

**Best wishes to all  
for a happy 2018**

**News Bulletin 3**

# **Charleston School News Bulletin**

**Dear Parents/Carers**

It's been a very busy term in the run up to the Christmas holidays and I'm sure you'll agree all the pupils (and staff) are looking forward to a restful break.

This news bulletin will give you a flavour of the activities we have been taking part in through the term but for details on your own child's class make sure you keep up with the termly newsletters from the classes.

When we return in January we will have some changes in staff and look forward to welcoming new faces both staff and pupils.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year from all at Charleston.

**Yours sincerely**



**Laura Fowler  
Headteacher**



**Best wishes to all for a  
happy 2018**

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## **Staffing:**

At the end of term, we say goodbye to two members of staff:-

Mrs Youngson begins her maternity leave. We are all excited to meet Baby Youngson in the new year.

Mrs Coutts is relocating with her family and we wish her every happiness in the future.

We thank both ladies for their hard work and commitment to Charleston.

A teacher has been appointed for the P2/3 class, subject to all necessary checks being successfully completed. Mrs Komar is taking over the P3 class. We also welcome Mrs Smith back to cover Art on a Monday and Tuesday.

Miss Cartlidge is returning from her maternity leave on a part-time basis, working Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Mrs Grieve will continue as Acting DHT meantime at the start of the week.

On our most recent advert for a Senior Early Years Practitioner, we had a very good response. We will be holding interviews for this position early in the new year.

## **Christmas Activities:**

We send a huge "thank you" to the

Parent Council, parents, pupils and families for making the Christmas Fayre such a success. More than £3000 was raised from the raffles and variety of stalls. There was a lovely atmosphere in the school that morning—thank you all.

The hard work of pupils and staff was evident in our successful Christmas concerts. From our youngest in the nursery to the top of the school, the children performed very well for families and friends.

The RNLI, chosen by the Pupil Council, benefitted from just over £200, raised through donations at the door of the concerts.

Our choir was once again invited to sing at The Wellington Hotel one lunchtime. They went on from there to entertain the residents of the Banks O' Dee Care Home. Everyone was most appreciative of their efforts.

Pupils enjoyed their Christmas parties and the trip to HMT to see "Aladdin" - Oh yes they did! The Nursery pupils went to a performance of "Flutter" at The Lemon Tree which they really enjoyed.

## **Enterprise:**

A group of Primary 6 girls gave up a Saturday to make Christmas decorations. They brought these into school and sold them at Tuck Shop. They donated the money raised to UNICEF. We are proud of their efforts.

The pupils involved with the Maasai were also raising money through selling cakes and bracelets at tuck shop. The money they raised will go towards paying for the education of two Massai children that Charleston School sponsors. Well done to them also.

In November, Primary 7 pupils sold poppies in support of the Royal British Legion. They raised £92.64.

## **Lost Property:**

We have once again got a mountain of lost property in the boxes at the pupil doors. Anything not claimed by the end of the first week back will go into the recycling bin.

## **Library/Book Fayre:**

As in previous years the Scholastic book fair will again visit Charleston in April 2018. The fair stays in school for a week and all children will have the chance to visit and purchase books. The fair also provides the school with some commission, which we will use to purchase new books for our classes. After the Christmas break you may wish your child to join our weekly savings group to save-up towards the cost of a book/s at the book fair. Each week, during library visits, children can deposit money into their own savings card which is kept in school. This means the cost of buying books at the fair can be spread over the term. If you wish your child to join the savings group please send any money into the library in a named envelope when your child visits the library every Thursday.

## **First Minister's Reading Challenge:**

The school has signed up for this and P4/5 are leading it. Pupils engage in reading activities throughout the term.

A couple of challenges were set. One was to design a poster about a book they'd read to encourage others to read it. The other was to do reading "dares". Primary 6 won the poster challenge and P2/3 won the "dares". Each class won a Christmas story time and snack with Mrs Fowler.

## **Social Media:**

We are increasingly finding ourselves dealing with issues arising from fallouts on Snap Chat, Instagram and Playstation. These happen out of school but filter into class. This is very difficult for us to deal with, as you can imagine.

As part of our Health and Wellbeing curriculum, we do work on internet safety and social media awareness with pupils. In February, we have a planned evening for parents on this, being led by Hannah Bennett, Child Sexploitation Officer for Aberdeen. Her presentation is very informative and will not be suitable for children. She will be delivering an appropriate input to the P7 pupils later in February.

Please add this event date to your diary and come along and support us in keeping your child safe online.

**Tuesday 6th February 2018 at 18.30.**

## **Toilet Issues:**

Our cleaning staff regularly report that children have not been using the toilet facilities appropriately, resulting in a revolting mess and/or blocked toilets.

They have reported urine being sprayed around the toilet bowl, up walls and on the floor too. Despite class, department and whole school input, pockets of this continues.

This is happening in the infant, and middle stages corridors as well as in the huts. Please talk with your child about appropriate use of facilities and of the health implications for themselves and others.

If you child has a toilet phobia, please make sure the class teacher is made aware of it.

Please note all school holidays can be viewed anytime on Aberdeen City Council website at :  
[http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/education\\_learning/schools/scc\\_SchoolHols.asp/](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/education_learning/schools/scc_SchoolHols.asp/)

### Session 2017/2018

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Term Ends        | Friday 22 December 2017                                  |
| Term begins      | Monday 8 January 2018                                    |
| Mid Term Holiday | Monday 12 February 2018                                  |
| In-Service Days  | Tues 13th and Wed 14th Feb (pupils do not attend school) |
| Term Ends        | Thursday 29 March 2018                                   |
| Term Starts      | Monday 16 April 2018                                     |
| May Day Holiday  | Monday 7 May 2018  |
| In-Service Day   | Tuesday 8th May (pupils do not attend school)            |
| Term Ends        | Friday 6 July 2018                                       |

### Session 2018 - 2019

*Please note the in-service dates still need to be confirmed*

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Term Begins for pupils | Tuesday 21 August 2018                                   |
| September Holiday      | Friday 21 September - Monday 24 September 2018           |
| Term Ends              | Friday 12 October 2018                                   |
| Term Begins            | Monday 29 October 2018                                   |
| In Service day         | Friday 16 Nov (pupils do not attend school)              |
| Term Ends              | Friday 21 December 2018                                  |
| Term Begins            | Monday 7 January 2019                                    |
| Mid Term Holiday       | Monday 11 February 2019                                  |
| In-Service             | Tues and Wed 12 and 13 Feb (pupils do not attend school) |
| Term Ends              | Friday 29 March 2019                                     |
| Term Begins            | Monday 15 April 2019                                     |
| Good Friday Holiday    | Friday 19 April 2019                                     |
| May Day Holiday        | Monday 6 May 2019  |
| In Service Day         | Tuesday 7 May (pupils do not attend school)              |
| Session Ends           | Friday 5 July 2019                                       |

Please let us know of any query, concern, complaint or compliment relevant to our service.

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)



Parent/Carer signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)

We will acknowledge receipt of this slip within 5 working days. If appropriate a full reply will follow within 15 working days. Any urgent issue eg Health and Safety will be dealt with more quickly. All issues will be dealt with as per our usual customer standards. Every effort will be made to ensure problems are resolved. However, on the rare occasion that you remain dissatisfied with our service further action can be taken by contacting our Quality Improvement Officer at Marischal College, Broad St, Aberdeen, AB10 1AA.