

Hello and welcome to our revamped Uryside School Newsletter, the first one of the school session. I hope this finds you all well and that you had a good Summer break. The weather may not have been the best, but the children have all come back fairly refreshed.

The newsletters will be fortnightly and will be a mix of updates, information and a wee blurb from one of our class areas, sharing what they have been working on over the last few weeks.

We will publish the newsletter through Groupcall (our email system) and on our Facebook page. If you haven't joined already then please feel free to do so.

Any information and flyers about out-of-school clubs, activities and other information will be sent on as it comes into school.

Diary dates will always be included at the end of the newsletter to keep you up to date with what is happening across the session.

As always, if you have any feedback, questions or queries then please contact the school email address: [Uryside.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:Uryside.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)



## School update

We return to school with a roll of 459 primary pupils split between 17 classes this session. We welcome Mr Jack Evans and Miss Becky Boyd to Uryside School as part of their probationary year of teaching. Mr Evans is with P6/7 and Miss Boyd is with P2A. Both have settled in well and have two super mentors to support them over the year.



Miss Westwood has remained with us for 4 days a week, split between P2/1, P2A and P6/7. Miss Westwood made a very positive impact on the school last year so we are delighted to be able to retain her.

Miss Davidson will continue in her position as ASN teacher, supporting pupils and providing support to teachers and PSAs in meeting the needs of all. Unfortunately, with Government and Council cuts, we only have 4 days of support and therefore we are in the process of looking closely at how to support pupils in the best way possible within our resource constraints. With some careful planning, we have created additional time for Miss Davidson to be a full week with us which we are grateful for. We have an increase in our PSA time allocation to 169 hours a week. This may seem a lot but equates to 6 full time PSAs across the school. Again careful management of the time and resource is a priority to get the best for our pupils. For this reason, we have sought the assistance of parent volunteers this session and there is more information later on this.

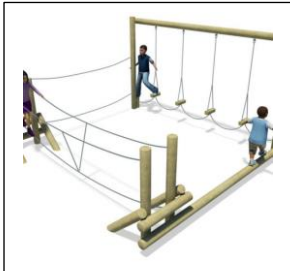
## Lunches

As you will be aware, we have had to resort to 3 sittings for pupils to have their lunch. This is a slick operation to ensure all our pupils have a mix of playtime with friends and peers, but also have time to eat their lunch. Again, trying to prioritise and maximise the time our PSAs spend in class assisting the pupils. We start slightly earlier for P1 at 12:05 and then filter year groups across the time. After a few early teething problems, the past few days have gone smoothly



and all have been seated to eat by 12:50-55 at the latest. This gives the pupils approximately 20-25 minutes for those last served to eat their lunch, similar to the time they had last session. Thank you to those who have given feedback and have had any questions about this; we will continue to monitor and adapt things as necessary.

### Playground and playfield



We are delighted to add 3 new pieces of playground equipment to our site this week. The equipment was purchased to support and develop play and were chosen by the pupils. A mixture of fundraising and school funding has allowed these to be purchased. These will be opened to pupils today. It is important we look after the equipment so that it is able to be used for years to come.

### Parent Forum

Our first Parent Forum of the session will be held at Uryside School on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm. If you have not attended before then please feel free to come along and help support the school. We discuss day to day running of the school, procedures and fundraising as part of the meeting. They are quite informal.

If you cannot attend, we will send out a link to join via Microsoft Teams.

Mrs Nicola Longmuir is the Forum Chair this session. If you wish to share anything with her that you would like to raise, then feel free to do so at Uryside School PC [urysidepc@gmail.com](mailto:urysidepc@gmail.com)

A reminder that we cannot discuss individual pupils, staff or other issues which may be of a sensitive nature at our meetings. These can be raised directly with the school or through the parent council chair who will bring these directly to the Headteacher for discussion.



### Junior Jog

Our Active Schools Team are running a Junior Jog session here at Uryside School on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September from 4pm - 5:30pm. Further information has been sent out via Groupcall and Facebook.

### Garioch Rugby

After a successful taster session here at Uryside, Garioch Rugby is offering rugby sessions at the weekends for anyone interested.

Contact - [gariochrfdc@gmail.com](mailto:gariochrfdc@gmail.com)

Training is at Garioch Rugby Club, Kellands Park. Training sessions are 10.30am -12pm.

We are also delighted to offer year groups taster sessions on table tennis and squash, these will be in the weeks ahead.

## Learning Journals

Following the successful introduction last session, we are continuing our use of Learning Journals this year. This is an online Parent/School Communication app that allows school to easily share examples of your pupil's work; it will play an important role in improving our regular reporting of pupil's work to parents. Each term, the aim will be to post examples of work in literacy, maths, health and other areas of the curriculum. Parents should receive email notifications on when new posts are uploaded and the easiest way to access them is via the Learning Journals app. Their [website](#) offers further support, this contains a [parents guide](#) and easy-to-follow [video guides](#). If you have any further problems accessing your child's journal or require your email address to be up-dated, please contact the school.



