

Trying Hard to  
do Our Best



We Aim High!

HAPPY

CONFIDENT

ACHIEVING

CREATIVE

## NEWSLETTER 7 - Friday 1st December 2023



### DECEMBER

- 01 P7 group visit Renouard Court
- 03 Christmas Light Switch-On at Village Hall 3-5pm
- 04 Christmas Post box in school
- 06 Christmas lunch & Christmas jumper day
- 08 ELC Christmas concert - 9:45am (Doors open 9:30am)
- 11 School concert dress rehearsal am, senior citizen performance 1:30pm
- 12 Christmas Concert 1:30pm
- 13 Christmas Concert - 1:30pm & 6pm
- 14 Pantomime Trip - Aberdeen for P1-7

- 15 ELC Christmas Party - am
- 18 P6/7 Christmas Party
- 19 P3/4 & P4/5 Christmas Party
- ELC Trip to Boomerangs - am
- 20 P1/2 Christmas Party
- 22 Last Day of term 2
- Nativity Service, St Fergus Church - 2pm



### JANUARY

- 08 Back to school, term 3
- 15 Internet Safety Parent Group meet with HT 2:30pm
- 24 SFSA meeting 6:30pm
- 29 Play n Stay Week - ELC

- Children in Need Day



The fantastic total of £364.24 was raised for Children in Need. Thank you to all who donated!



Mrs Lorraine Wood has received a silver award for 25 years of dedicated service to Aberdeenshire Council. The entire time has been spent at St Fergus School, initially as school cleaner but for the most part as one of our Pupil Support Assistants. We congratulate Mrs Wood and would like to share the following that was read at her 25-year service lunch recently at Woodhill House -

*Mrs Wood - ye've been here sae lang,*

*Helping the bairns fin they get it wrang.*

*Oot in the playground, always a smile,  
Fin its cal n windy ye like inside a file!*

*Sae cheery n ill-trickit ilka day,  
So fae a at St Fergus we'd jist like to say.*

*Weel deen for 25 years!*



- St Fergus School Association (SFSA)

On Sunday 3rd December, we have a joint Christmas event at the hall, the tree switch on, visits to Santa and lots of our usual stalls. Our P7 pupils will have a Leavers' Legacy stall selling Christmas decorations they have been busy making in class.



**Please note that the Christmas Tree Light Up & Family Fun Event is from 3-5pm in the village hall.**

**CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHT UP & FAMILY FUN!**  
**Sun 3rd Dec 3pm - 5pm**  
**@ St Fergus Village Hall**  
**£3 entry (cash only on the night)**  
 Includes tea, coffee, hot chocolate and mulled punch with mince pies, fruit pies and Christmas cake.

**Elfie Selfie**

**Santa's Grotto**  
**RECEIVE A GIFT!**

**VISIT SANTA IN HIS GROTTA THEN GRAB AN ELFIE SELFIE!!**  
 Child friendly stalls, bottle stall, home bakes for sale, raffles & chocolate hampers

Organised by St Fergus School Association

SFSA are making Christmas Eve Boxes that can be purchased for £5.00 each. Check your child's bag tonight for more information and an order form. The form with payment should be handed into the school office by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you.

- Christmas Lunch

School and nursery will have their Christmas lunch on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December. Children may come wearing their Christmas jumpers. We encourage all school pupils to participate in the Christmas lunch rather than have packed lunch or go home that day. There will be no sandwich/cold option on Christmas lunch day. Here is the menu:

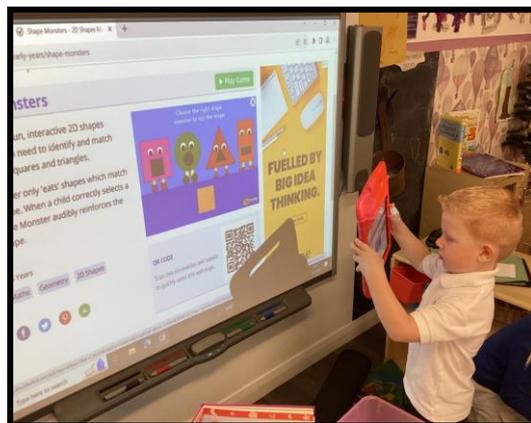
Roast turkey and gravy  
Chipolata sausages  
Oatmeal stuffing  
Roast potatoes  
Carrots and mashed turnip

Ice-cream and jelly

**\*Please note that vegetarian and gluten-free options are available.**

- ELC

The ELC children have been investigating shape and have been using shape hunters to find different shapes inside and outside the setting. They have been using the iPads to access shape games using QR codes. They can draw round the wooden shapes and then draw their own shapes independently. We went for a walk to see the different shapes in the outdoor environment.



The children have been retelling the story of Goldilocks and the three bears and can describe the different characters and the details of the story.

They have also been involved in making their own playdough and can follow the recipe, weighing and measuring the different ingredients.



Our ELC Christmas tree is up and there was great excitement while decorating the house corner tree too. We have been practising our songs for our concert and are looking forward to our families coming to see us next Friday morning.

