Tough Primary School

 7th Newsletter

28th April 2017

Dear Parents,

**Kindness at Tough School**

Last term, all the children took part in weekly lessons which later in the term focussed on growth mindset. These involved:

* Understanding that through practice and application, new pathways of understanding can be forged in the brain.
* Positive language to further learning. For example, instead of, “This is too hard,” think, “This is going to take some time and effort.” Also, instead of, “I’m awesome at this,” think, “I seem to be on the right track.”
* Learning how making mistakes make us better at things in the long run.

**Alltnacriche and Burn O’Vat**

From the 7th-9th March, P6/7 pupils from Tough, Craigievar, Lumsden and Monymusk Schools went on a joint residential to Alltnacriche near Aviemore. They took part in a variety of activities in mixed groups, such as hill walking, wood carving, zip lining, pond dipping, crate climbing… The week was brilliant and they all got to know each other a little better in readiness for seeing each other at Alford Academy.

On Wednesday 8th March, P5s from Tough, Craigievar, Lumsden and Monymusk Schools went on a joint trip to Burn O’Vat. This trip was led by Mrs Watt from Monymusk School and involved taking part in outdoor activities in mixed groups. The day was a success and thanks go to Julie-Ann Morrison for helping on this trip.

**Club Golf**

****Twice before the Easter holidays and twice after, Alford Golf Club have been to teach the P5-7s how to play golf. The children are benefitting greatly from their expertise and our thanks go to the adults for volunteering, through Active Schools. Any children interested in carrying on playing golf should get in touch with Alford Golf Club.

**Victorian Day at Haddo House**

On 21st March, P5-7 went to Haddo House to take part in a Victorians Day. The children dressed up as if they worked at the Victorian stately home and were taken on a guided tour. Here, they learned about the history of Haddo House, as well as learning about Queen Victoria’s own visit and what it would have been like to work there.

**Rotary Schools Quiz**

On Wednesday 22nd March, Alford and District Rotary Club hosted their annual Schools Quiz after school. Our 2 teams from P6/7 participated well and we are proud of them. Thanks to Kathleen Scott for accompanying the children.

**Comic Relief**

Comic Relief was on Friday 24th March. At Tough School, we all dressed up in red and carried out Red Nose Day activities in our classes. Tough School raised £38.90.

**1+2 Open Afternoon**

On the afternoon of Comic Relief, a parent open afternoon was held to celebrate and share all the work the school and children have completed so far to do with learning a foreign language. In P1-4 this is French and in P5-7 this is mostly Spanish. The event was well attended and all the children enjoyed taking part in the activities alongside their grown-ups. In P5-7, some children also enjoyed running their stall for the afternoon.

**Easter Egg Hunt**

Tough School’s annual Easter Egg Hunt took place on Wednesday 29th March. Children in both houses searched for their anagram letters, while inside a team of children tried to decipher it. Tonley won and the phrases they discovered were:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Joyeuses Pâques | Felices Pascuas |
| “Happy Easter” in French | “Happy Easter” in Spanish |

**Church Service**

On Friday 31st March, the children attended Tough Church for an Easter Service. We enjoyed learning about events leading up to the crucifixion and singing. Through the collection, we raised £30 for Open Doors. Thanks to all parents who helped walk us down together.

**Internet Safety Talk**

On Friday 21st April, P5-7 children were invited to Alford Community Campus to attend a talk from Paul Hay, formerly of CEOP, on internet safety. It focussed on only sharing information and pictures they are happy to share with the whole world as well as the importance of speaking to the grown-ups they know if they have made a mistake. Thanks to all parents for the prompt return of forms for this trip, as well as to Pamela Low for coming along to help us.

**easyfundraising.org.uk**

The School Interest Committee set up an Easy Fundraising account last session. It has raised £366.23 so far, but could have more regular contributors.

Attached with this newsletter is a step-by-step guide to registering for the website from the School Interest Committee. You are able to contribute to schools funds via an app, paying online and/or paying in shops by registering your bank card. Many holiday companies are involved, including **Thomson, Expedia, Travelodge, Thomas Cook, lastminute.com and more…** They give a certain percentage of your spend to a charity – in our case, Tough School. Other family members or friends can also register and contribute to Tough School, **without spending any extra money**. Please take a look at the website using the link below and use the guidance to register, should you wish to.

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/toughprim/?t=Easyfundraising-lo&v=a&>=

**Parent Training Opportunity**

The School Interest Committee are requesting a parent volunteer to take part in Basic Food Hygiene training. If you are interested, for more details, please be in touch with the school.

**Staffing**

On Monday the 20th March, Mrs Kerry Porter joined us at Tough School, as the P5-7 teacher, sharing the class with Mrs McAllister. Welcome to the team, Mrs Porter!

**Sickness Bugs**

Please be reminded that if your child has any sickness or diarrhoea, they should **not attend school, coming back after 48h symptom free.** This is to ensure that the spread of bugs is stymied, being in line with guidance from Aberdeenshire Council and NHS Scotland.

**Parking**

Parking at Tough School is at a premium. If the spaces outside the school are full, there are parking spaces at the Church Car Park at Kirkton of Tough with a pavement to walk on safely. The road outside the school is very busy and it is unsafe to park across the road on the kerb or opposite the junction and it is **illegal to park on the yellow zig-zag lines**. Quick drop off and collection of children, where possible, would also help in this matter.

