



**INTEGRATED CHILDREN
AND
FAMILY SERVICES**



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Newsletter – December 2020

December Newsletter

As we approach the Christmas break, I would like to thank you for all your help in supporting our current arrangements. I know that it has not been easy for anyone and I am not able to say how much longer they will be in place, but your support is very much appreciated by everyone at the school.

Christmas Gifts

I know at this time of year some parents/ carers take the opportunity to thank their child's teacher by sending in a small gift. These are always very much appreciated by the staff. We appreciate that some gifts may already have been arranged already and that is ok. If you were planning to buy something but haven't done so yet we would ask that you consider an alternative this year. It will help reduce the number of items being brought into school helping us to be as Covid safe as possible. The alternative we are suggesting is to support the local food bank or join Ferryhill Parish Church in support of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC). Donations for this can be made at <https://www.dec.org.uk/> and include support relief to communities around the world particularly harmed by Covid-19. DEC brings together 14 leading charities to coordinate their work when they know they can do something to assist communities worldwide.

Christmas Cards

We know that the pupils like to share cards with their friends at this time of year. Again to reduce the number of things being brought from home and passed out we would ask that this is not done through the school. Children may like to make a card to display in your house window to cheer up the whole community.

Christmas School Lunch

On Tuesday the 8th December a Christmas lunch will be served instead of the advertised lunch that day. The choice will be between a Christmas style lunch or a vegetarian alternative. Normal costs and lunch routine for that day will still apply. Pupils will order their lunch as normal on the morning of the 8th in school.

Christmas Parties

Each class will have a 'Party Afternoon' and are welcomed to dress in party clothes for the day. The afternoon will involve some party games and dancing followed by a selection of pre-wrapped snacks which have been kindly funded by the school Fundraising Community (All allergies will be taken into account). The parties will comply with all COVID regulations. Please see party dates below.

Christmas Jumper Day - Friday 11th December

This year P7G Global Warriors Committee will be organising Christmas Jumper Day with any proceeds going to Save the Children. More information will follow from P7 pupils.

Aladdin Virtual Pantomime

Aberdeen Art Centre have kindly provided us with a link to watch their Aladdin Pantomime. All classes will watch this in the lead up to Christmas.

Ferryhill Church Family Christingle Service

Please follow this link to find out more about the virtual family service from Ferryhill Parish Church <https://www.ferryhillparishchurch.org/index.php/information/parish-news>

Safety review

We have recently had our safety procedures reviewed to make sure that we continue to comply with the national and local Covid guidelines. I have previously been asked if we could return to the situation where parents are allowed into the playground at drop off and pick up. Unfortunately this would mean that we were not following current guidelines so are unable to do it. The schools where parents are allowed into the playground either have a larger space or are able to have a one way system through their playground. As we only have one entry and exit point to the playground this is not possible for us. I will keep you updated if there are any changes that we can make.

Seesaw

A reminder that Seesaw will no longer be used as a communication tool between teachers and parents. If you need to discuss anything with your child's teacher, please email the school with your child's name, class and a brief message for the teacher. This will then be forwarded on to the teacher who will get in touch with you when possible.(ferryhill@aberdeencity.gov.uk)

Homework

We are looking at a digital solution for delivering homework support. We will update you in January.

Dates for your diary

Monday 7th December	P2 Christmas Party
Tuesday 8th December	Christmas Lunch Day
Wednesday 9th December	P3 Christmas Party
Thursday 10th December	P1 Christmas Party
Friday 11th December	Christmas Jumper day - Save the Children Charity P4-7 Watch Virtual Panto
Monday 14th December	Nursery Christmas Parties
Tuesday 15th December	P1-3 Watch Virtual Panto P4 Christmas Party
Wednesday 16th December	P6 Christmas Party
Thursday 17th December	P5 Christmas Party P1-3 Virtual Christmas Show sent home
Friday 18th December	9.30am Christmas Service for whole school. Last day of term P7 Christmas party