



We will change the world –
Vision, Value and Aims of Cultercullen School
This is how we will change the world around us
We will sit with those alone
We offer help to be a friend to those who stand alone
We think about and encourage others and lend a helping hand
Who we are at school is who we are outside
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NEWSLETTER – TERM 1 2023/24

Message from the Head Teachers

We hope that all our families enjoyed the Summer Break. We are delighted to welcome all our children back to school as we have an exciting term ahead.

We are delighted to welcome our six new P1's this year and a new P7 pupil into our P5-7 class.

Our class teachers will be issuing their class Newsletters very shortly.

Upcoming Events/Diary Dates

An updated calendar is attached of our all our school activities and events. Any future calendar amendments/additions will be highlighted in red.

In addition we would like to invite you to our Sharing of Learning class assemblies on the following dates:

06.10.23 - P5-7 Assembly
03.11.23 – P1/2 Assembly
24.11.23 – P3/4 Assembly

Our Assessment Calendar for the year is also attached for your information.

School Inspection

As you will be aware HM Inspectors from Education Scotland will be visiting us to conduct an inspection during the week commencing 11 September 2023. You can find out more about inspection, , from the [Inspection and Review Documentation](#) pages of Education Scotland's website.

As part of the inspection, Inspectors gather the views

of stakeholders via an online survey which is available from [Parents / Carers \(Primary\)](#).

We would like to encourage you to complete the survey. Inspectors will also be meeting with groups of parents during the inspection so to be part of that discussion you should complete the survey with additional links provided to indicate your interest in taking part. You should complete the survey by 1st September, one for each of your children that attend the school. We thank you for your continued support of our school.

New P1's

Our new P1's have all settled in really well and are enjoying getting to know our school routines.

We appreciate that there has been some paperwork and information required from our new P1 parents and we really appreciate your help in getting this back to us as quickly as possible.

Nut Allergy

As it's the beginning of term we thought it would be a good idea to remind everyone that we are a nut free school. It is extremely important that we continue to be mindful. We will continue to send a regular reminder at the bottom of our quarterly Newsletters.

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PE/Outdoor Learning

The children coming to school already in their PE kits is working well and we will continue with this this session.

Our PE and Outdoor Learning days will be as follows this term:

P1/2

PE – Monday and Friday

Outdoor Learning – Welly Wednesday

P3/4

PE – Wednesday and Thursday

Outdoor Learning – Muddy Monday

P5-7

PE – Tuesday and Thursday

Outdoor Learning – Fresh Air Friday

Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on PE days. For health and safety, it is important that every child wears appropriate clothing for physical exercise, including suitable trainers, long hair tied back and earrings taken out or covered.

For outdoor learning the children should come to school in weather appropriate clothing and shoes.

Water bottles

Just a reminder that children should bring a water bottle to school daily. These should be clearly marked with their name.

Sunscreen/Hats/Jackets

Please can you ensure that children either come to school wearing sunscreen or have some in their school bag. The same goes for a sun hat should they need one.

Due to our varied weather please also ensure that the children have a jacket with them daily for outdoor play.

Violin

Miss Davidson will be visiting on Mondays this term for those children that receive violin tuition.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club will continue this session and offers a free breakfast to any children who would like it between 9:15-9:45 each day. The breakfast options are:

Toast (brown bread) and spreadable butter
Or

Cereal (Rice Krispies, Weetabix, Cornflakes, Shreddies or Cheerios) and semi- skimmed milk

Out of School Achievements

Our Achievements Wall now has lots of achievements that our children should be proud of.

Please continue to share the children's achievements with us, we love to hear about them.

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Learning Journals

We will continue to share your child's learning through learning journals. Our children and class teachers love to see your comments and feedback and we would encourage you all to continue with this during the year.

Ragbag Bin

Just a reminder that we are always grateful for donations to our Ragbag bin. The bin is currently full but any donations can be handed into the school office. The next collection date is between 4th and 8th September.

Contacting the School

Just a reminder that the school office hours are:

Monday	9.15am – 3pm
Tuesday	9.15am – 3pm
Wednesday	9.15am – 12.15pm
Thursday	9.15am – 3pm
Friday	9.15am – 12.15pm

If you need assistance from the office, please try to do so during these times as much as possible. We cannot guarantee we will be able to respond out with these times as our staff will be in class but would encourage you to call the school if it is something urgent.

Please can we remind parents the importance of security within school. All parents visiting must come to the main entrance, use the door entry buzzer and speak to a member of staff in the office before gaining entry to the school.

Communication from School

Most of our communication is done via Groupcall/email. However, some communication may come home via school bags. Please ensure that you look out for forms etc coming home. An email will usually be sent to ask you to look out for the information coming home.

