



# Pitmedden School News!

August 2021

## Vision & Values

Our **Vision** at Pitmedden is to provide the **highest quality** education that ensures our Pitmedden family 'Work together to do our best.'

Our overarching values to achieve our vision are that every child is:

**I**ncluded

**R**espected

**H**ealthy

**R**esponsible

**H**onest

I can't believe the summer holidays are over, they have passed in a flash. We hope all our Pitmedden families had a lovely time and warmly welcome you all back. A special welcome goes to our 21 new Nursery children and our 16 new Primary 1s. We also welcome new staff; Miss Watt and Mrs Abercrombie who will be joining our Nursery team. It has been lovely to see all the children, they have come in raring to go and have absolutely loved seeing their teachers and classrooms.



## Staff for session 2021-2022

**Head Teacher** - Miss McGibbon

**Nursery** - Mrs Rennie (EYSP), Mrs Thomson (EYLP), Mrs Abercrombie, Miss Clark, Miss Kelman, Mrs McBrien, Miss Stephen, Mrs Hopkinson, Miss Watt

**P1/2** - Miss Dawson

**P2** - Mrs Duncan

**P3** - Miss Botha

**P4** - Mrs Findlater/Mrs Byrne

**P5** - Mrs Warrender/Mrs Wagner

**P6** - Mrs Howitt

**P7** - Mrs Riddoch/Mrs Findlater (Mrs Fullerton will return just before the October holidays)

**Core** - Mrs Minto & Ms Baker

**ASL** - Mrs Murray

**Pupil Support Assistants** - Mrs Blakey, Mrs McKen, Mrs McMenemie, Mrs Stewart & Mrs Williams

**School Office Staff** - Mrs Allan & Mrs Day

**Janitor** - Miss Porteous

**School Day Timings** - We are still following covid guidance in relation to schools. This will mean that at the end of the school day P1 & P2 children will go out slightly earlier at 3.10pm and P3-7 at 3.15pm. An email was sent out to families on Tuesday morning to confirm these timings. Please ensure you continue to follow social distancing guidelines whilst waiting to collect your child(ren).



**PE Days** - We are still configuring PE timetables, teachers will confirm PE days as soon as this has been decided. On PE days we will be encouraging children to come dressed in their PE kit but with their Pitmedden School jumper. Information around this will come out via Seesaw and not Google Classroom.

**Seesaw** – Reflecting on the feedback from parents/carers, it is clear that increased communication and sharing of pupil learning is a key focus at Pitmedden. With this in mind, we have purchased Seesaw and our staff engaged in some training around this during the in-service day. This is a fabulous tool to share pupil learning and increase home-school communication. There will be information coming out very soon to help parents/family members connect to your child's Seesaw. This will replace the use of Google Classroom. We hope you will enjoy seeing a clearer picture of your children's learning. Please do not hesitate in contacting the school if you have any questions around Seesaw or require support.



**Parent Friendly Calendar** – We have created a Parent Friendly Calendar, which outlines key dates for parents throughout the school year. As always, these dates can be subject to change but as much as possible we would anticipate that these dates would not be moved unless essential. We will also update and share the calendar again if we add in other important events that families should be aware of. I really hope our families find this helpful.

**Absences**– Please remember that all absences for Nursery/Primary children must be made by calling the school office. If there is no answer, please leave a message stating your child's name and why they are going to be absent. This will ensure we can update our systems accurately.

**Friends of Pitmedden** – We have our first Friends of Pitmedden meeting on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 6.30pm. This will be a virtual teams meeting, if you would like to attend, please email [lyn.mcgibbon@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:lyn.mcgibbon@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) and you will be added to the meeting. We would actively encourage as many parents/carers to attend as possible. We want to ensure that Friends of Pitmedden continues to thrive, allowing parents/carers to have their voices heard and support the school in the best way possible.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact myself or the school if you have questions.

[lyn.mcgibbon@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:lyn.mcgibbon@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) or [pitmedden.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:pitmedden.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)