

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



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|---|--|
| Thurs 12th Feb                                    | In Service day   |
| Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> and Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb | Mid Term Holiday   |
| Tues 3rd March                                    | Open Afternoon 2-3.20pm  |
| Wed 4th March                                     | Burns cluster competition at Glamis<br>(P1-3 winners to attend)  |
| Thurs 5th March                                   | Burns cluster competition at Glamis<br>( P4-7 winners to attend) |
| Thurs 5th March                                   | World Book Day   |
| 18th March  | P6/7 Cross Country Event   |
| 31st March  | Parent Interviews  |
| 1st April   | Parent Interviews  |
| Fri 3rd April                                     | END OF TERM  |

**School resumes Monday 20th April**

The school website is in the process of being updated but please visit it on

[www.airlieprimaryschool.org](http://www.airlieprimaryschool.org).

Sincere thanks to Melissa Lawrence for her hard work and effort on setting this up for us.

Mrs Natasha Hutchison

# Airlie Primary and Pre School



## February 2015 Newsletter

***Work together to be the best we can be.***

*Dear Parents,*

*There has been a very busy start to the term with lots of things happening and many more planned!*

### **Emergency Weather Arrangements**

In the event of snow, decisions to close or keep Airlie School open prior to the school day will be posted to the Angus Council web site

([www.angus.gov.uk](http://www.angus.gov.uk)) on the “School Status” page.

If a decision has been taken the previous day, information will also be available on Tay Connect (0844 855 1724) and/or Angus Council’s ACCESS line (08452 777 778) and will also be broadcast on Radio Tay (Tay AM MW 1161/1584 KHz or Tay FM 102.8/96.4 MHz) when available.

If a decision is made to close school during the course of the day we will inform parents by phone call to the main contact’s mobile phone where possible to collect children, or an announcement will be made on Radio Tay. **Please ensure all emergency contacts and mobile numbers are up to date.**

### **Clothing For Winter**

At this time of year the children love to get outside in the playground and play in the snow, if we get any more !! Can you therefore please ensure children come suitably dressed in cosy clothes, a waterproof jacket with hood, hat, gloves, and waterproof footwear? As the children may get wet, please send a spare pair of socks and trousers or jogging trousers that the children can change into if they do get wet and cold.

### **Burns Poems**

On Friday 30th January Bob Kidd a Scots Poems and Language expert kindly came to help Mrs Hutchison and Miss Robertson Judge the Burns Poems competition. All the Children did brilliantly and had worked very hard to learn their poems with a lot of help from Parents and Grandparents, well done everyone. A very hard task to finally pick winners.

**P1 Charlie Kynoch, P2 Alex Link, P3 Georgie Learmonth, P4 Bria Ogilvie P5 Natasha Easson, P6 Catriona Boath, P7 Kiera Gowans**

These pupils will go to Glamis Primary School to take part in the annual Rotary Scots Poem Competition on 4th /5th March—Alec Ogilvie Memorial Trophy,

### **Pupil Council**

The new Pupil Council was elected last week. I am delighted to inform you that the following pupils have been elected.

*Megan Link  
Lukash Thomson  
Paige Kynoch  
Natasha Eason  
Aimee Link  
Zen Saputo  
Gemma Pattullo  
Katie Thomson*

We had a very productive meeting. The Pupil Council will help the House Captains keep the Wall of Fame board updated with pictures and information. They will also be responsible for putting forward suggestions about fundraising for the school and which charities we should support during the year. Once decided they will help with the organising of the event. Another planned fund raiser will go towards the P6/7 ski trip to Glenshee which happens every year. The Parent Council have generously given approx. £10 donation towards each child going and it was felt that some fund raising contribution would be appreciated

**Play Pods**—Mrs Hutchison discussed with the Pupil Council the idea of Play Pods. The idea is to have a shed filled with recycled materials suitable to have in the playground to be used at break times, encouraging them to use their imagination. The members of the Pupil Council thought it sounded a brilliant idea and suggested that some members should attend the next Parent Council meeting to explain the idea.

The next Pupil Council meeting will be in a months time

### **Puss in Boots Christmas C-Ds**

You will remember at the Christmas Show we had Puss in Boots C-Ds for sale. These included songs from the show along with some bonus tracks written, arranged and adapted by David Lawrence and Family. The sale of the CD’s raised £175.00. Our sincere thanks go to David Lawrence for his time putting the CD together. The money is going to be used to improve our Music Resources in school as well purchasing some drum sticks which has been suggested by Colin Grant the Kodaly Teacher.

## School Policies

As a school we are reviewing our policies and have created a list of policies due for updating. I am keen to put each policy out for consultation. If you can help give us your views it would be greatly appreciated. We will have a policy of the month that will be sent to selected families and other professionals, on a rolling process, and updated by the staff taking on the views of all. If you receive a policy and are in agreement could you write on the form that you are happy with this. Please let me know if you would like to be seen specific policies when they are in the process of updating.

