

# Broomhill Primary School

## News - 2019

### Contact us:

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Keep up to date with everything that's happening in school on our website:

[www.broomhill.aberdeen.sch.uk](http://www.broomhill.aberdeen.sch.uk)

Follow us on Twitter: @SchoolBroomhill



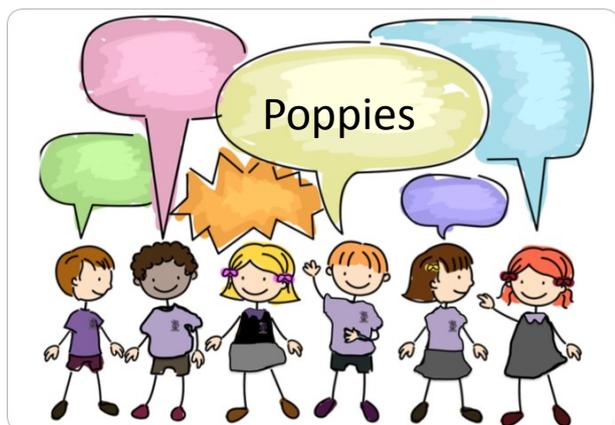
A warm welcome back into Term 2. The school year is whizzing past so quickly and very soon we'll be into the sparkle of Christmas at Broomhill. Dates for the term are included at the end of this newsletter. Please note them down, print them out and stick on the noticeboard/fridge etc! A sprinkling of snow on my way to school this morning reminded me to send out a reminder of our Adverse Weather Procedure, you'll find this towards the end of this newsletter. ❄️

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to our Open Afternoon last term, again we had a fantastic turnout of parents, carers and families visiting classrooms and stopping off for a "cuppie" in the GP room. We raised £177 in aid of Macmillan—thank you!

I look forward to seeing many of you next week at our Parents Evenings. Our new electronic booking system seems to have gone quite well with only a few small blips which have been easily fixed. We'd be happy to receive your feedback on this. 👍 Mrs D Reid (Head Teacher)

### Talking and Writing

Last term, our staff undertook some additional training in the teaching of Writing. This is an area where we sometimes see a slight dip in our attainment levels. As a result of this training and in consultation with the pupils we have introduced a weekly Talk Topic. Research shows that pupils who can talk confidently and articulately show improved skills in Writing. We already use programmes such as Talk Boost and Early Talk Boost in our nursery and P1 classes to support and promote verbal skills and this is another step in this process. Each week, classes will focus on their talk topic in class, and on Fridays a special table is set up in the dining room where talking and conversation will focus on the weekly Talk Topic. This week the topic



has been "Fireworks". In order to support this ongoing work in school, I will send the Talk Topic for the following week, home to you via Twitter and it could perhaps be a Talk Topic at home too. I've spoken with After School Club and they are also keen to help. So look out for next week's Talk Topic which will be "poppies" and have some interesting conversations!

Continuing along the theme of developing our Writing in school, Miss Murray is keen to work with any parents who might like to come into school and work with pupils during writing lessons. An invitation will be sent home and if you are interested, please let us know. This would involve some initial information/training sessions with Miss Murray before going into classes to support this valuable work.



## Medication

Following a very positive Quality Assurance meeting with managers from Aberdeen City Council and our Chief Education Officer who were in school to look at our procedures for “Ensuring Wellbeing and Inclusion” we have been reviewing our policies and procedures for medications in school. One of the recommendations was that we ensure all pupils who require ongoing medication such as inhalers are able to access these within the classroom rather than having to come to the First Aid Room.

I would therefore like to ask all parents of pupils who suffer from asthma to provide a second inhaler which can be kept in the classroom at all times. This means that each pupil will have an inhaler in the First Aid Room accessible for breaktime and lunchtime, but also the class teacher will be able to access one in an emergency without the need for pupils to climb stairs etc. A reminder also that should you wish your child to carry their medication with them, this can also be arranged through completion of appropriate paperwork and agreement with senior management.



# Sparkle and Shine Time

Its that time of year again! Broomhill will be Sparkling and Shining throughout December! This is an opportunity for you to come and take part in an afternoon of Christmas Craft with your child, in their classroom. As the name suggests, there's likely to be a little bit of glitter, tinsel and all things sparkly involved!

The pupils will send you an invitation nearer the time but we thought we would share the dates with you so you could put them in your diaries.