## Google Classroom

Similar to last session, each class or stage created a virtual classroom link that was their one stop base for information on timetabling, home learning tasks and termly curricular focus. The aim is to have these live and distributed by early next week.

## Parent Volunteers - We need You!

Following cutbacks to support across the authority, we have a recruitment drive on-going for any parental volunteers to assist us in school. This might be an hour at



lunchtimes, a morning or afternoon to assist in our library; our aim to prioritise PSA support in class or supporting those pupils that really need it. In order to do this, we need adult assistance in other areas of the school at specific times. There is a PVG and paperwork check process to go through for any volunteer in school but once completed, will last the duration of your time as a volunteer. Even if you aren't available this term but may be later

in the session, please contact us and we will start the process. Anyone interested in volunteering in school can complete the [form](#) or contact the school directly. Thank you to those that have already completed the paperwork, we hope to get the necessary clearance through very soon.

## Achievements.

Last session we had many, many examples of fantastic pupil achievements. These were shared on our Achievement Wall and on our school Facebook Page.

We have archived these achievements into an Achievements book for everyone to look through in the school library.

This session we would like this to continue as it was super to see what the children were achieving out of school. We had football, gymnastics, Dj-ing, singing, piping, trampolining, trying a first at something, cycling without stabilisers to name but a few. However, we also had some who had helped neighbours, grandparents, donated items to others less fortunate. Again, we would like to hear about any achievement that the pupils of Uryside have to share.

Send them by email to the school website. Remember to add Name, Class and details of the achievement.



## Uryside Diary Dates overview 2023-24

These are up to date as of 25/08/23

### August

P1 transition fortnight - follow P1 information previously sent out

### September

4<sup>th</sup> September - P1 begin full days

29<sup>th</sup> September - Open Afternoon - 2pm - 3pm

### October

6<sup>th</sup> October - P6 Community Café and Assembly - 1:30 start for parents and families of P6 pupils

13<sup>th</sup> October - End of Term 1

30<sup>th</sup> October - Term 2 begins

### November

1<sup>st</sup> November - Halloween Disco - times tbc

10<sup>th</sup> November - P5 Poppy Community Café and Assembly - 1:30 start for parents and families of P5 pupils

14<sup>th</sup> November - parent/ teacher meetings - 3:30 - 6pm

15<sup>th</sup> November - parent / teacher meetings - 5:30pm - 8pm

16<sup>th</sup> November - INSET - school closed for pupils

17<sup>th</sup> November - INSET - school closed or pupils

21<sup>st</sup> November - Books and Bosies - timings tbc

### December

7<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Jumper Day

13<sup>th</sup> December - Infant Nativity - times tbc

14<sup>th</sup> December - Infant Nativity - times tbc

Christmas Lunch and parties tbc

22<sup>nd</sup> December - End of Term 2

## January

8<sup>th</sup> January - Start of Term 3

25<sup>th</sup> January - P5 Burns Community Café and Assembly - 1:30 start for parents of families of P4 pupils

## February

9<sup>th</sup> February - Local holiday - school closed to all

12<sup>th</sup> February - Mid term holiday - school closed to all

13<sup>th</sup> February - INSET - school closed to pupils

14<sup>th</sup> February - INSET - school closed to pupils

21<sup>st</sup> February - Open afternoon - curricular activities - 2pm start

## March

Start of reading month for all

7<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day

8<sup>th</sup> March - P3 community café and Assembly - 1:30pm start

20<sup>th</sup> March - P6 Altnacriche Trip

28<sup>th</sup> March - end of term 3

29<sup>th</sup> March - Good Friday - School closed to everyone

## April

15<sup>th</sup> April - Term 4 starts

26<sup>th</sup> April - School reports issued

## May

6<sup>th</sup> May - May Day Holiday - school closed to all

10<sup>th</sup> May - P2 Community Café and Assembly - 1:30 start for parents of families of P2 pupils

21<sup>st</sup> May - Provisional Sports Day

28<sup>th</sup> May - reserve sports day

30<sup>th</sup> May - Shorts and Shades Summer Disco

## June

3<sup>rd</sup> June - local holiday - school closed to all

7<sup>th</sup> June - Uryside School Community Summer Fayre

17<sup>th</sup> June - Open Afternoon Showcase

26<sup>th</sup> June - P7 Show

27<sup>th</sup> June - P7 Show

## July

3<sup>rd</sup> July - Potted Sports (am)

4<sup>th</sup> July - Whole School Assembly and P7 awards



# Uryside School

Peregrine Drive, Inverurie AB51 6AS

Tel: 01467 536800 Email: [uryside.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:uryside.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)