## Supporting Your Child at Home

We appreciate the level of support that you provide us on a daily basis. I am often asked by parents how they can better support their child at home. Education Scotland has an informative website called Parent Zone which supports parents with this. I am hoping to have this put on the website. It is

<http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/parentzone/learningathome/index.asp>

## Supporting Your Child at School

At the recent Parent Council meeting there was a discussion about identifying where we would like support from parents and families. I have spoken to the staff and we are keen to have support in the following areas

- Gardening, including maintaining our vegetable bed
- Choir
- Library support
- Cycling
- Sports coaching including other sports not just football
- Supporting the ECO development within the school

However I am sure there are lots of other talents that we would love to tap into so if you have a particular talent please let us know.

## Individual and Group Successes outwith School

We are very keen to share and celebrate individual and group success outwith school. We do this by having a Wall of Fame outside the school office. If your child would like to share any their success or achievement by displaying any photos or certificate on our Wall of fame we would love to see them.

**House Teams**—The House Teams have now been updated with the new starts and the children know which teams they are in. The teams are  
**Clova**—House Captain Megan Link, Vice Captain Paige Kynoch,  
**Esk**—House Captain Finlay McCoshim, Vice Captain Lukash Thomson,  
**Isla** - Captain Kiera Gowans Vice Captain Aidan McKelvie  
**Prosen**—Captain Lauren Allen, Vice Captain—Catriona Boath.

In order to gain points for their house, Captains are going to be responsible for organising team events both sporting and non-sporting. These will sometimes be part of an event happening in school for example—World Book Day—The team captains might organise a school quiz or something similar. The house teams would take part and the winning team will win point for their house. Points will not just be won through sporting activities

## Supported School Review

You may remember that we had a Supported school review back in March 2014. We have been busy working through this report which identified our key strengths and development needs. We are due a follow through review on 16th March 2015 to have a look at the work that we have achieved so far. I am hoping to get an update from parents on this in due course. As always we appreciate your feedback so please feel free to contact us.

### **New Staff/ Sfl**

I am delighted to welcome Miss Ross to the staff of both Airlie and Newtyle schools. Miss Ross brings with her a wealth of experience and expertise. She will be delivering Support for learning thought the school as well as delivering Reduced Class Contact time to P1-3 and P5-7.

### **PE Kits**

Please can we ask all Parents and Carers to make sure their child/ren have PE kit in school at all times. Some pupils are borrowing PE shorts from the school but this cannot continue as it seems to be encouraging them not to have their own in school. PE kit should be a T-shirt and shorts marked with their name. Ideally white T-shirts and black shorts—**NO football strips**. Our current policy is that PE kits should remain in school and will be sent home at the end of a term to be washed but if you would prefer it to come home more often for washing this isn't a problem so long as it is returned for the following week. We would also appreciate that children don't wear earrings or jewellery on PE days for health and safety reasons, unless of course they have just been pierced in which case they will be covered with a plaster or medical tape.

### **Absence and Illness**

Please can we remind all Parents in Primary and Pre-school that if your child is ill and unable to come to school a phone call to the school is required and a letter on their return explaining their absence.

If your child appears unwell with a cough/ cold/ sore throat or tummy and generally under the weather please consider whether or not to send them to school / pre-school very carefully in order to reduce the risk of infection to the other children.

**Most importantly—If your child has been sick or had diarrhoea they must be off school / pre-school for 48hrs following the last incident or upset.**

We use the guidelines set by NHS Health Protection Scotland which is displayed in the school office and pre-school

### ***In service Days and Mid Term Holiday***

The school will be closed on Thursday 12th February for pupils. Some staff will be attending training in Building Positive Relationships. Others will be introducing a new planning system and reviewing the current behaviour management system. On Friday 13th February and Monday 16th February the school will be closed for our mid term break. I do hope you all enjoy your long weekend.

### **NURSERY NEWS**

The Children have been learning about countries all around the world and we have had parents and grandparents in to talk about some countries. These have included Scotland, Swaziland and Australia.

**Burns:** We had a Scottish week and all the children participated in the Scottish Poetry morning and recited poems they had learnt. We also enjoyed a Burns Supper at snack time and had haggis neeps and tatties.

We will be celebrating Chinese New Year and we will be looking into some of the festivals and cultures celebrated in China. We will also be sampling some Chinese foods.

**Can You Help:** The Pre-school would like to try and make an outdoor music area using recycled items such as old pots, metal dustbin lid, wood to make a xylophone and a wooded frame to support it. One of our parents made us an out door kitchen which has been a great success. If any other parent feels able to help create something similar for our music area it would be fantastic.. We would also like any scraps of material and other items to build dens outside with.

The children love to be out side and also playing with glue and paint. Please remember that your child may get messy so send them to Nurser-y in suitable clothing that you won't mind getting dirty!

Thank you to all parents who have given up their time to share their experiences with us, we love to have visitors