

Kaimhill School

Newsletter No. 1

August 30, 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

I do hope you all had an enjoyable summer break. We extend a warm welcome to you all, especially to our new families. It's great to be back and we look forward to a successful year of learning and achievement for all.

Cashless Catering

School lunches remain free of charge for all pupils in P1, 2 & 3. We are encouraging all those families who think they may be entitled to free school meals for their child to contact the school office for further information. This will increase our ability to access Pupil Equity funding. For those paying for lunches, they now cost £2.20 and payment should be made on-line.

School Uniform/PE Kit

It is lovely to see so many of our pupils coming to school in uniform. We do encourage all children to wear full uniform, and sweatshirts and polo shirts etc can be purchased from the office. Please label all items and do not leave them unattended! Children may undertake PE-related activities on any day of the week. A PE kit consists of shorts, T-Shirt and indoor shoes. This should be brought to school on a Monday and taken home on a Friday for washing. Gym bags are on sale from the school office at a cost of £3.50.

We are now accepting donations of school uniform you no longer require in order to make these available to other children/families. Please contact the school if you could take advantage of any of the donated items free of charge.

Absence Notification/Trips

Please notify the school if your child is to be absent for any reason. It is also important that you complete the general permission and medical information sheet to allow us to contact you in an emergency. If we have asked for a donation towards a trip, please try to put in the correct change. We are always looking for parent helpers for trips. Please consider offering to help out if you can, otherwise some trips may have to be cancelled. Thank you!

Staffing

We are delighted to welcome Mr Middleton and Miss Morrison to our staff. They will be teaching in Primary 5 and Primary 2 respectively this year. We are sorry to be saying goodbye to Miss Allan, who officially leaves us on Friday, September 6, 2019. We wish her all the best in this new phase of her life.

P1 Milk

The Scottish Government funds free milk for all under 5 children. In the past, Aberdeen City Council has funded free milk for all children in P1 from a central budget, but this additional cost is now to be passed on to individual schools. It has been agreed therefore that free milk in Kaimhill School will be available to those P1 children who are under 5 only from now on.

School Football Club

A group of parents have kindly volunteered to set up a Kaimhill School Football Club with the support of Active Schools. They would welcome parental support in this venture, and we would encourage any interested parent/carer to contact Jo Bell from Active Schools for more information. Her email address is: jbelle@sportaberdeen.co.uk.



★ **Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust (AFCCT) – Community Champions League**

★ AFCCT has been chosen as the only organisation in Scotland to be part of the above European league, and we are delighted that Kaimhill School has been selected as one of only six schools in Aberdeen to be part of this. There are three ways that points can be collected; participation in local football matches, attendance at AFCCT-led workshops and social action projects. These activities align very closely with the ongoing pupil participation activities delivered at Kaimhill School.

★ **Parent Council AGM, September 25, 2019, at 2.00 pm**

★ We encourage any parent interested in the ongoing work and development of our school to come along to Parent Council meetings. You are assured of a warm welcome. AFCCT will attend the AGM to give more information about the above Community Champions League.

★ **Jewellery**

★ No jewellery of any sort can be worn during a PE activity. All jewellery, including earrings, must be removed. Stud earrings may be covered with tape, which you must provide. P1 and P2 children will be helped to remove jewellery. If jewellery cannot be removed or covered, then your child will not be allowed to take part in the PE lesson.

★ **School Security**

★ Please note that the only means of entry to the school building for parents/carers and other visitors to the school is via the school office, where you must sign in and receive a visitor's badge. Appointments to speak to a member of school staff should be made via the school office.

★ **Communication**

★ In order to streamline our communication with you, and in an effort to reduce costs, please be advised that this is the **last newsletter** which will be issued in paper form. In future, most information will be communicated using the GroupCall email system. It is therefore very important that we have an up to date email address for you. Newsletters and other information will however always be available on the school website.

★ **On-Line Permission Forms**

★ Aberdeen City Council is moving increasingly towards digitalising forms, and this session, you will be asked to complete all general permission/data collection forms online, again using the GroupCall email system. The Google links to these new forms will be sent out shortly. Please be aware that you will need to have a Google account to access them, so we would be grateful if you could set this up as soon as possible.

★ **Pupil Participation and Achievement Opportunities**

★ We have reviewed our Pupil Groups and arrangements for Castle leadership. Friday afternoons will now be dedicated to pupil participation opportunities and growing pupil voice and leadership across our school community. Watch out for more information on our school website for ongoing in-class and whole school developments.

★ **Twitter/Website**

★ Please visit our Twitter feed and website to keep updated with what your children are up to. Some of our school policies can also be viewed there. Our website address is Kaimhill.aberdeen.sch.uk and our Twitter feed is @kaimhillsch. We would encourage you to use these facilities.

★ **Dates for your Diary**

★ Please see the holiday dates etc attached.

★ Mrs Susie Webster
★ Head Teacher



Handy Hints

- Please reverse park in the car park. This is for the safety of all our children. Please note that cars **should not be left** in the turning circle, even for a few minutes. This space is for emergency vehicles and school taxis only.
- We have cycle racks in the playground, which are for the use of pupils. For the safety of all, please **do not ride** bicycles and scooters through the playground. You should dismount and wheel them to the cycle racks. Dogs are not allowed in the playground and smoking is not permitted anywhere in the grounds.
- **All** children should change their shoes while in school to try to keep the building clean. Please provide indoor shoes, which can double up as gym shoes. Children should also bring an outdoor jacket every day as we like to get the children outside where at all possible to get some fresh air.
- We are willing to give children medication when required, but this must be brought to the office by an adult and a form giving details and permission to administer must be completed. Please make us aware of any on-going health problems or significant events in your family life which may impact on your child at school, so that we can act sensitively towards them.
- Children may have a snack during the morning break, but please do not give your child fizzy juice or energy drinks. We are a health promoting school and would encourage the children to eat fruit or a healthy snack. **N.B. Please note** that snacks **should not** contain nuts as another child nearby could suffer an allergic reaction.
- We would respectfully ask that school staff are not asked to distribute birthday cakes, sweets, party bags or party invitations to children. This impacts on the time available for teaching.
- It is Kaimhill School's policy not to allow children to carry mobile phones or similar electronic devices in school. If a child is found with a phone in school, this will be locked away and will have to be collected by an adult. If there is an exceptional reason for your child to have a mobile phone in school, please write a letter of explanation and the phone can then be handed in to the school office during the school day.
- Please make every effort to get your child to school on time, as the children miss valuable input if they are late. Children can get upset if they are not collected when the bell rings for the end of the school day, so please try to be there for them if they are expecting you. There is an After School Club run by CLICC if you are struggling with child care. More information can be had from the school office.
- Finally, we highly value the good relationships we have with our families. It is not always easy for the class teacher to speak to you at the start or end of the school day, but if anything is worrying you, please get in touch via the school office and we will pass on information or make an appointment with the appropriate person.

