

**A warm welcome to
all our new pupils
and staff**

News Bulletin 1

Charleston School News Bulletin

Dear Parents/Carers

A warm welcome from everyone at Charleston at the start of a new session. Despite the disruption at the start of term, all pupils have settled back into their new classes and the school routine. To all new families who have joined us in nursery and school, we hope your time with us is both beneficial and enjoyable.

This session we hope to continue the success we had last year as a school. We were proud to receive the Baillie John Porter Cup for our attainment, for gaining Level 1 of the Unicef UK Rights Respecting School Award, and last week, on our return, we had notification that we had received our third Green Flag for our Eco efforts last session too. (We are working to identify an area where we can display our third flag!) Very well done to all staff and pupils who worked hard towards gaining all these awards.

As a school, we were recognised for the attention we give to pupil voice, during the Rights Respecting School Award inspection. Last session each pupil signed up for a Pupil Participation group to lead school development in different areas. These groups included Eco, RRSAs as well as Pupil Council, Playground Leaders, Enterprise and Fairtrade to name a few. Some of the initiatives which were pupil led were

- The clearing of the wooded area to allow pupils to play there at lunchtimes
- A Fair Trade trolley from which pupils could buy ethically sourced snacks
- A European wide Christmas decoration celebration, which saw different countries sending schools across Europe, decorations typical of their culture. They also sent information about how they celebrate Christmas in their country. A book was published and sent to each participating school. It is displayed in our library.

We have streamlined our groups for this session, but again each child will be part of a Pupil Participation group, and will meet monthly throughout the year to have their say in the development of their school.



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our new pupils and staff**

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**Laura Fowler
Headteacher**

Staffing:

Staffing continues to be an issue across the North East of Scotland. We have been relatively lucky in that, we have some dedicated supply teachers who enjoy coming to Charleston when called upon.

Mr Mitchell and Mr Pirie have again stepped up to the mark and are currently covering P3 for us. Mrs Watt had to tender her resignation during the summer holidays, due to unforeseen family issues that arose. We are very grateful for her hard work last session and wish her well in the future.

Meanwhile the post has been advertised, and the management team will be interviewing selected candidates for the permanent position, at the end of the month.

Similarly, the post of Senior Early Years Practitioner has also been advertised, and successful candidates will be interviewed at the end of the month. Miss Graham has taken up a management post in another city school. We thank her for her input last session, and wish her continued success in her new post.

This session we welcome to Charleston Mrs Hamilton, P1 Tuesday and Wednesday, Miss Tallis, P2 and Miss McDonald, P5/6. We look forward to working closely with them this session, and hope they enjoy their time here.

Parent Council:

Last session both Pauline Glendining and Angela MacArthur hung up their Parent Council mantles as their boys moved on. As both a Parent Council and a school, we say a huge "thank you" to both ladies for their hard work and commitment to Charleston School over the years. We hope we will still see them in and around the school from time to time.

The Parent Council Annual General Meeting will be on **Monday 11th September @ 18:30** in the school. Please come along and support this worthwhile group.

A Facebook page for the Parent Council has been set up, which gives all the up to date information about national and local initiatives.

Reminders:

Our school uniform is a white polo shirt,

navy sweatshirt/cardigan/jumper

grey or black trousers, skirt or pinafore

There is also a school tie should you wish to purchase one (available from the school office).

Uniform can be bought online from Tesco.

All items should be clearly named so that they are identifiable if lost.

Mobile phones

Mobiles that are brought to school must be handed into the class teacher for safe keeping during the day.

Pupils are not allowed to use mobile phones in the playground. The school will not be held responsible for phones that are left in jacket pockets or schoolbags.

Car parking

When dropping off or collecting your child from school, please adhere to the laws of the road. **The back car park is for staff and deliveries only, unless otherwise discussed with the head teacher.**

Cars should not park in the bus bay, as there is a bus which attends the school daily at the start and end times. No one should park on the double yellow lines. In line with ACC policy, no idling is allowed while you wait for, or drop off a child.

For the safety of your child, please park sensibly at school.

Homework will be given out on a Friday and should be returned completed by the following Wednesday.

School lunches

Lunches are ordered online by your child each morning. To pay for a lunch, you need to log onto the ACC website to load up your child's card at accordhelp@accordaberdeen.co.uk or call 03000200293 if you do not know your child's card number.

Milk shakes are not covered in the cost of a lunch, and so an additional charge is made. Any issues, please see Mrs Andrew, the school cook.

TV programme

We have received the following request from Jennifer Greenwood, a TV producer –

"I am a Producer at a TV company called Avalon, where I am working on an exciting new series for the BBC. It is a new family gameshow and we are looking for school pupils of all ages and their families to take part together.

The programme involves a few different households competing in various fun, problem solving challenges over the course of a day – all from the comfort of their own home. It's really good family fun and the winning household will receive a cash prize.

I hoped it might be possible for you to pass on the information about the programme (attached) to the parents and guardians at your school, to see if any families would be interested in having a bit of fun and taking part together?

As well as families with children, we are also looking for households of young professionals, friends and couples, so it would be great if you could also pop the info on your staff noticeboard and pass it on to your teachers to see if they or anyone they know might be interested.

If anyone would like to take part or if they'd just like a bit more info then they can get in touch with the team on The Button@avalon-entertainment.com / 0207 598 7279"

Please contact the show on the given email and telephone number and not Charleston School, if you are interested.

Diary dates

As well as the holiday dates which will appear at the end of this newsletter, here are a few other dates which will allow you to plan ahead.

Wed 20th Sept from 13:30 – 15:15, then 15:20 – 16:15 – Open afternoon—all welcome

Sat. 2nd Dec – Christmas Fayre in school

Christmas Concerts –

- Mon 11th Dec @ 13:45 – P1-3 concert
- Tues 12th Dec @ 09:30 – Nursery concert
- @ 13:45 – P1-3 concert
- @ 18:30 – P 4-7 concert
- Wed 13th Dec @ 13:45 – P4-7 concert
- Thur 14th Dec @ 09:45 P4-7 concert – if required.

On **Thursday 21st Dec**, pupils from P1 -7 will attend the pantomime at HMT, which this year is "Aladdin". This is subsidised by the Parent Council.

More information on the Christmas programme will be sent out nearer the time.

Class newsletters

You should be able to access your child's web page on our website shortly. In the meantime, a newsletter, specific to your child's class should have come home. This will give you information personal to your child's class – PE times, topic etc.

Twitter page

Charleston has set up a Twitter page which can be accessed on: @Charleston_Sch

Classes will regularly be "tweeting" news here, so please do follow us. You do not need to have a Twitter account to be able to see what is going on.

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/

Session 2017/2018

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
In-Service day	Friday 17th November (pupils do not attend school)
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

4 In Service Days still 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
Term Ends	Friday 21 December 2018
Term Begins	Monday 7 January 2019
Mid Term Holiday	Monday 11 February 2019
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
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.