E45 lotion which they are welcome to use throughout the day.



The Club @Kinellar

The Club will be returning to school after the October Break. Please speak to The Club for more information on this.



Lunches

Our Lunch times are as follows:

Blue and Yellow area classes: 11:50-12.45

Orange and Purple area classes: 12.50-13.45

Home Lunches should ideally be avoided at this time. If necessary individual arrangements can be made between parents and class teacher. We ask that home lunches could be avoided whilst we are in the recovery phase.

We are awaiting confirmation of the menu for after the October break. We will inform you of the plan as soon as we hear. Alternatively, you can keep up-to-date [here](#).



What should my child take to school?

Pencil cases and resources will be sent home at the end of term. Please take this opportunity to restock if required. Pupils will only need one pencil case. We suggest the following for pencil cases: pencils, rubbers, a set of colouring pencils OR pens and a glue stick. Scissors and compass sets are not to be brought in.

Please remind children not to bring toys or items from home at the moment. We are finding that these are often sneaking into school bags!

Communication with All Staff

Unfortunately, due to social distancing, Teachers and The Early Years Team should not be approached at the beginning or the end of the day. If you'd like to communicate with staff, please email them or send a message via the school office. If your concern is of a serious nature or a Child Protection concern, please alert one of the office team by telephone and a member the SMT will get back to you.

Nursery Update

The nursery children have been learning and talking about their feelings and emotions this term. They have been discussing these at group time.



The children have taken an interest in learning about Autumn, they took a walk to the woods to discover what had happened to the trees and collected some autumn items. On return they had some interesting discussions about which animals hibernate and what this means.

Nursery parents can login to their child's interactive learning diary to view their child's progress. Please get in touch with the nursery team if you are having problems logging in.

Staff Update

Mrs Louise Paterson will begin her maternity leave after the October break. Due to Covid restrictions Mrs Paterson has been working from home this term, we have missed having her around! Mrs Paterson has used some of her expertise to complete some excellent development work for the school. We wish Mrs Paterson and her family the very best as they welcome their second child.

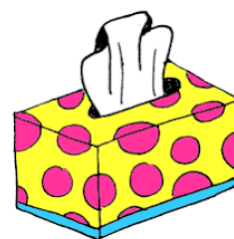
Mrs Margaret Dodds our lead cleaner has decided its time to retire. Margaret has been with us since our time at Midmill and has worked tirelessly to ensure we have a clean and safe environment to work in. We wish her all the best.

As many of you have noticed, our new crossing patroller started with us last week. Her name is Mrs Gladys Sellar. We are delighted to have the crossing manned again to ensure our pupils can cross safely. Please stop to say hello if you haven't done so already.



Tissues and Baby Wipes

If possible (and if you'd like to) any donations of tissues or baby wipes will be gratefully received by class teachers and the nursery. If you'd like to donate, please send them in with your child and they can give them directly to the class teacher. These will be stored before being distributed with Covid-19 in mind.



Who to Contact?

In the event that you have a question or concern, you should contact your child's class teacher in the first instance by phone or email. They are the people who know your child best in school and will be able to resolve most issues which arise. If you feel that your concern has still not been resolved, then you should contact the relevant member of the management team.



Yellow and Blue area classes – Miss Cara Morrison (P1-3 and P4G)

Orange and Purple area classes – Mrs Amelia Davies (P4H and P5-7)

Nursery - Mrs Nicola Nicol

We work very closely as a management team and all issues which arise within school are shared with Mrs Farquhar, the Head teacher.

As always if there is anything we can help you with, please do not hesitate to contact us. If you would like to speak to Mrs Farquhar please arrange a telephone appointment via the school office.

pamela.farquhar@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

cara.morrison@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

amelia.davies@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

nicola.nicol@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

To keep up-to-date with all that is going on in school, please follow us on [twitter](#).



Community Information

FootGolf

On Monday 12th and 19th October 2020 from 12 - 4pm FootGolf will be available at Torphins Golf Club. Come along, play this new game and have fun with your family and friends. It's healthy, it's fun and doesn't cost much.

Visit our website www.torphinsgolfclub.co.uk for Golf and FootGolf information.