Primary 1 (Rooms 4, 5 and 7) Monday 25th November 2pm—3pm

Primary 2 (Room 8) Tuesday 26th November 2pm—3pm

Primary 2/3 and P3 (Rooms 9, 10 and 11) Wednesday 27th November 2pm—3pm

## Early Years Expansion

You may have heard in the local news that we have been granted the funding to provide a new Early Years (Nursery) building. We are absolutely delighted about this news which will really allow us to develop our Early Years Provision, bringing both nursery groups together into one purpose built space.

Dr Aisling McQuarry came along to our Parent Council Meeting on Thursday 7th November to talk to the group about the proposed plans. These plans will be available to view in school in due course. In the meantime if you have any queries or questions regarding the Early Years Expansion Project you can find more information via the following link or by emailing [ELCExpansion@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:ELCExpansion@aberdeencity.gov.uk)

<https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/education-and-childcare/expanding-early-learning-and-childcare>

## Lost Property



This is situated at the main entrance of the school. This allows access to the area without having to come into the main school building.

We have a huge number of coats/jumpers etc handed in daily without any names. Can I please remind all parents to clearly label all items of clothing, lunch boxes etc with their child's name to help ensure the items can be returned.

## Outdoor Learning and Forest School opportunities

Outdoor Learning continues to be an area of focus for us in school this session. In addition to staff training earlier this session, Mrs Mutch has been attending Forest School Training and is looking forward to using this approach with groups of pupils. Forest School sits nicely alongside mainstream education, providing learning with opportunities to achieve, building self-esteem through hands on experiences in an outdoor setting. Children are encouraged to appreciate nature, and to learn about it and respect it. Children are able to choose from different activities, perhaps choosing to have free play. This enables them to have influence on their own learning, and to develop communication skills.

Aberdeen City Council play policy recognises that play is central to children growing up healthy and supports their wellbeing. The ethos of Forest Schools and the play policy demonstrate that children learn by doing, by experiencing. This Aberdeen City Council policy also “recognises that while we should do all we can to protect children and young people from risk of serious harm, they need challenging and adventurous play experiences to develop confidence, resilience and social skills”, these skills are developed through Forest School activities. All staff will encourage children to play and learn through play.

Over the next few months, Mrs Mutch will be working with different classes outdoors, to provide these valuable learning opportunities.

Room 8 will be out and about with her over the next couple of weeks before the Christmas rush begins! Please ensure that, as always all of the pupils are equipped to be learning outside at any time (rain or shine), with cozy coats, gloves and hats.



Thank you.

## Updates from our Parent Council

The Parent Council has a Facebook page (@BroomhillPSpta) along with year group facebook groups which allows parents and carers to receive and respond to messages about school community information, events and activities.

Each class has a Parent Rep who will share appropriate information from the school and parent council in the group. We would like to remind you however social media should not be used as a channel to air any school related concerns or grievances. Parents should address any issues or concerns regarding school life through official school channels rather than posting them on social networking sites. If you have an issue you would like to discuss, please contact a member of school staff through other methods of communication, through the school office or by emailing the school at [broomhill@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:broomhill@aberdeencity.gov.uk).

If you haven't already done so and wish to join your class facebook group please contact your parent class rep:

P1 Claire Russell, Melissa Harrison

P2 Alannah Rennie, Andi Paterson

P3 Jen Ingram

P4 Ruth Cowie, Karen Baxter

P5 Martha Richardson

P6 Karen Baxter, Ruth Cowie, Rachel Price

P7 Emma Barclay, Jill Christie

*If you are interested in becoming a class rep, please contact the Parent Council directly.*

### **Christmas Fair**

The Fair will be held on Saturday 7th December. An online volunteer sign up will be communicated shortly, if you have any time available please add your name to the list.

We are looking for raffle donations. If any families have contacts with companies who may be willing to donate a raffle prize, please get in touch with the Parent Council.

The Christmas Boutique will be open again on 3rd and 4th of December. Pupils can come and buy a small gift and wrap it there for family members—more details to follow nearer the time.

A Christmas Disco will also be held on the 18th December at Ruthrieston West Church Hall. Details have been emailed home this week.

