



Lairhillock School Newsletter

30 October 2015

VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for volunteers to help with the **school library** on a Thursday afternoon. This is run on a rota basis so you would not have to commit to every week. If you are able to help we would love to hear from you. Please contact the school office.

If you would like to volunteer for any other activities in the school we would love to see you.

EVENTS

It was great to see so many parents at our **Learning Conversation** sessions. The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their work with you.

The nursery sessions were equally successful and again the children loved having the additional adults to engage with.



Our **Harvest Collection** for the food bank was a success again this year. Thank you to Joshua, Summer and Kayleigh McLeod who will be delivering our contributions to the Tussell food bank when they next visit.

All of our Primary 7 pupils were assessed as **Play Leaders** by Mrs Seery, Active Schools Coordinator, at the end of term 1. We were delighted that all of the children are now fully fledged Play Leaders.



Our first **choir** practice was held at the end of the term and it was very popular. The parent volunteer returned this term and it is great that we are now facing the prospect of a choir singing at the church service.

LUNCH MENU AMENDMENT

The current Autumn & Winter 2015/16 Primary school menus has a typographical error. The misprint occurs on Tuesday of Week 2 which shows the sweet of the day as Jelly served with Ice Cream. The sweet that should have been printed and will be provided is Jelly served with Fruit Salad.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

For **St Andrew's Day** our cook, Mrs Duguid, will be adding in a 'taster plate' of haggis, neeps and tatties' for all children taking school lunches that day.



The **Rotary Shoe boxes** should be returned to school by **Friday 13 November**. Thank you to those of you who have taken boxes to fill.



Don't forget we have two **in-service days** on Monday 16 and Tuesday 17th November.

The rescheduled parental input on our new Pupil Profiles will be held on Thursday 10 December. Further information will come out later.

ADVERSE WEATHER

We would ask that the children should come to school with the appropriate clothing for the time of year. As it is quite exposed in the playground the children might benefit from bringing hats, scarves and gloves as well as a warm, waterproof jacket.

Unfortunately we are approaching the time of year where I go into meltdown with the thought of snow arriving and having to make the decision to close the school! At all times I put the safety of staff and pupils as my top priority. The decision to close the school is never taken lightly.

- I contact Central Coaches as early as possible (around 5.30 a.m.) to find out if the buses are running. They cannot make their decision until someone has driven the route to check it.
- I then update the telephone information service and the school closure site on the Aberdeenshire Council website (see below for contact details). **Currently I am experiencing intermittent difficulties with my Internet connection at home and this may affect my ability to update the internet.**
- If possible I drive to school to check accessibility.
- Once I know how many staff are able to make their way safely to school I am then in a better position to make the decision whether or not to close the school.

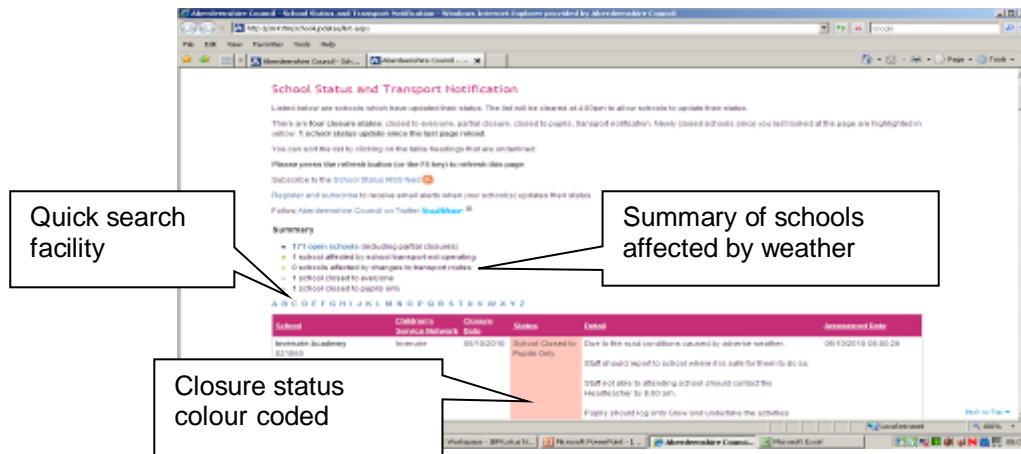
If the school transport is not running then any child who would normally arrive by bus is not marked as absent as these children are not expected to attend school. If you choose to bring your child to school when the transport is cancelled it is your responsibility to make sure you are able to return to collect them should the school have to close. Those of you who bring your children to school should not take any unnecessary risks.