You may wish to add 14EC036@groupcallalert.com to your safe senders list to ensure items don't go to junk mail.

Can we kindly ask that you return all paperwork or reply to all communication promptly and by the date requested. Can we also ask that you ensure that any paperwork completed in full to ensure we don't have to send it home again.

Pupil Absence

Can we please remind parents that if your child is going to be absent from school or have a change of schedule (e.g. going home with a friend) please notify the school office by telephone (01651 267450) or email at the earliest opportunity. If leaving a voicemail, please ensure you clearly state your child's name and reason for being absent. If your child has an appointment first thing and is going to need a school lunch ordered, please ensure you let us know by 9:30am at the latest.

Can we also remind parents that if your child has been vomiting or has diarrhoea then they should stay off school for 48 hours after their last bout.

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[Parentsportal/Annual Data Check](#)

We are delighted that most of our parents have registered for Parentsportal. The few that have not registered have been reminded to register with details of how to do so and we would really appreciate it if they could register as soon as possible.

The Annual Data Check is a requirement within all schools and will be issued once we have all parents registered on Parentsportal. In the past we have been able to send Annual Data Check forms home in school bags, however we can no longer do this due to GDPR.

The Annual Data Check is extremely important as it allows us to check that we hold up to date emergency contact information and medical information for your child/children.

[Adverse Weather/School Closure](#)

Just a reminder that school closures will be advised on the following Aberdeenshire council web page –

[School closures and transport changes - Aberdeenshire Council](#)

It is essential that we have correct contact details for you as in the event of a school closure we will need to be able to contact you. This information can be updated via Parentsportal or by contacting the school office.

In the event of school closure, we have found it easier to issue home learning by email and we will continue to do this if necessary.

[Tempest Photography – Tuesday 19th September](#)

Tempest Photography will be in school to take individual and sibling photos on Tuesday 19th September. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.

[Volunteering](#)

As advised last term we are finally able to welcome parent helpers into school again.

Please note that it is our policy that any parents volunteering should hold a PVG, and we can arrange for this to be carried out at no cost to the parent.

Thanks very much to those that have already been in touch to volunteer we will get back to you shortly. Any new volunteers would be most welcome, please email the school expressing your interest.

[Parents Evening](#)

Parents Evening will be held in school on the following dates/times:

Tuesday 3rd October – 3:30-5:30pm
Thursday 5th October – 4:30-6:30pm

Appointments will be 10 minutes long. Further information will come out nearer the time asking you to select the date/time slots that suit you best.

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Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic book fair will be in school from Tuesday 3rd October until Monday 9th October. All classes will be given the opportunity to have a look at the selection of books on offer book fair on this shortly. Parents will have the opportunity to purchase when attending the Parents Evening. There will be a QR code provided that will allow you to make your payment easily on the night.

The school will benefit from 50% commission of any book sales if we reach a target of £400 which will be used to purchase books for the school.

Flu Immunisations

Flu nasal immunisations are scheduled to take place on Thursday 28th September. Please ensure any remaining forms are returned by Friday 1st September. If you have not returned the permission form your child will not receive the nasal flu immunisation.

Rights Respecting Group

Congratulations to Miss Aird and The Rights Respecting Group. They have achieved a Bronze Award. The achievement was celebrated in assembly, but well done to the whole group.

Cash for Kids Coat Appeal 2023

The Cash for Kids Coat Appeal 2023 is now open for applications. Please contact the school in confidence if you would like for us to apply on your behalf.

[Help children across North East Scotland stay warm this winter | Events - Northsound 1 \(planetradio.co.uk\)](#)

The appeal aims to give every child who needs it, a £50 Primark voucher so they can get everything they need for the colder months.

A message from FOC

Welcome back to the new school year! FOC are looking forward to seeing as many parents as possible at our next meeting on Tuesday 5th September (6:45-8:00pm) to which all are invited. This will also be our AGM. Please come along and hear what's happening at school and have a chance to have your say.

We're looking forward to our next family fundraiser and social, Back to School Bingo on Friday 29th September 6-8pm. Hope lots of you can make it! Please see poster attached.

FOC are starting some work to improve the library, starting with an audit from the school's library service on Friday 1st. We will be looking for volunteers to help with this so please let us know if you would like to get involved.

If there is anything you would like to raise or discuss with FOC at anytime, you don't need to wait for a meeting. Please contact us at cultercullenparentcouncil@yahoo.com.

FOC Meetings will be held at Cultercullen School, 18:45 – 20.00 and the dates for this session will be:

5th September 2023 – AGM
14th November 2023
30th January 2024
7th May 2024

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Final Message

We would like to take this opportunity to again thank all parents and carers for their continued support.

Alison Gagne & Laura MacArthur
Head Teachers

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