# Important—Adverse Weather Arrangements

## Adverse Weather Information arrangements 2018-19

In the event of adverse weather impacting on the running or opening of our school, the Head Teacher or Depute Head Teachers will post information through the following media sources, in the following order:

### 1. School Information Line

Parents/carers can access any severe weather message in the following way:

Telephone: 0870 0541999

Enter Pin Number: 011200

Press “1” to hear if there is a Severe Weather Message

### 2. Twitter

School closure alerts will also be available on twitter **@SchoolBroomhill**

And **@aberdeenCC**

### 3. Aberdeen City Council Website

Information regarding any closure/partial closure will be available at:

[www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/closures](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/closures)

### 4. Radio

Information will also be updated via Northsound Radio (96.9FM)

### 5. Groupcall

Information will only be sent via Groupcall if this system can be accessed by school staff in school or remotely.

We ask that parents do not call the school directly, but use the media sources above to gain information, avoiding tying up our phone lines.

### Late Opening

It is anticipated that in most circumstances it should be possible for school to remain open during adverse weather conditions. However sometimes a later school opening is an effective way to ensure our service can operate rather than closing altogether. We have a number of staff living in outlying areas and in order to allow our staff to reach school safely in the event of adverse weather the decision may be made to open the school slightly later eg 9.30am or 10am. This will be communicated to parents in the same manner.

A member of the School Management Team will also liaise with Great Western After School Care Club who run our breakfast club. The club have their own procedures for adverse weather which parents will be aware of.





## Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 13th December

*Make the world better with a sweater on Friday 13th December and come*

to school dressed in your Christmas Jumper. Why not be creative and design or decorate an old jumper, no need to buy an expensive one.

We will be accepting small donations for Save the Children on this day.

### Christmas Performances

This year there's a huge amount happening across the school as you will see in the attached dates.

Some classes will be visiting local Care Homes to sing to the residents and P1, P2 and P3 are all busy rehearsing for their Christmas Performances for parents. (dates attached).

Information regarding tickets for P1-3 performances will come out soon but in the meantime, pencil these dates into your diary.

P1 Performance:       Monday 9th December at 2pm  
                                  Tuesday 10th December at 9.30am

P2 Performance:       Thursday 5th December at 9.30am  
                                  Friday 6th December at 2pm

P3 Performance:       Thursday 5th December at 2pm  
                                  Friday 6th December at 9.30am

Nursery Performance: Friday 13th December at 10am  
                                  Friday 13th December at 2pm



Dates for your diary	
Monday 28th October	Term begins
12th and 14th November	Parents Evenings
Thursday 21st November (additional In Service) Friday 22nd November	School Closed – In Service Day
Monday 25th November Tuesday 26th November Wednesday 27th November	Sparkle and Shine Time P1 (2pm—3pm) Sparkle and Shine Time P2 (2pm—3pm) Sparkle and Shine Time P2/3, P3 (2pm—3pm)
Monday 2nd December	P6 classes attending “Bubblegum n fluff” event at South Holburn Church: 9.30am—lunch.
Wednesday 4th—Thursday 5th December	Christmas Boutique
Thursday 5th December	P2 Christmas Performance: 9.30am P3 Christmas Performance: 2pm
Friday 6th December	Come Dressed as you please Day—chocolate donation for Christmas Fair  P3 Christmas Performance: 9.30am P2 Christmas Performance: 2pm
Saturday 7th December	PTA Christmas Fair
Monday 9th December	P4 Carols at Ruthriestone Care Home: 11am P6 Carols at Ruthriestone Care Home: 2pm  P1 Christmas Performance: 2pm
Tuesday 10th December	P1 Christmas Performance: 9.30am  Torchlight Service at South Holburn Church. 6.30pm
Wednesday 11th December	Christmas Lunch (tbc) Choir to sing Carols at South Holburn Church
Wednesday 11th December	P1 Christmas Performance: 2pm Rm 16 visiting Care Home—Carol Singing: 2pm Rm 22 visiting Care Home—Carol Singing: 2pm
Thursday 12th December	School Closed—General Election Polling Station
Friday 13th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 16th December	P6 and P7 Christmas Party
Tuesday 17th December	P3/4, P4 and P5 Christmas Party Rm 21 visiting Care Home—Carol Singing; 2pm
Wednesday 18th December	P1, P2 and P3 Christmas Parties
Thursday 19th December	Nursery Christmas Parties
Thursday 19th December	2.15pm: Whole School Christmas Singalong (Weather permitting in the playground)
Friday 20th December	School Term Ends
Monday 6th January 2020	School Term Begins