Dear Parents

**Welcome**

Welcome back to Tough School for session 2022/2023.  We are so pleased to be back and look forward to our year in school.  A big hello to our new pupils, Elci, Cameron and Aria in P1 and Frankie in P5. We’re so pleased to have you learning with us.

**Reminders**

Please can all pupils bring a named, waterproof jacket to school every day in case of wet or cold weather and their own sun cream and sun hat to use in case of sunny weather.  Pupils can bring a named water bottle, although the water fountain is also available. Pupils should have a PE kit in school every day as these lessons can occur any day, not just on a Wednesday/Thursday and suitable clothing for outdoor learning in all weathers, including wellies.

Please remember to **name all items**.

**Medication**

If your child needs to have medication kept at school, for any reason, please ensure we have the medicine.  This medicine should be in date and named and we should have the appropriate paperwork to accompany its use.  Forms can be accessed from the school office.  **A child should never take in the medication themselves - it should always be taken in by an adult.**  Please remember to collect any left-over or no longer required medication from the school office.

**Letters Regarding Arrangements, Absence and Lateness**

Good communication between school and home is vital to ensure the safety of all children.  All staff operate under the guidelines below.

If your child is absent for any reason, please phone the school before 9.15am.  You may also email the school if your child is going to be off for longer but please be aware that the school email is not accessed every day.

If there are any changes to your child’s end of day arrangements, the school needs a written email explaining the changes from both sets of parents involved (if it involves another parent).  If this written explanation is in the form of emails, the school needs this at least 3 working days in advance.  This is to ensure that your email will be read in time.  Last minute changes can be telephoned in, but again needs to be verified by both sets of parents.

If your child has an appointment, the school needs as above – at least 3 working days in advance for emails or a written note.  A last-minute appointment can be telephoned in.

The school must be informed of planned, longer absences, such as term-time holidays through an email at least 3 working days in advance or through a written letter.

All children arriving late to school will be marked as late on the register if they need to be buzzed into the building.

Thanks for your support in ensuring the above guidelines are adhered to.

**Parking**

As a reminder, parking is not permitted on the yellow ‘zig zag’ lines outside the school.  This is to ensure that children and parents can walk safely to and from their cars and clearly see any traffic coming. In addition, please ensure that cars parked in spaces by the roadside do not encroach onto the pavement, as children and parents walk along this to get into the playground.

**Parent Council/School Interest Committee**

Our Parent Council and School Interest Committee hold a joint meeting, usually on the second Tuesday of each term.  For the foreseeable future this will be a virtual meeting which all parents are welcome to join to hear about what is happening in the school, share any queries and find out about fundraising.

We had our first meeting on Tuesday 6th September and the minutes of this meeting will be with you soon. A notice of each meeting will be sent from the school office in the first week of each term and hopefully the fact that no babysitters are needed will make it easier for more parents to join in! All parents are invited to come along.

**Staffing**

Mrs McAllister and Mrs Porter continue to job share the Head Teacher position and teach P5-7 with Mrs Porter teaching the additional hours in this class.  Miss Sutherland is teaching the P1-4 class.  Mrs McCue will be teaching PE with both classes, Literacy, RME and Beyond Number in P5-7 and French with the younger class.  Mr Gilliland will be providing Support for Learning, working with many pupils.  Our PSAs, Mrs Smart and Mrs Buckingham continue to support us part-time at Tough.

**Upcoming Events**

Our P1 parent consultations will be taking place on the 16th September virtually. 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.

We will be taking part in Maths Week Scotland during the week starting 26th September. Keep your eyes and ears peeled for different events happing in class during that week.

The Hamewith Concert is taking place in person this year 🎉 on the 29th September so there will be some different homework coming home. More information to follow.

We are planning our Forest Schools sessions with Lindsey Duncan to continue throughout this year to keep practising our school values of Kindness, Resilience and Creativity in a real-life situation. Dates will follow.

We hope you all enjoyed the Summer holidays and look forward to a full and productive term. Thank you all for your ongoing support.

Kind Regards

**Kerry Porter & Laura McAllister**

Head Teachers (Joint)

**Dates for the Diary 2022/2023**

Friday 16th September, 2022 P1 Teacher Parent Consultations

Thursday 29th September, 2022 Hamewith Concert

Friday 14th October, 2022 Last Day of Term

Monday 31st October, 2022 Term 2 Begins

Thursday 17th November, 2022 In Service Day – Staff only

Friday 18th November, 2022 In Service Day – Staff only

Thursday 15th December 2022 Whole School Christmas Party

Thursday 22nd December, 2022 Last Day of Term

Monday 9th January, 2023 Term 3 Begins

Friday 10th February 2023 Holiday

Monday 13th February, 2023 Holiday

Tuesday 14th February, 2023 In Service Day – Staff only

Wednesday 15th February, 2023 In Service Day – Staff only

Friday 31st March, 2023 Last Day of Term

Monday 17th April, 2023 Term 4 Begins

Monday 1st May, 2023 Holiday

Monday 5th June, 2023 Holiday

Friday 9th June, 2023 Sports Day

Friday 23rd June, 2023 Sports Day (Backup date)

Friday 7th July, 2023 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](https://online.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/Apps/schools-closures/)

[ABERDEENSHIRE TWITTER](https://twitter.com/Aberdeenshire?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor)

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

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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