Aberdeenshire Council's Education, Learning and Leisure service has asked schools to direct parents to the electronic copy of Adverse Weather leaflets on the Aberdeenshire Council website. This can be accessed using the following:

<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/parentscarers/AdverseWeatherLeafletforParentsandCarers.pdf>

Adverse Weather Website Parental/Carer Information:

When accessing the website <http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/closures/> a familiar screen will be seen.

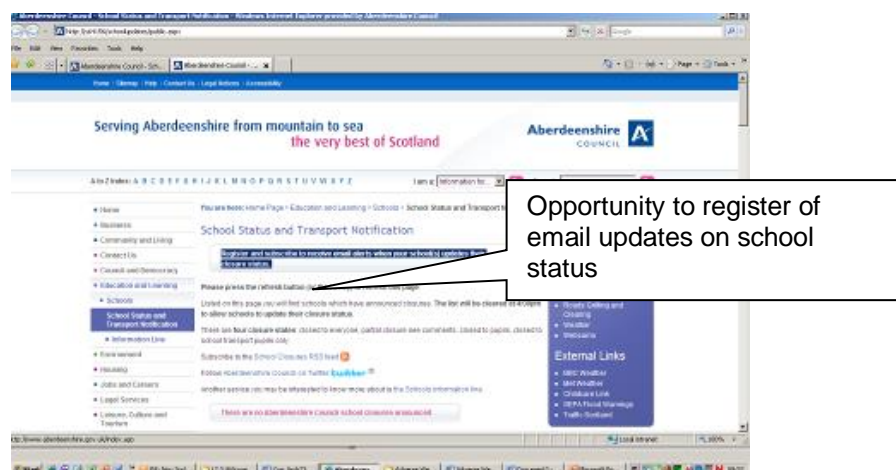


The Closure status has been broken down into three main categories which are colour coded

- School open – including partial openings Green
- School closed – to everyone or to pupils only Red
- Disruption to transport Blue

You also have the facility to search our school by clicking on the appropriate letter in the alphabet bar. Below the list of schools affected by adverse weather there is a list of the unaffected schools.

[Register and subscribe](#) to receive email alerts when your school(s) updates their closure status.

