



# First Class

Issue 99 - December 2022

Christmas Edition

Honesty

Respect

Happiness

Achievement

After a very busy term, it's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas. The Elf shelf brought some Christmassy sparkle and excitement to Kinellar. Now with nativity practices, Christmas Jumper day, lunch and Activity Day, Christmas is well and truly here!

As you have all heard, Miss Rachel Singer passed away after being diagnosed with cancer a little over a year ago. She died peacefully on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December surrounded by her family. We all have very fond memories of Rachel at Kinellar. She was a teacher here for over 20 Years and was dearly loved by both the staff and pupils and will be sorely missed. Our thoughts are with her friends and family.



In memory of Miss Singer, we hope to purchase a bench for our garden area. If you would like to contribute to this, please donate to KSPC here:

<https://www.paypal.me/KinellarSchoolPC>

Any funds in excess of the cost of the bench will be donated to Macmillan Nurses as requested by the family.

Cash donations will also be accepted in school. Please ensure this is in a clearly marked envelope.

This collection will run until the February half term break.

## Quality Improvement Visit

We had a very successful and productive visit from a Team of Quality Improvement Officers. Thank you to those of you who took the time out of your day to speak to them about Kinellar.

## Reports, Parents Evening and Feedback

You should have all by now received a paper or electronic copy of your child's school report. The Data Protection guidelines provided by the council do not allow us to send school reports home in children's school bags. As a result, we are trying to find a system that works best for us. We hope to be in the position to send all reports electronically in term 4.

We have also emailed you a link to the report feedback form. Your feedback on your child's learning report is valuable to us and your child's learning. Thank you to those of you who have completed the feedback form. The link is below for those of you who still to do require.

<https://forms.office.com/e/Pvc0HBynTZ>

Parents evening will be face to face on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January or Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> we have provided you with the opportunity to select which date suits you best at the end of the feedback form. A date will be allocated to you should you not choose one.

## Staffing

We would like to wish Mrs Louise Paterson the best of luck as she starts her maternity leave to await the arrival of baby number 3.

Mrs Elaine Duffy, who has been with us for a while now teaching across the school, will take over P6S on a Monday and Tuesday.

## Competitions

P5-7 have been invited by the Rotary Club to enter an Art and Photography Competition next term.

Jim Hatter a local photographer and member of the Rotary Club is keen to work with the P6 and P7s to teach them about photography and give them some tips on how to take a high-quality picture. The theme is 'The Beauty of Architecture.' Photos can be taken with devices or cameras.

The theme for the art competition is 'Sunrise and Sunset'. This will be open to P5-7 pupils and they will work with Jen Templeton on completing their entries.

Parents, if you are an artist or a photographer and wish to support this creativity initiative, please contact the school and we are sure the pupils would love to learn from your expertise. Both competitions close on 31<sup>st</sup> January

## Elf shelf

The Elf Shelf remains a highlight of the school year. It always brings such joy and it is lovely to watch the children choosing presents for their friends and family. Thank you for supporting this event and helping us to raise money for the school. We would also like to thank all the parent helpers that gave up their time to come and help, without you this event wouldn't have been such a success.

## Christmas Activity Day



Friday saw the return of our Christmas Activity Day. It was lovely to see the children come to school in their Christmas jumpers. Seeing all the Christmas head gear, sparkly jumpers and happy faces really adds to the buzz around the school. The class teachers spent a lot of time

planning fun filled activities for the day. They organised Christmas crafts and STEM challenges along with games and a short movie. It was fantastic going along the corridors and seeing all the children



engaged in their activities and developing lots of skills as they worked together on the challenges set. We saw flying reindeers, Lego Christmas trees, catapults to help Santa deliver presents, 3D Christmas decorations, design your own decoration, melting snowman biscuits, parachutes and much more. The social staircase was used for some singing, it was lovely



to hear the children sing Frosty the Snowman and Rudolf the Red Nose Reindeer. The children all watched Stickman in their classrooms and played a variety of party games with their coloured area.



