



Kingswells School Newsletter

August 2020

Welcome back

Welcome back to all our families and pupils again after an unusual Summer break. We are delighted to have children in the building and are so proud of the way they have come in after an extended period of time at home, a huge well done to them all.

Staff Update

We are delighted to welcome Erin Mutch to our school this year, she will be teaching in P6EM.

We also welcome a new PSA, Jenny Bruce. Jenny was the successful candidate when interviewed a number of months ago and will initially be supporting in Primary 1.

We are delighted to announce that Kirsty Forbes is expecting a baby at the end of this year. Unfortunately, this means she will be going on her maternity leave in the coming months.

Additionally, we say goodbye to a number of staff this term. Julian McCormick, Vicki Todd, Sarah Christie, Jenny Evans, Kim Giles and Claire McWilliam are all leaving us for new adventures and we wish them good luck for the future.

Although the school is short staffed, we are working hard to fill the vacancies. I am sure we can count on the support and patience of our parents during this time.



Child Protection

All parents need to know that Moira MacIver is the Child Protection lead officer for Kingswells School. It is important that everyone within our community plays an active role in keeping pupils safe. Should anyone have any concerns about the welfare of a child or wish to share information to support the wellbeing of their own child, please get in touch with Mrs MacIver. Mrs McAra is Head Teacher on a Friday and therefore deputises as Child Protection Officer. Our child protection policy has been updated and uploaded to the school website, <https://kingswells.aberdeen.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/Child-Protection-Policy-Aug-2020.pdf>



Return to school

We are prioritising the health and wellbeing of our pupils as they return to school. We have been delighted with the way our children have come back to school and we would like to thank parents who have supported by waving them off with an encouraging smile and a positive attitude. We notice that when our children see their parents upset at drop off, this unsettles them when they first come into school. Please be reassured that this doesn't last long and we would get in touch if we feel this is needed. Equally your anxieties influence your child so we would ask you to be mindful of what they are exposed to. Nic Chapman, our Educational Psychologist has provided some helpful information. These resources are well worth reading and have lots of advice and guidance to support your child to return to school less anxious following these unprecedented times.

<https://sites.google.com/ab-ed.org/educational-psychology-service/parentscarers/transitions>

Social distancing

We would politely remind parents to adhere to social distancing. We are reinforcing this frequently with our pupils in school and would like your support to model this too.



Pupils drinking water

The health benefits for pupils of sipping water regularly through the day are widely understood and Kingswells pupils demonstrate a healthy attitude towards this. Aberdeen City Council's policy and Nutrition Act 2007 outline that pupils must only drink pure water in class. Please support your child to take a water bottle to school each day.

Car Park

Kingswells School car park is for use by school staff only with the exception of anybody holding a disabled badge who needs to use the disabled parking bays. Please respect this ruling and park considerately around the school if you are driving your children to school. Please do not enter the car park to drop off or pick up pupils.

School Lunch menu

Please see attached for the new lunch menu. Hot meals start on Monday 24th August.

<https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-08/New%20Primary%20School%20Menu%20Winter%20%2720.pdf>

Diary Dates

Monday 31st August		P1 start full days
Friday 25th September		School closed to pupils and staff
Monday 28 th September		School closed to pupils and staff
Monday 12th Oct	Holiday	School closed for October
Monday 26th Oct	9am	School resumes for Term 2
Friday 20th Nov	Inset Day 2	School closed for pupils
Monday 21st December		School closed for Winter holidays
2021		
Tuesday 5th January	09am	School resumes for Term 3
Monday 15th February	Feb hol	School closed to pupils and staff
Tuesday 16th February	Inset Day 3	School closed to pupils
Wednesday 17th Feb	Inset Day 4	School closed to pupils
Monday 29th March	Easter Hol	School closed to pupils and staff
Monday 12th April	9am	School resumes for Term 4
Monday 3rd May	May Hol	School closed to pupils and staff
Tuesday 4th May	Inset Day 5	School closed to pupils
Monday 28th June		School closed for summer hols