



# Old Rayne School News

**Working Together and doing our best for success!**

**Session 2016/17**

**May 2017**

Here we are into our last term with only a couple of months until summer. We have an exciting term 4 lined up for your children, some of which I'll discuss later in this newsletter.

Every term has its highlights and special moments but the last term is always a little bittersweet. Sweet because it's exciting to see the new children from nursery come to the school for visits and we get to meet the children who will become so much a part of the life of the school in the coming years. At the same time we begin to think about the wonderful things our P7s have brought to the school as they begin their very last term at Old Rayne. We'll all make sure it's a special term filled with good memories that will stay with them. While it can be sad for us it's a very exciting time for them with residential trips, exciting opportunities and many trips to the Academy that will soon be their new school.

Look out for our P7s running around the school with their new school leaver's hoodies, they were so excited to receive them!

Mr Ferguson



## **P6/7 Residential trip**

As you know, on the 12<sup>th</sup> June our P6s and 7s will be off to Dalguise for an adventure holiday. Over the last week we've been selecting our activities and it looks like it's going to be an amazing week.

Canoeing, zip wires, raft building, quad biking, and climbing to name but a few. One thing's for sure, when we get back on Friday the children will sleep well!

As a reminder, there's an information evening at the school on Thursday evening (4<sup>th</sup> May) where we'll go into detail about the trip and what you'll need.

## **Staffing News**

I'm delighted to tell you that Miss Cruden, who has had an excellent probationary year, will be staying on with us as a permanent member of staff.

Miss Cruden has a passion for teaching and has been a huge credit to the school over the last year. Excitingly for us, she enjoys being here very much and was keen to stay as we have been to keep her!

Congratulations to Miss Cruden from all the staff at Old Rayne School.

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### **End of term trip to the theatre**

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of June the school (sadly without the P6s and 7s as they'll be at their residential trip) will be out for the day in Aberdeen. We've been very lucky to get tickets for the David Walliams play 'Gangsta Granny' at HMT and we'll be making a day of it, visiting parks and having lots of fun.

It's a great opportunity for the children and ties in very closely with some of the literacy work they were doing earlier in the year. As you can imagine it's an expensive trip but the Parent Council have very kindly offered to cover half of the cost. Thank you very much.

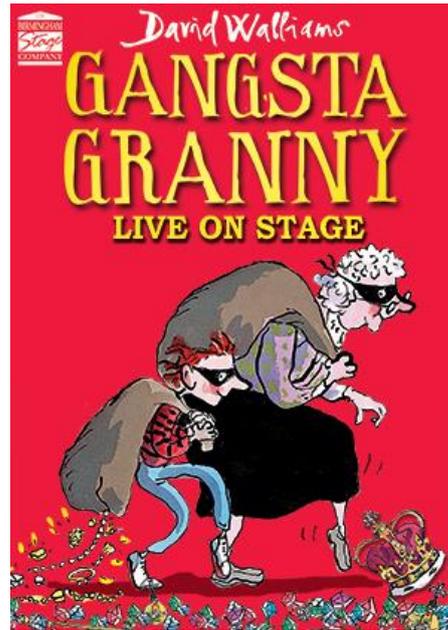
### **Quality improvement visit**

Just before the Easter break we had our quality improvement visit from the authority which went really well. I'd like to thank the parents who were able to take time out and come along to answer questions about the school and their experiences.

Our 'mini-inspection' was a very positive day and they were very pleased with what they found, continually remarking that the school was, 'in a really good place'. In particular we were praised for the level of pupil engagement, children being involved in planning and decision making, respectful and positive relationships throughout the school community, a strong ethos of commitment and teamwork from the staffing team and strong leadership from the Head Teacher. (Aww shucks)

As well as this, they were able to give us some excellent advice to help the school develop even further and offered lots of help in achieving that.

We're obviously very pleased that things are going well and it's made us even more motivated to keep taking positive steps towards being the best school we can be.