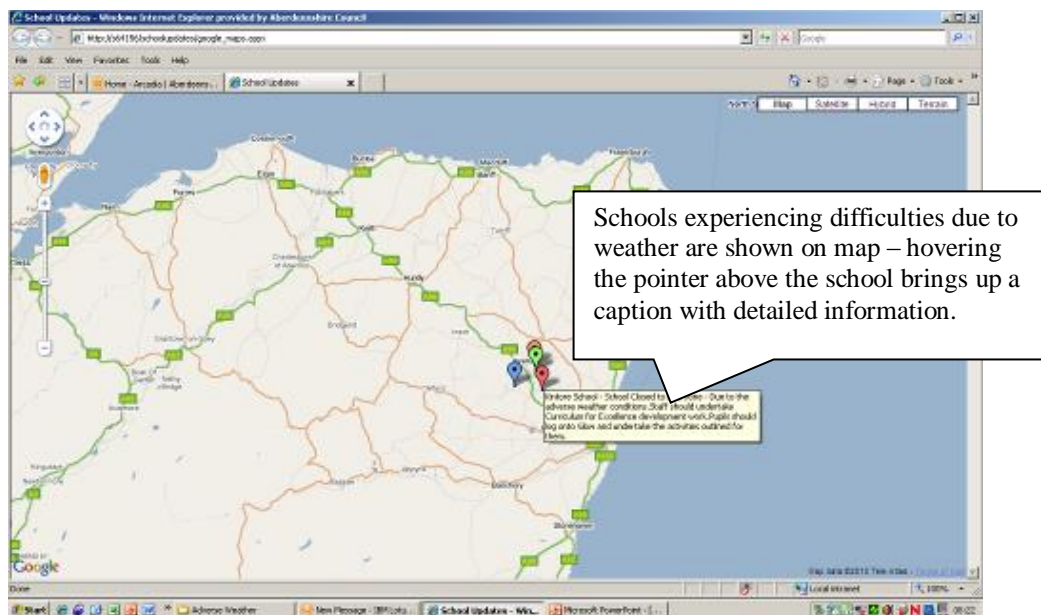


Parents are advised to use the facility to receive information and updates about school closures etc. by registering to receive emails. Emails will be sent automatically to your email address. If you wish emails to be forwarded to a number of email addresses you will require to register each one individually.

By clicking on the Register and subscribe you will be able to have an email sent to you automatically updating you of any changes to the schools' status. You will be able to register for updates from a number of schools by following the prompts on the screen.

Aberdeenshire Summary Map

Another option which has been made available is accessing Google maps
http://s64156/schoolupdates/google_maps.aspx



School Information Service

<http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/closures>

SCHOOL INFORMATION SERVICE NUMBER: **0870 054 4999**

LAIRHILLOCK SCHOOL PIN NUMBER: **02 2850**

STAFFING

Mrs Begg returned to Primary 1/2 at the beginning of the term and we welcome Mrs Fish back to Primary 6/7 on Wednesday 25 November. Additional information will be sent out to classes.

STAFF TRAINING

This term staff have engaged in training in Risk Assessment, Child Protection, Data Protection, Eiklan, Equalities and Diversity Training, Getting it Right for Every Child, Number Sense and Early Years.

PARENT COUNCIL

The next Parent Council Meeting will be held on **Wednesday 04 November 2015 at 7.30 p.m.** All parents of children from Nursery to P7 are invited. Items for the agenda should be forwarded to the secretary, Mrs Joanne Owen.

Christeen Saward
Head Teacher

Dates for your Diary (Dates may have to change but you will be kept informed)

TERM 2			
04 11 15	WEDNESDAY	19.30	PARENT COUNCIL MEETING
13 11 15	FRIDAY	ALL DAY	CHILDREN IN NEED
28 11 15	SATURDAY	10.00-12.00	CHRISTMAS FAYRE
30 11 15	MONDAY	12.20	ST. ANDERW'S DAY LUNCH MENU
10 12 15	THURSDAY	09.15	PUPIL PROFILE IMFORMATION SESSION FOR PARENTS
		19.30	PUPIL PROFILE IMFORMATION SESSION FOR PARENTS
22 12 15	TUESDAY	10.00	CHURCH SERVICE
TERM 3			
11 01 16	MONDAY	19.30	PARENT COUNCIL MEETING
21 01 16	THURSDAY	TBC	SUITCASE SALE
25 02 16	THURSDAY	TBC	FAIRTRADE CAFE
TERM 4			
26 04 16	TUESDAY	19.30	PARENT COUNCIL MEETING
SESSION 2016-2017			
31 08 16	WEDNESDAY	19.30	PARENT COUNCIL AGM

SCHOOL HOLIDAY / TERM TIME DATES

SESSION 2015 – 2016

Term 2 26/10/15 - 22/12/15

Term 3 06/01/16 - 01/04/16

Term 4 18/04/16 - 01/07/16

In-service Days

16 November 2015

17 November 2015

16 February 2016

17 February 2016

Public Holidays

15 February 2016

25 March 2016

02 May 2016

Occasional Days

11 February 2016

12 February 2016



COMMENTS, COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS

We welcome feedback on how we are doing and will use this to plan for improvements. Please note any points in the space below and return to the school office. Please sign your name if you wish someone to respond to your comments.

Signature: _____ Date: _____