



Middleton Park School

Middleton Park School Newsletter

Happy New Year

Wishing all our families a very warm welcome back to our Spring Term and all good wishes for 2016.

Our pupils have all returned to school very settled and ready to learn! We look forward to another exciting term full of rich learning experiences.

We look forward to welcoming the HMIE team of inspectors to our school the week beginning 18th January. This is an opportunity for the school to share our good practice as well as finding out how we can do things better.

With unpredictable weather expected over the next few weeks, please can all pupils come to school suitably dressed for break times and lunchtimes. We will be continuing with outdoor learning in all weathers.

Congratulations to Margaret from our school canteen for 25 years service with Aberdeen City Council. Our school dinner ladies play an invaluable role in ensuring that our lunchtimes are healthy and enjoyable for all.



As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch if there is anything you would like to discuss. We also have an Open Surgery every Friday from 8.30 - 9.00 am.

Jenny Watson, Head Teacher

A walk in the past

This term our focus from P1 - 7 is exploring People, Past Events and Societies. Classes have chosen different periods in time to research and investigate with the overarching aim of locating, exploring and linking periods, people, events and features in time and place. All classes will be sharing their learning both in school and with the wider community through a variety of mediums including our Live Learning Films. P4 - 7 classes will also be creating their own 'History in a Suitcase' to share at different community events. We look forward to sharing our whole school homework challenge via our video link on 4th March, and welcoming our parent body to our Open Morning on 18th March. More information about individual classes will be on Class News.

Health and Wellbeing

We are continuing with our focus on Health and Wellbeing this term. We will be introducing a new wellbeing and resilience programme called Bounce Back. Our aim is to help our pupils grow stronger and gain personal coping skills to help them address the challenges they face in life - not only in their primary years but throughout their life. Bounce Back has nine units of work - Core Values, People bouncing back, Courage, Looking on the bright side, Emotions, Relationships, Humour and No Bullying. During this term we will be exploring the Core Values and No Bullying. Core Values will also help us to refresh our School Vision and Aims.

Kenny Herriott - Motivational Move-mber Speaker

We were delighted to welcome Kenny to talk to our school about his inspiring journey after a life-changing injury. You can find highlights of Kenny's talk on our school website.



Spotlight on Dance

The school is very fortunate to have Moira Wilson as a volunteer Dance Teacher. Moira comes into school every Tuesday afternoon and works with all classes over the year. This ensures a progression of skills from P1 - 7 and that every child has the opportunity to experience the energy and excitement of performing for others.

This term, P7 are working hard on a performance of the musical **Jesus Christ Superstar!** They received a coaching afternoon from Kristofer Harding, star of the musical, and many of the pupils went along to watch the performance at His Majesty's Theatre. More details of the P7 performance to follow.

Dates for your diary

12 Jan	6.00 P6 Cromdale Meeting
13 Jan	6.30 Parent Council Meeting
14 Jan	P4 Swimming
27 Jan	School Photographer
8 – 10 Feb	P6 Cromdale Residential
9 Feb	6.30 Parent Council Meeting
15 Feb	February Holiday
16 – 17 Feb	In-Set (closed to pupils)
4 March	Issue of Whole School Homework Challenge
16 March	6.30 Parent Council Meeting
18 March	9.30 - 10.30 Open Morning
	A walk in the Past
25 March	Good Friday Holiday
1 April	Last Day of Term
26 April	6.30 Parent Council Meeting
18 April	First Day of Term
29 April	School Reports Home
2 May	May Day Holiday
3 May	In-Set (closed to pupils)
10 May	3.30 - 6.00 Parents' Evening
11 May	3.30 - 6.00 Parents' Evening
13 May	Issue of Whole School Homework Challenge
20 May	RGU Youth Games P5
25 May	6.30 Parent Council Meeting
27 May	9.30 - 10.30 Open Morning
31 May	Sports Day - first option
1 June	Sports Day - second option
2 June	Sports Day - third option
6 - 10	P7 Residential to Cromdale
14 June	6.30 Parent Council Meeting
21 June	6.30 P7 Leavers' Celebration
22 June	P1 Induction Meeting
23 - 24 June	P7 Transition to Academy
1st July	Last day of term
	TBC - Musical Celebration

Being our best in the Community

We were overwhelmed with the response to Original 106 Christmas Appeal 2015. Mrs Greig's office was overflowing with your kind donations. Primary 6 and 7 carried the donations to the Mains of Scotstown for collection.



Our Nativity at the Bridge of Don Baptist Church was very well attended. Congratulations to all our pupils, musicians, dancers, actors and our P7 leaders who wrote and led our Walk through Christmas. A short film shares the highlights on our school website.



Our pupil led Charities Committee raised awareness about living with limited or no sight. They organised a Sensory Day which included 'Lunch in the Dark', sensory challenges for all classes and a visit from Guide Dogs. They also raised £300 which allows the school to sponsor a class of Guide Dog Puppies.



Our pupil led Community Committee visited Charlie Devine for a Carol Service. The pupils have been visiting our elderly neighbours every Friday to share games, music, stories and fun.



The Nursery were joined by parents and friends in their Wee Green Space. It was a very special Christmas celebration in our fantastic outdoor setting.



Being the best I can be

The response to our Move-mber Homework Challenge was stunning! Gary Giles, PE Development Officer, was very impressed by both the standard of entry and the commitment of our pupils to an active life-style. The twelve worthy winners enjoyed a fantastic afternoon at Transition Extreme.



