



# Tough Primary School

Tough, Alford, AB338ES

Head Teachers – Laura McAllister & Kerry Porter

 [tough.sch@aberdeenshire.sch.uk](mailto:tough.sch@aberdeenshire.sch.uk)

Newsletter 2

October

Dear Parents

What a busy start we've had to this term! It seems to have passed so quickly but we've still managed to squeeze lots in!

## Reminders

Please can all pupils bring a named, waterproof jacket to school every day in case of wet or cold weather. Pupils should also remember to bring a named water bottle as we are unable to drink directly from the water fountain at the moment. They may also bring their own hand sanitiser to use and hand cream if they wish. Pupils should have a P.E. kit in school every day and suitable clothing for outdoor learning in all weathers, including wellies. P5-7 may wear their P.E. kit to school on their P.E. day. Please remember to name all items.

## Parent Consultations

Our Primary 1 parent consultations took place virtually this year and we are delighted with how well the three primary ones have settled in as part of our wee school, working hard and playing well with the other pupils.

## ALEC

This term we were visited virtually by a member of the ALEC team during Live Online sessions. ALEC (Aberdeenshire Life Education Centres) provides educational sessions about healthy life choices, including wellbeing relationships, substance misuse and internet safety. P1-4 focussed on 'Keeping Safe with my Friends' and P5-7 were learning about 'Choices'. Our pupils enjoyed the sessions, engaging well and coming up with sensible and interesting ideas.

## Maths Week Scotland

This term we took part in Maths Week Scotland as part of our school development work on resilience in Maths. Lots of fun activities were planned, including outdoor learning walks, maths in the wild photo competition, completing an intergalactic challenge, 'switching things around' with Cuthbert the crocodile, forest schools maths activities, shopping in P1-4 and lots more! We also held our Maths Mascot competition. We were very impressed that almost everyone entered with some fantastic designs. It was very tricky to decide between them so very well done to our winning designer, Elsie Munro in P5!



We really liked how bright and colourful her panda was and the 'You can do it' message on his shirt that links well with the growth mindset work we are doing related to maths this year. Have a look at our school Facebook page tonight to find out more!

### **Nordic Skiing**

Our P5-7 class enjoyed some Roller Skiing taster sessions this term. Alex Standen, a national coach for Snowsport Scotland and member of our local community, delivered these sessions with a view to more taking place in Spring when his busy season is over. Roller skis are short skis with wheels and the technique is a very close approximation to cross-country skiing on snow, but practised on tarmac. It was hard work and we are so proud of the resilience shown by our pupils!



### **NFU input**

P1-4 joined in a live lesson with the National Farmer's Union to build a fruit and vegetable rainbow of food. They learned about the different items and how they were harvested.



### **Police Speed Check Operation**

Thank you to our pupils who volunteered to support the police in reducing speeding past our school. Despite the heavy rain, spirits remained high and we enjoyed finding out more about the job the police do. We are hoping to take part in another operation before Christmas and for a drier day too!



### **Virtual Hamewith Concert**



Well done to all of our pupils for taking part virtually in the Hamewith Concert this year. They had great fun reading the poems they choose in Doric and creating artwork to go along with them. These are now on the Alford Heritage Centre page which can be visited by clicking [here](#) or at [www.alfordheritagemuseum.com](http://www.alfordheritagemuseum.com).

### **Harvest Church Visit**

We were delighted to be able to visit our local minister, Simon Crouch, in Tough Church today for our Harvest service. Thank you for all the kind donations to the foodbank, they will be very much appreciated.



### **Staffing**

We are lucky to have a PDGE Aberdeen University teaching student with us this term and look forward to helping them on their way to being a fully qualified teacher. Miss Hogg will be working with P5-7 with Mrs Porter and Mrs McAllister throughout next term.

### **Forest Schools**

Our forest schools sessions with Lindsey Duncan will continue throughout this year. The P1-4 class enjoyed cooking pancakes and carving last week and P5-7 have their first session with Lindsey tomorrow.



## **Christmas**

After the success of our Christmas Movie last year, and with current Covid restrictions still in place, we are planning on recording our Christmas Show in school this year. This means that you will be able to share this with family members in your own home and everyone gets a good seat! We are planning on using the same format as last year with this being distributed on pen drives and more information will follow towards the end of next term.

## **Goodbye Norma!**

We are so sad to say goodbye to our lovely cook Norma as she retires at the end of this term. We will all miss her fantastic cooking (especially chicken pie) and the personalised service she provided to us, and wish her all the very best for the future.

We hope you all enjoy the holidays and look forward to another full and productive term after our break. Thank you all for your ongoing support.

Kind Regards

**Kerry Porter & Laura McAllister**

Head Teachers (Joint)

## Dates for the Diary 2021/2022

Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> October, 2021	Last Day of Term
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November, 2021	Term 2 Begins
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> November, 2021	In Service Day
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> November, 2021	In Service Day
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Whole School Christmas Party
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December, 2021	Last Day of Term
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January, 2022	Term 3 Begins
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Holiday
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> February, 2022	Holiday
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> February, 2022	Holiday
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February, 2022	InService Day – Staff only
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February, 2022	InService Day – Staff only
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April, 2022	Last Day of Term
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> April, 2022	Term 4 Begins
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May, 2022	Holiday
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June, 2022	Holiday
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> July, 2022	End of Term

## **Information for School Closures/Adverse Weather**

Telephone Information Line: 0370 054 4999

Tough School Pin Number: 02 2720

[ABERDEENSHIRE WEBSITE - SCHOOL CLOSURES](#)

[ABERDEENSHIRE TWITTER](#)

(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

Waves Radio FM 101.2 Tel. 01779 491012

Original FM 106 Tel. 01224 293800