- Christmas Arrangements

This year we once again plan to have a school performance for senior citizens

followed by 3 further performances for parents/carers/families.

EACH FAMILY HAS BEEN ALLOCATED 3 INDIVIDUAL TICKETS. One for Tues 1:30pm, one for Wed 1:30pm and one for Wed evening at 6pm. **Please check your child's bag tonight for the tickets.**

We will not be offering a waiting list system for returned tickets this year but if you do not require all 3 tickets issued then please feel free to pass these onto anyone who may make use of them.

Due to restricted numbers, we do request that children under school age are not brought to the concert. There will be however many other opportunities throughout the year where younger siblings will be very welcome to come along such as 'Sharing of Learning' assemblies and Family Learning Days.

Our school concert performance for senior citizens will be on Monday 11th December at 1:30pm. This is for members of our village and community who are of state pension age or any grandparents/great-grandparents who meet these criteria. Please contact Mrs Stephen in the school office on behalf of any pensioners who wish to attend or who require transport.

Nursery have issued separate information with regards to their concert due to take place on the morning of Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December as there will be capacity in the hall for more guests per family.

At both nursery and school concerts, raffles will be on sale for the chance to win a Christmas hamper. We would appreciate donations of Christmas food items and these can be handed into the school office. It would be helpful if

these could be handed in no later than Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December to allow time for the hampers to be made up. Thank You!

There will be a Christmas post-box in the school entrance from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December so that children can post their Christmas cards to each other. P4-7 pupils will be responsible for daily deliveries to classes in both school and nursery. Please ensure that envelopes have the child's full name and class (e.g., Jack Smith P6/7) as this makes distribution so much easier!

**Please do not attach any sweets/chocolates/items to the envelopes.** Due to allergies and medical conditions, we request that only cards are posted in the box for distributing in school. Thank you.

- Pantomime

P1-7 are heading off to Aberdeen on the morning of Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December to the pantomime 'Rapunzel' at Aberdeen Arts Centre. **Please remember that all children need to be at school for 8:40am and should bring a packed lunch that day.** If you wish for the packed lunch to be provided by our school catering team, contact school ASAP if you have not already done so. School uniform should be worn and there is no need for children to bring water or snacks as these will be provided during the interval.

- Viking Presentations

P4/5 selected one aspect of Viking life to research. They created PowerPoints and presented them to P3/4.



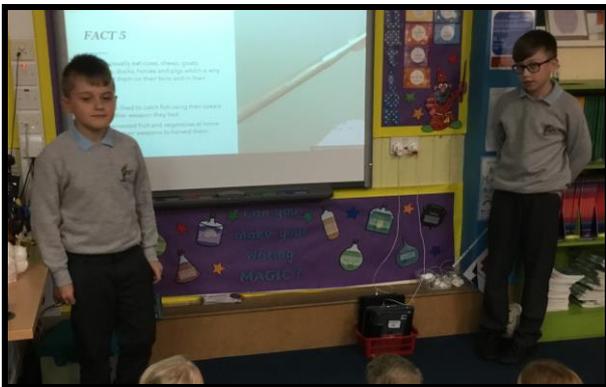
*"I felt confident because there was not that much of a crowd."*

*Sophia Maclean*

*"I felt fine but my feedback was that I need to speak more slowly next time. Our presentation was very detailed."*

*Lachlan*

*"I felt nervous at first but then I got the hang of it. I learned how to use transitions to make the PowerPoint look better." Thomas*



- Aberdeenshire Gift Cards

Give the *Gift of Local Choice* this year with the **Aberdeenshire Gift Card**.

With around 400 businesses across the Shire now accepting the card, including independents and brands, there is something for everyone. Have a look at the attached flyer to find out more, including the chance to win a £1,000 Gift Card.

- Pupils of the Week

Congratulations to all who have been 'Pupils of the Week' - Archie, Ava-Lynn, Oakleigh-Bow & Keeva and our 'Nursery Star' - Jude . Well done!

- Learning Leader Awards

Congratulations to Katie, Nathaniel, Kasey and Lachlan on achieving your certificate for 5 Learning Leader Awards!

### What are Learning Leaders?



Happy Heroes are self-motivated, co-operative and take ownership of their learning.



Our Confident Commanders persevere, show resilience and independence.



Achieving Advisors reflect on their learning and challenge themselves.



Creative Captains are curious, ask questions and use their imagination creatively.

- Twitter

Remember we post photos and comments of what's happening in school live onto Twitter. Can we take this opportunity to encourage as many parents/families as possible to start following school on Twitter @StFergusSch

Also, our school website gives you current information on all that's been happening in school as well as access to various resources/documents.

<https://st-fergus.aberdeenshire.sch.uk>

- **ADVERSE WEATHER**  
**INFORMATION**

**Aberdeenshire Council Website**

<https://online.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/Apps/schools-closures/>

You also have the option to sign up to receive email alerts when your school updates their closure status:

<https://online.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/myAberdeenshire/>