

Gordon Primary School

September Newsletter 2023



Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back to a new year in Gordon Primary School and it is a delight to see so many of our children in school uniform. Please remember to put names on school clothes, shoes and jackets otherwise we have no way of being able to decide who the rightful owner is. Every year we are left with a large collection which are then donated to Gordon Rural Action; however, this is frustrating to parents who have spent their hard-earned money on school uniform. It is also advisable to name water bottles because it is quite likely another child will have the same water bottle. I would also request children have indoor shoes or slippers to wear inside to keep the floors clean, especially as the weather deteriorates.

Staffing

A warm welcome to Mrs Nicola Priseporter P6, Mrs Anne Gibb P3, MS Wi Xhou ASL, and Mrs Margaret Lee ASL. We also have Mrs Fiona McRitchie and Mrs Eileen Moir in P2 this term and Ms Dawn Hardy, Ms Hana Fralati, Ms Marian Wills, Mrs Tracey Finlayson and Mr Charles Wood covering classes during non-class contact time.

Road Safety

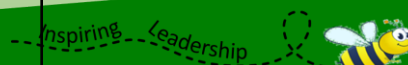
Children took part in a selection of activities on Road Safety last week. Please support us by reminding your child to cross the road following instructions from the lollipop lady or if elsewhere to STOP, Look and Listen. It is very busy and easy for the children to forget to pay attention. We will also keep reminding the children to be careful.

Charlie House

P2-P7 took part in an assembly to find out all about Charlie House. Charlie House is a charity which supports children in the north-east of Scotland who have a life-limiting or life-threatening disability. The children took part in workshops last week to try to place themselves in the shoes of those who perhaps need to use a wheel chair, cannot see, can't use all their limbs, who have severe disabilities; the children enjoyed learning in a practical way and their feedback was very good. At some point we will also have a visit from the Charlie House mascot, Charlie Dog. Later this year we will do fundraisers in support of Charlie House to help build a building to support these very needy children; more information will come from our pupils in the near future.

Wider Achievement

Each week in assembly Ready, Kind and Safe certificates are given to children who teachers and staff believe deserve extra house point tokens and a certificate. These all count towards who wins the House trophy at the end of the summer term. We have decided to further enhance this system by adding in "Star of the Month" and a 'Semi-Star' ie a close runner up. This will be based on 'wider achievement' – things children do either outside the classroom or in their own time eg scouts, swimming, football, karate etc or giving of their time to help others consistently over time (a community endeavour). The winner will take home a trophy for a month and both Star of the Month and the Semi-Star will gain additional tokens for their house. This way we can celebrate what happens in and out of school.



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Star of the Month – August 2023

Ailsa Gordon-Duff for practising 4 hours per day and achieving huge success in the World Dancing Championships – a fantastic achievement.



3rd overall in the world at her age group
4th overall at Scottish National Championships
4th overall at Commonwealth Championships
5th overall at British Championships
3rd overall at Emerald Isle Championships
3rd overall in choreography competition in Ireland



Semi- Star – August 2023

First winner of the Semi Star is Aaron Taylor for promotion to an older age group as a football player for Keith Development.

The Star and Semi-Star photographs will be displayed in the main corridor by Miss Ewen's office.

Allergy Reminder

Just a reminder that our school is a nut free zone. This allows us to keep children and staff safe.

Polycrub

We have a new polycrub in our school grounds. This has cost a lot of money and will be available to be used by all classes after planters etc have arrived and are also constructed.

Sadly we have had to ensure it has CCTV monitoring during the evenings and weekends. This is because over the summer we have had all our new basketball hoops broken, the bike shelter roof broken and sprayed graffiti on the premises. We cannot afford to keep replacing things so have resorted to some CCTV coverage. We will put up signs to state this but until we have them in situ, please advise any older children to take care of the premises.

Looking forward to an exciting school year.

Kind regards

Debbie Ewen, Headteacher

Dates for your diary:

Week in a Jotter – home to parents on Friday 22nd September, returned to school on Monday 25th September
Flu Immunisation – 19th and 20th Sept
Parents' Evening 1 – 3rd October
Parents' Evening 2 – 4th October
PTA Halloween Disco – 12th October
Halloween Dress up day fundraiser for Charlie House - 13th October
End of term - 13th October
Return to School -
Monday 30th October