## Christmas Lunch

We want to extend a huge thank you to the school kitchen for yet again providing a lovely Christmas Lunch. The staff were delighted to be able to take part in this tradition once again and the children enjoyed eating with their teachers.



## Pantomime



'Oh no they didn't' 'Oh yes they did!' We were delighted to welcome M&M productions on Tuesday to perform Cinderella.



## Nativity

Well done to the infant classes and teachers for all their hard work over the last few weeks to put together such a successful Nativity. We are sure we can all agree that the children were fantastic and very cute on stage.



## Seasons for Growth



Mrs Keith will be starting another block of Seasons for growth in the new term. Seasons for Growth is a programme for children who have experienced significant change or loss. It is based on the belief that change, loss and grief are a normal and valuable part of life. The aim of the programme is to develop resilience and recognise emotions we feel in these situations to promote social and emotional wellbeing. If you feel that your child would benefit from this programme, then please contact Mrs Keith directly use the email address below.

[Katrina.keith@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:Katrina.keith@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

## House Tokens

We seem to have a shortage of house tokens in school, if your child has been bringing these home please ensure they are returned to school!



## Dates for your diary

23<sup>rd</sup> Dec – Last day of term 2  
9<sup>th</sup> Jan – Start of term 3  
19<sup>th</sup> Jan – Parents Evening  
24<sup>th</sup> Jan – Parents Evening  
31<sup>st</sup> Jan – P6 Lendrick Muir Info Evening  
9<sup>th</sup> Feb - Holiday  
10<sup>th</sup> Feb - Holiday  
13<sup>th</sup> Feb - Holiday  
14<sup>th</sup> Feb – In-Service  
15<sup>th</sup> Feb – In-Service  
17<sup>th</sup> Feb – Re-scheduled Disco  
24<sup>th</sup> Feb – P3 Learning Café  
27<sup>th</sup> Feb – KSPC Book Swap  
15<sup>th</sup> Mar – KSPC Meeting

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We hope you can relax and spend time with loved ones.



## Parent Questionnaire

This term we conducted a parent questionnaire which around 45% of parents took the time to complete. We would like to thank those of you who gave us this feedback as it is very constructive and will help us to continue to improve.

There was the opportunity to leave additional comment and the main theme arising from these was that parents do not feel they are aware of where their child is at in their learning. We take this feedback on board and will be looking at this as a SMT and wider staff to see how we can improve this and further highlight the channels of reporting which we have in place.

1. The staff at Kinellar School care about my child's wellbeing and emotional development

Strongly Agree	52
Agree	53
Disagree	5
Strongly disagree	2



2. My child enjoys being part of the Kinellar School Community (0 point)

Strongly Agree	61
Agree	47
Disagree	3
Strongly disagree	1



3. I know the 4 school values of Kinellar School (0 point)

Strongly Agree	33
Agree	57
Disagree	19
Strongly disagree	3



4. Through resources like Reports, Newsletters, Snapshot jotter (P1-3), My Child's Profile on Glow(P4-7) and Microsoft Teams, I have a good grasp of where my child is on their learning journey.

Strongly Agree	20
Agree	66
Disagree	23
Strongly disagree	3



5. My child is progressing well in terms of overall development (0 point)

Strongly Agree	24
Agree	80
Disagree	7
Strongly disagree	1



6. My child has varied and engaging learning experiences at Kinellar School (0 point)

Strongly Agree	36
Agree	68
Disagree	7
Strongly disagree	1



7. My child is given enough support and challenge when needed (0 point)

Strongly Agree	26
Agree	59
Disagree	26
Strongly disagree	1



8. When I need support as a parent or if something goes wrong, I know who to ask

Strongly Agree	35
Agree	63
Disagree	12
Strongly disagree	2



9. I would rate my overall experience with Kinellar School as (0 point)

Excellent	29
Very Good	46
Good	21
Satisfactory	10
Weak	5
Unsatisfactory	1

