

# January School News

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Dates for your diary	2
Road Safety	2
Absences	2
School/Class Refurbishment	2
Uniform Orders	3
Water in school	3
Parental Involvement Events	3
Tesco vouchers	3
Dinner tickets	3
Nursery	3
PTA News	4

## STORY TELLING FOR P1

Story telling time on Friday lunchtime starts on Friday 19 January, 2nd February and 23 February for P1N and Friday 26 January, 9 February and 2 March for P1M. We are very fortunate that Story teller, Sean Gordon has agreed to return to Culter School for another session.

Volume 5 Issue

Friday 19 January 2007

## Fond Farewell

Firstly, we must all wish Fiona Allan, Pupil Support Assistant come Administration Assistant much luck in her new post at Aberdeen Grammar, our loss and certainly their gain. She takes up her new post on Monday 22. January.

Secondly, we would like to welcome Irene Watson to Culter as a Pupil Support Assistant. She will take up her post on Tuesday 6. February.

Thirdly, my few remaining days have been ones of mixed emotions, a determined effort to have 'business as usual' with any loose ends tied up and the final stages in one of my life's chapters. It has been a busy chapter with some challenges but many successes. The main ones are the comments that visitors make when they visit the school and say the 'ethos' is very warm and welcoming. Another is when the children go on trips or a visitor comes to the school to work with them and they almost always comment on how well behaved they are. Seeing the children queue up to go on the play equipment in Zoe's playground is another and their faces when they do something really well. I could go on...

On reflection, during my time at Culter I have had the opportunity to work with many wonderful, caring staff, pupils, parents, members of the community and numerous agencies, all of whom have shown and demonstrated tremendous support. I have always marvelled at the 'village feel' of a city school and the positive, enthusiastic community spirit. I thank you all for allowing me to be an integral part of your community for this chapter in my life and career, the experiences and memories I will always fondly cherish.

I would like to bid you all much success, good health and happiness in the future.

Kindly yours

Jayne Glover

School Information line  
0870 054 1999 Pin code 011270

## DIARY DATES

Thursday 25 Jan 7.30 pm  
School Board Meeting

Friday 26 Jan  
Mrs Glover's last day

Wed 31 Jan-Tues 6 Feb  
Scholastic Book Fair

Thursday 8 Feb 7.30 pm  
PTA Bingo

Friday 9 Feb 6.30-8.00 pm  
PTA Pupil Disco P4-P7

Wednesday 14 Feb 9.05 am  
pROC's launch—all parents  
welcom

Friday 16 Feb  
In-Service Day

Monday 19 Feb  
Mid-term holiday

Thursday 22 Feb  
PTA Meeting 7.30 pm

Saturday 17 March  
PTA Spring Event

Friday 30 March  
School closes 3.00 pm

Mon 2 -Mon 16 April incl.  
Easter holidays

Tuesday 17 April  
In-Service Day

Wed 18 April  
School re-opens 9 am

## Road Safety

There is now a far greater risk to our pupils' road safety due to the removal of a large stretch of pavement at the junction of School Road and Coronation Road. This requires some of our pupils to cross more roads than previously en route to school.

We have requested that a crossing patroller be allocated and are still awaiting a response, but bear in mind that crossing patrollers are in short supply even for permanent designated crossings.

For this reason we invited Gordon Paterson, Road Safety Officer to visit school this week and he has given each class a lesson in road safety at this 'hot spot'. Hopefully this will reduce the likelihood of any accidents in this area



**STOP  
LOOK  
LISTEN**

## UNAUTHORISED ABSENCES

Holidays in school time are all recorded as 'unauthorised', just prior to the October break we had 22 parental/carer requests for children to take holidays in school time, prior to Christmas it was 14. We understand that some families really struggle to take holidays during the school holiday period and the educational, family and social benefits of going on holiday together, however, we are seriously concerned about the number of families who repeatedly take holidays throughout the year and the detrimental effect this is having on the continuity of their children's education. We ask that you carefully consider your holiday plans and make every effort to have them 'fit in' with the school holiday calendar.

## SCHOOL/CLASS REFURBISHMENTS

The school has secured funding from Aberdeen City Council's share of a revenue grant, from the Scottish Executive, to refurbish six classrooms, the GP room and re-carpet the infant hall and decorate the upper landing. The work is due to commence on Monday 5 February. Mrs Wilson's room will be first and the children will be relocated to the GP Room whilst the work is undertaken. As each room is completed, the next class will be relocated temporarily.

