

Mon 15th Feb Mid Term holiday
Tues 16th in-service day
Wed 17th in-service day
Children do not attend school.

News Bulletin 5

Charleston School News Bulletin

Dear Parents/Carers

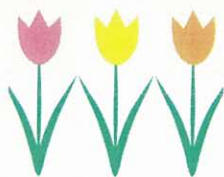
This is proving to be a very busy term. On our first week back we welcomed 6 new pupils to Charleston. We hope they are settling down and finding new friends.

We also have some staff changes with Mrs Cradock on secondment and both Miss Body and Mrs Ferguson on maternity leave. Following two advertising rounds, both locally and nationally, there have been no suitable applicants for the teaching posts at Charleston.

Mrs Smith and Miss Cartlidge will continue in Primary 6 meantime, and Mrs Milne will divide her time between nursery and Primary 7.

We extend a warm welcome to Mrs Innes, who is covering the nursery on a Friday.

Mrs Ferguson, from Primary 7, has had a lovely baby boy. We are looking forward to her visiting the school with him in the near future. We send the whole family our best wishes and many congratulations.



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Laura Fowler
Headteacher

Head Lice

This term there has been a spate of outbreaks of head lice across the school. Guidelines prevent us from sending out letters each time we are aware of an occurrence, and so we rely on parents telling the school if their child has been infected. Once a percentage of children in that class have reported an outbreak, then we send out information to families.

I would ask you all to be vigilant in checking your child's hair at bath and shower time. Treatment shampoo is readily available from the chemist which details the correct procedure to follow to ensure you clear the nits and the eggs.

Please do let the school know if there is an outbreak in your family. That way we can monitor it and follow up as required.

Parking

This is a constant concern as some people do still park inconsiderately at the front of the school. As a result of this, we have had this term a couple of near misses, where pupils have narrowly escaped being hit by a car. These incidents have been reported to the police.

Please ensure the bus bay is kept clear, and that you do not park in the disabled space or on yellow lines at any time. There is ample space for parking beyond the car park on Charleston Road and the surrounding area.

Security

Later this term, we are expecting substantial work to be done at the front of the school to ensure that the school is safe and secure for pupils at all times. This is to include new fencing for the nursery as well as new walk ways leading to the main door and the nursery entrance.

Parking both inside and in front of the school will also be addressed.

Although this will cause some disruption and inconvenience, we hope that the majority of the work will be completed during the Easter break.

Lost Property

There is a vast amount of unclaimed jackets, sweatshirts etc in our lost property boxes at the pupil entrances to the school. We do encourage pupils to look after their belongings, but this can be difficult to identify once lost, if there is no name on it.

Following the long weekend, there will be a "clothes amnesty" in the school foyer on the 18th & 19th February. Named clothes will be returned to pupils, but everything else will be laid out for claiming. Please feel free to visit the school during those days to reclaim articles. Anything left at 3:15pm on the Friday will be recycled.

Please name all articles of clothing and footwear your child wears/brings to school.

Big Lottery Funding

We have successfully applied for, and been awarded, a grant for £10000 from the Big Lottery Fund, to replace the worn trail which has been removed from the back of the school.

Blackhalls, who are building on the site just beyond the school, kindly removed the old one for us over the Christmas holiday. This saved us £3500 – the price quoted to have it removed by another company - which would have had to have come out of the £10000 otherwise.

We greatly appreciate Blackhalls' intervention.

In a separate, but similar plan, we are currently negotiating to obtain enough recycled astro turf to cover the very muddy area at the back of the school. Hopefully, there will be more to report shortly.

Maths Week

One of our main curriculum focusses again this year has been Numeracy. While pupils engage in a variety of different activities in both numeracy and topical maths, they often fail to recognise the relevance of what they are doing to their future lives.

With this in mind, we are in the process of organising a Maths Week during the week beginning the 21st of March. We are putting together a programme of events and challenges to engage pupils. This will culminate in a Maths open afternoon on Thursday 24th March from 13:30 to which you are all welcome.



Part of our plan is to hopefully involve parents in classes across the week. We are looking for parents to come in and talk to a class about how they use numeracy and maths in their everyday lives – at home or through work – so that children can see how important it is to be able to multiply, divide, measure etc. and that maths is a life skill.

If you can help us deliver this important agenda, please contact the school. We would be delighted to have you onboard.

City News

Our Quality Improvement Officer, Neil MacLennan, is leaving the Council to take up another promoted post at the end of the month. The post is currently advertised, however, if you have any reason to wish to contact a QIO please direct your query directly to the Headteacher in the first instance.

Session 2015/16

Mid Term holiday Monday 15 Feb 2016
In-Service Day Tuesday 16 Feb 2016 (pupils do not attend school)
In-Service Day Wednesday 17 Feb 2016 (pupils do not attend school)
Good Friday Holiday Friday 25 March 2016
Term Ends Friday 1 April 2016

Term Begins Monday 18 April
May Day holiday Monday 2 May 2016
In Service Day Tuesday 3 May 2016 (pupils do not attend school)
Session Ends Friday 1 July 2016

Session 2016/2017

4 In-Service days still to be confirmed

Term Begins for pupils Tuesday 16 August 2016
September Holiday Fri 23 Sept and Mon 26 Sept 2016
Term Ends Friday 7 October 2016

Term Begins Monday 24 October 2016
Term Ends Friday 23 December 2016

Term Begins Monday 9 January 2017
Mid Term holiday Monday 13 Feb 2017
Term Ends Friday 31 March 2017

Term Begins Tuesday 18 April 2017
May Day holiday Monday 1 May 2017
Session Ends Friday 30 June 2017

Session 2017/2018

4 In-Service days still to be confirmed

Term begins for pupils Tuesday 22 August 2017
September Holiday Friday 22 September - Monday 25 September 2017
Term Ends Friday 13 October 2017

Term begins Monday 30 October 2017
Term Ends Friday 22 December 2017

Term begins Monday 8 January 2018

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.