### **Reporting on your children's progress.**

As you know, the Meldrum cluster of schools will be trialling a brand new written report format this year. We Aim to have those out to you on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May where we'll ask for your feedback so we can make them even better.

We'll be having our parent's evening a couple of weeks after that so it'll be another chance for you to let me know what you think and if you'd like to see any changes for the next year.

### **Book Fair**

The book fair will be with us on the week of the 15<sup>th</sup> May and will be there during our parent's evenings for you and your children to have a browse.

## Termly reminder

### **HEAD LICE - Detection and Treatment – Information from NHS**

#### **What are Head Lice?**

Head Lice are small insects, either grey or flesh coloured and smaller than the size of a match head when fully grown. They live on, or close to the scalp and lay eggs which stick to the hair shaft close to the head. It takes around a week for the eggs to hatch leaving empty eggshells, which are pearly white in colour and are called nits. Head lice feed from the tiny blood vessels on the head.

#### **How do they get passed on?**

Head lice need to live close to the scalp in order to stay warm and be close to their food supply. In the main, the method of spread is by direct prolonged head to head contact and so this problem is a community responsibility and not confined to schools. Lice **do not** jump or fly.

#### **Can they be removed?**

Anti-lice treatments do not prevent infestation. Thorough daily hair brushing or combing may help to prevent an infestation becoming established, but early diagnosis and treatment is the only way to prevent the spread of head lice.

Check your child's hair at least once a week using a fine toothed detection comb. Combing is easier if the hair is wet and has conditioner on it. Detection combs are available from your local chemist. Comb the hair in sections from the roots to ends, over a light coloured towel or sheet of paper. You should be able to hook out live lice and they will be more noticeable this way. Unhatched eggs are small, dull and very hard to identify. Nits (empty eggshells) are white and found a little further away from the scalp. The presence of nits does not always mean that live lice are still present. Remember, itching does not necessarily mean that head lice are present.

#### **How are they treated?**

If you do find live lice, check the whole household and close family contacts using the detector comb so that those with lice are all treated at the same time. *Those who do not have live lice should NOT be treated.*

There are a number of treatments on the market. Use the lotion (not shampoo) recommended by your pharmacist or other healthcare professional. Be sure to follow the application instructions carefully, and to repeat the treatment after 7 days, in order to kill any lice that hatch after the first application. Remember to repeat after 7 days, as 2 applications are necessary.

If you are sure you have found living lice after proper treatment, don't keep putting more lotion on, ask advice from the pharmacist or health visitor.

Remember that when you have got rid of all the lice, the nits (empty egg cases stuck on the hairs) will still be there. This doesn't mean you still have lice. Do not treat again if you can't find a living louse. If the infected person has been swimming within the last 72 hours, ensure hair has been thoroughly washed and dried before the lotion is applied. Lotions are less effective in the presence of chlorine. Some lotions are not suitable for asthmatics or people with certain skin conditions. Please check with your local pharmacist (chemist).

## Upcoming Dates

- Dalguise trip information evening – 4<sup>th</sup> May
- P6s Language day – Meldrum Academy – 4<sup>th</sup> May
- Written Reports – 5<sup>th</sup> May
- Book Fair – week of 15<sup>th</sup> May
- Parent Interviews – Tues 16<sup>th</sup> and Wed 17<sup>th</sup> May (One after school, One to start later in the evening)
- Parent council meeting – 24<sup>th</sup> May
- Visit from the ALEC caravan (Healthy life choice education) – 1<sup>st</sup> June
- Occasional day (school closed) - 5<sup>th</sup> June
- Next Rag Bag date – 6<sup>th</sup> June
- School end of term day out and theatre trip – 14<sup>th</sup> June
- Dalguise trip - (P6s and 7s) 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> June
- Health Week – 19<sup>th</sup> June to 23<sup>rd</sup> June (activities TBC)
- Sports day – 20<sup>th</sup> June
- P7 Celebration Assembly – 29<sup>th</sup> June
- Last day of term – 30<sup>th</sup> June