

Port Elphinstone School Newsletter

December 2023

Learning Together

This term we've enjoyed the opportunity to work together to meet our school values, we talk about them in Assembly each week! Visitors to our school remark on the respect and responsibility our pupils demonstrate. We've had several visitors this term, the Childsmile nurse, Mr Smith a local minister, the Teddy Bear hospital, the classroom farm and the P6s and P7s have taken part in the Place in Childhood Neighbourhood Plan. Our P5s and P6s have also had Chalamau lessons with Mrs Farquharson. We also have a trip to the Pantomime to look forward to. Thank you to the Parent Council for supporting this trip by paying for the buses and also to Nyall's Granda, Mr Innes, for his generous donation to enable all the children to get an ice cream at half time.

A Generous School Community

We are so delighted to report that our two opportunities for supporting others have been a huge success! Our Children in Need Activities raised £210 pounds which supports many charities across the UK.

We also donated approximately 10 bags of coats and warm clothing to the Abernecessities appeal. Thank you to everyone who donated.



We shall also be supporting the Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday, 7 December when pupils are invited to wear a Christmas jumper or something Christmassy.

The Parent Council were also delighted to have raised £750 at the recent Christmas Fair which will go towards paying for the panto bus and Christmas treat for the children.

Preparing for Winter!!

We have noticed that as the term has worn on, we have had an increase of pupils arriving to school late. We understand that some mornings things will be difficult and pupils may arrive late. However, a timely arrival to school helps pupils to start the day calmly and able to follow the routines of the morning. Your support with getting pupils to school on time would be appreciated. If ever you are having difficulty getting your pupils to school on time, please just give us a call or an email to see if there is any way we can assist.



As we head further into winter, please make sure pupils come prepared for snowy, wet and cold weather. A change of clothes for all ages would be a good idea, especially indoor shoes as it helps keep our classrooms clean and pupil feet warm and dry.

Don't forget, please only use the main school gate, even if there are no cones up, the carpark gate is not safe for children to use.

PE in School

Please ensure that pupils come suitably dressed for PE lessons. A PE kit should include, T-Shirt, leggings or jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt for going outside. Tank tops are not appropriate as they may get caught on equipment used. Trainers or plimsoles for indoor PE lessons or trainers for outside. Medical tape should be provided for pupils with pierced ears. We have also worked with one of our suppliers to provide PE t-shirts which may be worn during PE lessons. They come in each house colour. We would prefer pupils not to wear football tops and these t-shirts provide a great alternative. PE t-shirts are for PE lessons, please wear polo shirts on regular school days. PE shirts are not required, but can be found [here](#).

P1-3	Monday and Tuesday
P3-4	Monday and Tuesday
P5-6	Monday and Thursday
P6-7	Monday and Thursday

Getting in touch with Port Elphinstone School

Our door is always open to talk things through if you have any questions. It may sometimes be difficult to make time at the beginning or end of school day due to teaching commitments and after-school meetings, but we try to make time available if you have any questions or concerns. You can always email or phone the office to request time to speak to one of the team.

Mrs Amelia Davies, Head Teacher PE (Alternate Fridays)	Miss Laura McCormick, P1-3	Mrs Karen Simpson, (M-Th) Mrs Louise McLeish,(F) P3-4	Miss Freya Lindroos (M, Tu, W, F) Mrs Karen Clark (Th) P5-6	Mrs Elaine Allan P6-7
Mrs Valerie Napier Additional Support Needs Teacher Monday and Tuesday	Mrs Susan Cordiner, Digital PE (Tuesday) Digital Literacy (Fridays)	Mrs Karen Taylor Administrator M, W, Th Mrs Yvonne Donald Admin Support T, F	Mrs Claire Gerrie Mrs Leanne O'Donnell Mrs Margaret Sinclair Mrs Angie Watt PSAs	Mrs Julia Hutcheon Mrs Paula Cameron Mrs Wendy Kelman Mrs Lisa Grieve

Get in touch!

If you have queries or concerns, please get in touch!

portelphinstone.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Dates for your Diary

Thursday, 30 November	Nursery Trip to Retail Park
Thursday, 7 December	Christmas Jumper Day
w/o 11 December	Nursery Stay and Play
Wednesday, 13 December	School Trip to the Panto
Friday, 15 December	Christmas lunch
Tuesday, 19 December	P1/2 Nativity
Tuesday, 19 December	Nursery Party (pm)
Wednesday, 20 December	Nursery Party (am)
Thursday, 21 December	Upper Stages Party (pm)
Friday, 22 December	Lower Stages Party (pm)
Friday, 22 December	Carols in the Playground (3.15 pm)
Friday, 22 December	End of Term
Monday, 8 January 2023	Return to School