



# Banff Primary School Newsletter

December 2017

Academy Drive  
Banff  
AB45 1BL

Telephone:  
01261 813100

Email: [banff.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:banff.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

Website: [www.banff-pri.aberdeenshire.sch.uk](http://www.banff-pri.aberdeenshire.sch.uk)

School information line for snow closures, etc:  
**0870 054 4999 PIN 021320**



## Winter Wonderland

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the Winter Wonderland on 30<sup>th</sup> November. The total raised so far is £1200. Thank you to all the PSA staff who worked really hard to organise the event it is very much appreciated.

## New Staff

The new members of staff joining Banff Primary in November have both settled in well. Mrs J Green Teacher of ASL is working with classes to deliver Expressive Art lessons and Mrs V McCaskill, Teachers of ASL is working in the Enhanced Provision class P1-3 with Ms C Reid.

## New Head Teacher

We are still waiting for confirmation of the start date for the new Head Teacher Mrs L MacKay, this should be available in the next few days.

## Global App

Primary 7 classes have been creating an 'app' with the Global App Group which takes you on a trail of Banff and Duff House. The Global App was launched on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December at Duff House. Look out for more information in local newspapers.

## Children in Need

Thank you to the P1-3 Superheroes group who organised the fundraising for Children in Need and to you for all your support. We raised an amazing £964.

## Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch will take place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

## Christmas Jumper Day

Banff Primary will be taking part in 'Christmas Jumper Day' on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017. Pupils can wear a Christmas jumper or decorate their school jumper with something Christmas related and take a donation in to school for Save the Children.

## Christmas Concert

All classes from P1 – P7 will be taking part in a Christmas concert on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017 in the school hall. There will be two performances of the concert at start at 9.30am and 1.30pm for all parents and families.

## Christmas Parties

Christmas parties will be held in the school hall at 1.30pm – 3pm on the following dates:

P1 Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December  
P2 & P3 Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December



# Banff Primary School Newsletter

December 2017

P4 & P5 Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>  
December  
P6 & P7 Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December.

## Early Lunch Dates

There will be an early lunch at 11.45am until 12.30pm for P4-7 and 12.20pm until 1.05pm for P1-3 on the following dates:

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017

## Christmas Service

The Christmas Service will take place on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017 at 9.30am in Banff Church.

## School Choir

The school choir will be performing at Tesco on 18<sup>th</sup> December and Banff Chalmers Hospital on 19<sup>th</sup> December.

## Attendance

Attendance at school is closely monitored by Aberdeenshire Council and it is important to arrive at school for 8.55 am each day. It is also important for family holidays to be taken within the school holidays as time off for holiday during the school term is recorded as unauthorised absence. Pupils can also miss significant parts of their learning and it is not possible for teachers to go over what has been missed.

## Education Scotland

We are continuing to work on developing and improving the curriculum and have formed staff focus groups to look at reading, writing, mental maths and problem solving. We have been trying out our new approach to planning

learning teaching and assessment in line with national guidelines.

Visible Learning Impact Coaches have now been trained and will be taking this development forward along with the Senior Leadership Team.

In Nursery they have been continuing to work on improving the curriculum, planning learning, teaching and assessment. They have developed and are implementing an improved approach to self- evaluation using How Good is Our Early Learning and Childcare.

## Snow Closures

As winter approaches, please remember the procedure for finding out if Banff Primary School is closed. There are 2 main ways – the School information line for snow closures, etc:

0870 054 4999 PIN 021320 and the Aberdeenshire Council school closure website:

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

When checking to see if the school is closed or not if the message on the phone line doesn't say it's closed that day then it will be open. On the school closure website all open schools are listed at the bottom of the page under those that are closed. We will always try to make a decision by 7.30am but this isn't always possible because of changing conditions.

## Festive Greetings

Everyone at Banff Primary School would like to wish all our families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Term starts again on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Have an enjoyable festive break!



# Banff Primary School Newsletter

December 2017



## School Events: November - December 2017

Date	Event
11 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Pantomime – Dick Whittington
11 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	New Nursery Pupils Induction
11 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Sticky Kids Performance - Nursery
14 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Christmas Lunch
15 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Christmas Jumper Day
15 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	Christmas Concert 9.30am & 1.30pm
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	P1 Christmas Party
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	School Choir singing at Tesco Banff
19 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	School Choir singing at Banff Chalmers Hospital
19 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	P2 & P3 Christmas Party
20 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	P4 & P5 Christmas Party
21 <sup>st</sup> December 2017	P6 & P7 Christmas Party
22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2017	Christmas Service, Banff Church
22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2017	School closes at 3.15pm for Christmas Holiday
8 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	School starts for Term 3 at 8.55am
<b>Holidays &amp; INSET Days</b>	
25 <sup>th</sup> December 2017 – 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2018 inclusive	Christmas Holiday
9 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Holiday
12 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Holiday
13 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	INSET Day
14 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	INSET Day
30 <sup>th</sup> March – 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2018 inclusive	Easter Holiday
7 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	Holiday
4 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	Holiday
9 <sup>th</sup> July – 17 <sup>th</sup> August 2018 inclusive	Summer Holiday
20 <sup>th</sup> August 2018	INSET Day
21 <sup>st</sup> August 2018	School Starts for 2018/19 Session