We understand that the work will be disruptive but will have long term benefits for the staff and pupils, as the working environment will be much improved. We look to you all for your patience and support.

## Uniform Orders

The school office has placed an order to replenish the stock of uniforms kept in the office for purchase at any time. However, regular order sheets will be sent home during April for uniforms required in 2007/2008.

## Parental Involvement Events

Parental involvement events are being held to inform parents (and staff) of the new developments to Parent Councils in line with the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006. A Meeting will be held in Culter Academy on Monday 5 February from 6.30–8.00 pm. If you are interested in attending this meeting but are unable to attend on this date, further events are being held on 22 January, 29 January and 7 February at various schools around the city. Please contact [b.polson@culter.aberdeen.sch.uk](mailto:b.polson@culter.aberdeen.sch.uk) for alternative venues.

## Water in school

Once again I would like to remind you that we keenly encourage pupils to bring water to school to drink in the class but would request that bottles have sports caps with lids on to reduce and minimise spillage in school bags and in the classroom.



This year vouchers will be available in store from Monday 5 March until Sunday 13 May 2007. Collection point box in reception area of school. We have 12,034 vouchers in hand 'banked' from 2006.

## NURSERY ENROLMENT

Reminder that parents of 3 and 4 year olds who wish a place at Nursery from August 2007 should apply for places from Monday 22 January 2007 until 16 February 2007. Completed forms should be returned to the school office by 16 February when the application process begins. Please bring your child's Birth Certificate to the School with you. You can still apply for places after 16 February and your child's name will be added to a waiting list for places in 07/08. If your child's name is already on a waiting list for a place in 06/07, you must apply again as all existing waiting lists will be cancelled for the new school session.

Thank you.

Visit our web-site for school information at:

[www.culter.aberdeen.sch.uk](http://www.culter.aberdeen.sch.uk)

And why not blog us on:

<http://culterprimaryschool.edublogs>

# Dinner Tickets

It has been brought to my notice that there is a long list of pupils owing dinner tickets to the canteen. Please make sure you are up to date with payment and also ensure your child has a dinner ticket each day.



## PTA NEWS

### BINGO

The first PTA Bingo night of 2007 will be on

**Thursday 8 February at 7 pm.**

Thank you to all those who have sent in donations for previous Bingo nights, not only are you supporting the school, but you are also helping to provide an enjoyable night out for our regulars. We need donations of groceries (tins, biscuits, tea etc), wine, chocolates and new items (maybe unwanted Christmas gifts, tucked away in the back of cupboards, such as toiletries, pictures frames, ornaments etc). Please send your donations to the school office by Tuesday 30 January.

Many thanks from the PTA Bingo Team.

### THANK YOU

The Christmas gift fair was a big success in 2006 and many people are due thanks:

**Thanks** to the 15 parents who turned up to wrap 1,000 gifts-it was more fun than it sounds!

**Thanks** to the 10 parents who helped sell the gifts. **Thanks** to the person who donated the wrapping paper and the parents who donated the gift tags. **Thanks** to the school staff, who were very patient, in spite of the disruption the fair caused and especially Mr Grant. Finally **thanks** to all the parents and children who supported the gift fair. You bought family gifts at reasonable prices and helped raise over **£900** for the school

**THANK YOU.**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE PTA**

## PTA FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Following last night's PTA meeting they have asked me to advise you of their exciting forthcoming events.

- **Bingo Evening on Thursday 8 February at 7.15 pm.** A fun filled evening with lots of prizes, refreshments and homebakes.
- **Valentine Disco on Friday 9 February from 6.30-8.00 pm for Primaries 4-7.** Cost £2.00 per child includes a drink and sweets.
- **Spring Fayre on Saturday 17 March 1.00-3.00 pm.** A fun-filled afternoon for all the family with stalls and games to suit everyone and all ages.

The PTA require support for these events in many ways so if everyone can help in a small way it spreads the effort and increases the fun. Help at each of these events is required, as are donations of home bakes, Easter Eggs, bottles for the bottle stall, bric-a-brac, books, DVD's, CD's and raffle prizes.

Your support is valued