**Rag Bag Collection**

A Rag Bag collection has been organised for Wednesday 17th May, 2017. Bags will be sent home nearer the time, but ordinary bin bags can be used. Items accepted are adults and children’s clothes, paired shoes (tied together), hats, bags, belts. You may bring the bags to school on Monday/Tuesday 15th and 16th May. The School Interest Committee are to put out leaflets to homes in the local community nearer the time.

**School Closures**

Tough School will be closed on Thursday 4th May 2017 so that the school can be used as a polling station. In addition, the school will also be closed on Thursday 8th June 2017 for the General Election.

**Sooyang Do**

On Monday 8th May, children in P5-7 will take part in a Sooyang Do taster session, organised by Active Schools. This will give them a chance to sign up to lessons in Alford, should they wish to take them.

**Parent Meetings**

On Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th May, parent-teacher consultations will take place after school. More information to follow.

**P7 Link Day**

P7 Link Day to Alford Academy is on 24th May this Session. More information to follow.

**School Photo**

School photos will be taken on Monday 22nd May at 1.30pm. More information to follow.

**Sports Day**

During the afternoon of Friday 9th June, Tough’s annual Sports Day will take place. In time, we will ask for parent volunteers to help with the potted sports section of the afternoon and distributing stickers and snacks. If they are rained off they will be held on Friday 23rd June. More information to follow.

**Link Week**

Alford Academy Link Week for our current P7s runs from 12th-16th June 2017. More information to follow to P7 families.

**P1 Transition**

P1 Induction and Parent Presentation is on Monday 12th June at 1.45 – 3pm and the second P1 Induction Afternoon is on 19th June, 1.30-3.15pm.

**End of Year Assembly**

On the afternoon of Tuesday 27th June, Tough School End of Year Assembly will take place in the GP Room at 1.45pm. Parents are warmly invited to attend. A slip will go home nearer the time to ensure the correct seating in planned, as this is always a well-attended event.

Kind Regards,

Laura McAllister

Head Teacher

**Information for Adverse Weather Closures**

Telephone Information Line: 0870 054 4999

Tough School Pin Number: 02 2720

ABERDEENSHIRE WEBSITE

 HYPERLINK "http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/closures"

http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/closures

TWITTER

 HYPERLINK "http://twitter..com/aberdeenshire"

http://twitter..com/aberdeenshire

(The web page is re-set at 4pm every day to be clear for next day’s information)

Northsound 1 FM 96.9 Tel. 01224 337000

Northsound 2 MW 1035kHz

BBC Radio Scotland FM 92.4-94.7 MW 810kHz

Moray Firth Radio FM 97.4 MW 1107kHz

North East Community Radio FM 97.1-106.4 Tel. 01467 632878

Waves Radio FM 101.2 Tel. 01779 491012

Original FM 106 Tel. 01224 293800

**DATES FOR THE DIARY 2016-2017**

Monday 1st May, 2017 May Day Holiday

Tuesday 2nd May, 2017 Book Fair arrives

Thursday 4th May, 2017 Local Government Election – School Closed

Saturday 6th May, 2017 Midmar Football/Netball Fun Day. 10am

Saturday 6th May, 2017 SPLASH Sailing P6/P7 2.30-4.30pm

Wednesday 10th May, 2017 Parent’s Evening

Thursday 11th May, 2017 Parent’s Evening

Saturday 13th May, 2017 Craigievar Football/Netball Tournament.

Tuesday 16th May, 2017 Book Fair Leaves

Wednesday 17th May, 2017 Rag Bag Collection – Bags being distributed.

Monday 22nd May, 2017 School Photograph at 1.30pm

Wednesday 24th May, 2017 P7 Link Day at Alford Academy

Saturday 27th May, 2017 Keig Football Tournament – Forbes Estate Pitches 10am

Monday 5th June, 2017 Local Holiday – School closed

Thursday 8th June, 2017 General Election – School closed

Friday 9th June, 2017 School Sports Day 1

Saturday 10th June, 2017 Tough Fun Day

Monday 12th-16th June, 2017 P7 Academy Link Week

Monday 12th June, 2017 P1 Induction afternoon & Parent Presentation– 1.45 – 3pm

Saturday 17th June, 2017 Keig Netball Tournament

Sunday 18th June, 2017 Keig Duck Race

Monday 19th June, 2017 P1 Induction afternoon – 1.30 – 3.15pm

Friday 23rd June, 2017 School Sports Day 2

Saturday 24th June, 2017 Echt Football Festival

Tuesday 27th June, 2017 End of Year Assembly – 1.45pm

Friday 30th June, 2017 Last Day of Term

Monday 21st August, 2017 In Service Day – Staff only

Tuesday 22nd August, 2017 Term Starts

Tuesday 5th September, 2017 Parent Council AGM 7.15pm

Friday 13th October, 2017 Last day of Term.

Monday 30th October, 2017 Term Starts

Monday 13th November, 2017 In Service Day – Staff only

Tuesday 14th November, 2017 In Service Day – Staff only

Friday 22nd December, 2017 Last Day of Term

Monday 8th January, 2018 Term Starts

Monday 12th February, 2018 Holiday

Tuesday 13th February, 2018 In Service Day – Staff only

Wednesday 14th February, 2018 In Service Day – Staff only

Thursday 29th March, 2018 Last day of Term

Monday 16th April, 2018 Term Starts