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|  | logo alford text flat cyan copy | **Laurence Findlay**  *Director of Education & Children’s Services*  **Jane A Craik**  Head Teacher  Alford Primary School  Alford Community Campus  Greystone Road  Alford AB33 8TY Tel 019755 62395 alford.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk  www.alford-pri.aberdeenshire.sch.uk |

1.11.18

Dear Parent,

I have attached a calendar for the year ahead with main events. Those events in green are opportunities for you to come into school to share some learning with your child either in the classroom or as part of an assembly or performance. We are still working on adding trip dates but this may take a bit of time. This newsletter and the calendar are now also available on our website. It is planned that this means of sharing information will evolve over the year and will make life easier for everyone. This information will also continue to be sent out by email.

**Book Fayre and Open Day**

Just to remind you that next Wednesday November 7th and Thursday November 8th you are invited to join your child’s class for a reading lesson to find out how reading is being developed across the school. You would then be welcome to visit the book fayre with your child. The book fayre will also be open after school until 5pm on each day. If anyone is available to help run the book fayre, please let us know. The Parent Council will also be selling raffle tickets and collecting donations for the Christmas Fayre as part of this.

**Timetable for class visits:**

Please arrive at reception 10 minutes before allotted time so that the lesson can start on time.

**Wednesday**

9am P7G and P7P

9.30 am P6M P6G

10am P P5Sm and P5W

11am P4B and P4s

11.30 P3R

**Thursday**

9am P3M

9.30am P2

11am P1 and p1/2

Nursery parents are welcome to join us for our library session at 10:40 (AM parents)/14:30 (PM parents) on **Thursday** before collecting your child from nursery and taking them through to the book fair.

The book fayre is also open until 5pm both days if you wish to visit after school.

**Reading Development**

Before you visit your child’s class we thought it would help to explain some of the approaches you may see and to explain why the children are working that way.

We are increasingly focusing as a school on developing skills in children which will prepare them for the world they will live in. We have no idea what jobs our current pupils may be doing in the future but what we do know is that they will each need transferrable skills to use in an increasingly global and competitive job market.

Children still need to learn how to read, how to work out what the marks mean on the page. However, this is only a tiny part of what reading is. Children will succeed as adults if they have good social skills and have the ability to take on a variety of roles within a group or team. It has been proved that intelligence is not fixed and that the more we use our brains the bigger they get especially when being used for critical thinking using higher order thinking skills. We remember:

10% of what we read

20% of what we hear

30% of what we see

50% of what we see and hear

70% of what we discuss with others

80% of what we personally experience

95% of what we teach others

When you visit your child’s class, you will see children working collaboratively, supporting each other, explaining things to each other, supporting each other and being engaged in their learning to achieve a common goal- skills that will easily transfer to their lives in the future.

We hope you enjoy your visit and would really appreciate your feedback using the questionnaire which will be available on the day of your visit.

**School Parents’ Evening**

Thank you to everyone who has booked a slot for their child at parent’s evening. The feedback from you has been very positive. However, there have been a couple of glitches so if you have been unable to access it please get in touch and let us know.

Go to http://www.parents-booking.co.uk/alfordprimary

**PLEASE NOTE: You need to type this address into your website browser’s**

**‘address bar’. Do not try to ‘Google’ this website address or use a search engine as that will not work. This is a common mistake on phones and tablets especially.**

Login to see which appointments are available and select one that is convenient for you. We will send you a reminder of your booked slot the week before.

Jane A. Craik

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