

August 2017

Marykirk Primary



Holidays/In-Service

Term 1 Ends Fri 13th Oct

Term 2 begins Mon 30th Oct

In-Service Days - Mon
13th/Tues 14th Nov

Term 2 Ends Fri 22nd Dec

Term 3 begins Mon 8th Jan

Mid term break Thurs 8th –
Mon 12th Feb (Inclusive)

In-Service – Tues 13th/Wed
14th Feb

Term 3 Ends Thurs 29th
March

Term 4 begins Monday 16th
April

May Day holiday Mon 7th
May

Term 4 Ends Friday 6th July

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Marykirk
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Headteacher:

Mrs Fiona Thomson
Severe Weather Line
0870 054 4999

Pin No.
02 2180

[www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/
closures](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/closures)

Answering Machine for
reporting absences:
01674 840200

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back everyone.

I hope you had an enjoyable summer break and were able to make the most of the summer weather! It is lovely to see everyone back looking refreshed and smartly dressed in their school uniform - well done!

May I also take this opportunity to thank those parents who kindly gave up their time in the holidays to look after our school garden and of course our pet guinea pigs, Clottie and Dumpling.

School Uniform

The children have all returned looking incredibly smart in their school uniform, thank you. School uniform can still be purchased from Tesco or plain clothing can be purchased and embroidered with the school logo at Nixi Crafts. Forms are available at the school office or you can order items through facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/NixiCrafts/> Please remember to name all your child's belongings. Children should have a gym kit in school at all times. This should be kept in a gym bag and hung on your child's peg. Gym kits will be sent home once a term to be laundered.

A reminder that Education Scotland have an expectation that all children should be fully involved in outdoor education and promote the use of outdoor experiences at every opportunity within the school day. **We would, therefore, expect the children to be appropriately dressed at all times for the Scottish climate.** As we also plan to continue the Daily Mile initiative can I please remind pupils to make sure they have appropriate footwear and clothing for running in all weather☺!!

Staffing Changes

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Jacqueline Chapman to our team at Marykirk. As already mentioned, Mrs Chapman will be the class teacher for P1-3. Mrs Anderson will be working alongside Mrs Ogilvie and Mrs Wood in the P4-7 class but will also be providing support to Mrs Chapman in her probationary year.

We also welcome Mrs Susan Robson, our Additional Support for Learners teacher. Mrs Robson will be based at Marykirk on a Wednesday and will be used to support the class teachers in making sure we are meeting the needs of all our young learners.

Help us raise funds for FREE when you shop online:

Start at easyfundraising.org.uk

Make a Purchase

Get a donation

It's simple!

School Meals/Clothing Grant

Please note that the cost of a school meal for P4-7s has now increased to £2.20 and can be paid through ipayimpact. P1-3 continue to get free meals. Menus can be found on the Aberdeenshire Council website. If you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals or Clothing Grant then please get in touch with the school office.

Volunteers

Thank you to those parents and grandparents who volunteered in school last session. We would like to continue to offer varied and motivating experiences for our pupils and your help is very much appreciated. If you are interested in getting involved then please contact the school office to let us know. It may be to help out with 'Golden Groups', lunchtime clubs or after school activities. Any support is welcome!

ARTICLE 31

Every child has the right to relax, play and join in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

Primary 7 Residential Trip

As a cluster we have been looking at ways to support transition and promote more collegiate working between schools. As part of these discussions we have decided to organise a joint residential trip for all our P7 pupils in the Mearns Cluster in September 2018. This would allow children to meet others of the same age from different schools at the start of P7 and hopefully will foster positive relationships which can be built on throughout the year. As this is a change to our current model we will of course consult with both parents and pupils after the trip to consider whether this is something which we should continue for future years.

Parent Information Evening

We will be holding a parent information evening on **Tuesday 12th September**. This meeting will be the first introduction to the 'Big Conversation' highlighted by our Director, Maria Walker at the end of last term and will **start at 6pm** in the school hall. It will be followed by a brief meeting in your child's classroom where the teacher will go over general information and expectations. The Parent Council AGM will follow immediately after at 7pm - please see below for further information.

Marykirk Village Hall

Many thanks to Bev Mackinnon who took on the role as our school representative for the Village Hall. As Bev is no longer a parent at Marykirk we are looking for a new volunteer to take on this role. It is not an onerous task and is a good way to meet new people and also find out what's going on in the village. The rep would be expected to attend as many meetings as possible. They are held on a Monday night at the hall at 7pm. They usually last between 30 and 60 minutes and there are no more than 4-5 a year, including the AGM which is held in May. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 4th September @ 7pm (small hall).

Newsletters

Our newsletter is published on the website www.marykirk.aberdeenshire.sch.uk on the last Wednesday of the month. If this is during a holiday then it will be published on the last Wednesday before the break. As we are striving to be an eco friendly school hard copies will only be sent home if parents request one. Please let the school office know if you would like a paper copy.

Spree Books

Spree Books will be issued very shortly. Please look out for them in your child's bag. The school earns commission on every book sold which goes directly in to school funds for the benefit of all our pupils. There are also great savings to be had if purchased!!

Ragbag

Please remember if you are having a clear out that we have our ragbag bin in the school car park. Clean clothes, shoes and bags are accepted.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school should you have any queries. Thank you again for your continued support. I look forward to working with you all in this new academic year!

Kind regards,

Fiona Thomson

Fiona Thomson.
Head Teacher.

**PARENT
COUNCIL
NEWS**

MPCC AGM Tuesday 12th September @ 7pm Marykirk School Hall

Thank you again for all the support the MPCC have given the school over the past year. Through their hard work and fundraising we have managed to purchase a new projector, provide transport for swimming, Techfest and various other trips as well as purchasing new resources to support teaching and learning. With several members of our committee moving on this year, I would like to take this opportunity to urge others to get involved. It is through a partnership approach that we can achieve the most positive outcomes for our learners, our school and the wider community! Please come along and find out more!!

Comments, Compliments, Concerns

Tell us what you think! We want to hear good or bad! We are always trying to improve. Please write below.

Name Date