



CRUDIE SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

November 2020

School Information Line Tel 0870 054 4999 Crudie Pin No. 021550

 @CrudieSchool Glow - [glow.rmunify.com](https://www.glow.rmunify.com) Website - [crudie.aberdeenshire.sch.uk](https://www.crudie.aberdeenshire.sch.uk)

Dear Parents,

We have had a number of updates to our guidance issued in the last week which you will have read about in the letter from the Director of Education yesterday.

Main points to note are that:

- Face coverings should be worn by parents and other visitors to all school sites (whether entering the building or otherwise), including parents at drop-off and pick-up.
- We will continue to have windows open where outdoor conditions allow it to provide for ventilation however this will be balanced with the need to keep temperatures at an appropriate working level. On days where it is too cold to keep windows open all day and the heating can't maintain the temperature, the windows will instead be opened at regular intervals throughout the day.
- We are now allowed to do PE indoors however we shall continue to have PE outdoors when the weather allows so please continue to dress your child on their PE days in the manner in which you have been doing already.
- Pupils can take a school bag into school if they so wish. This will make carrying packed lunches and water bottles much easier, but we do continue to ask **not** to bring in other personal belongings.
- We are now allowed to send home books and other resources for learning.

Please do not send your child to school if they have any of the following symptoms:

- new continuous cough
- fever/high temperature
- loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste (anosmia).

You can get advice and arrange for a test by going to the NHS 111 online service at <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/> or dialling 111.

Tempest Photos

We are able to proceed as planned with individual pupil and sibling photos taken by Tempest. This will take place tomorrow, Wednesday 4th November.

Remembrance

- To mark Remembrance this year, P4-7 will be painting poppies on individual pebbles. The class will walk along to the Crudie memorial on Friday to place the stones and have a minute's silence. Please ensure that your child is suitably dressed for the weather. Please let us know if you would rather your child did not go along to the memorial.
- With many of Poppy Scotland's older volunteers shielding due to Covid-19, they are struggling with fundraising this year so any donations will be gratefully accepted on Friday and passed on to Poppy Scotland.

Parent Meetings

Parent meetings were successful, aside from a couple of hiccups, and while it is not how we would normally like to conduct progress meetings we felt it worked well for the situation we find ourselves in currently. We welcome any feedback on the experience, positive or negative. This can be emailed to crudie.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk. It may be that we can incorporate this way of working into future meetings. This would give more options, in addition to face to face meetings, which may suit you better.

After school ballet club

Active schools are hosting a ballet club for Crudie pupils starting next Tuesday from 3-4pm and running weekly until the 8th of December. If your child wishes to take part, please complete the following quick [form](#) so that you are sent out joining information. The club is free.

P1 vision check

A few of the primary ones across the cluster have missed out on the pre-school vision test which they would normally have received at nursery. This could be because we went into lockdown and the nurseries closed at the time the children should have had this test. Please make an appointment with your optician if your child did not get their pre-school vision test and you have any concerns with their vision.

Aberdeenshire school nurses now have a Facebook page, it is a good resource to find out information, or to make contact directly should you wish to. If you search Aberdeenshire school nurses on Facebook you will find the page or follow the link: <https://m.facebook.com/Aberdeenshire-School-Nurses-115580890312630/>.

Seesaw

Unfortunately, all schools who are using the free version of Seesaw must stop using it as of the 20th November. Use of SeeSaw, in terms of the way it collects users' data has been, until recently, permitted through the Privacy Shield scheme. Now that Privacy Shield has been struck-down by the EU, SeeSaw, in its current form, is no longer data protection compliant, as data is held outside the EU.

Aberdeenshire Council are looking into other solutions that schools can use as a recommended alternative to Seesaw as we are not allowed to sign up for the paid version as use of this will also be stopped.

We are very disappointed to be losing Seesaw, and I know you will be too. It has been an extremely valuable tool for sharing pupil's learning and communicating with you.

I would advise that if there are any photos or videos that you wish to keep, that you download them before the 20th. We shall continue to use Seesaw up until this date. After this time we will hopefully be in a position to be able to begin to use whichever alternative we have been recommended so there is no interruption in our communication with you.

Student teacher

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Rawles to the P4-7 class to undertake her first placement for her Postgraduate teacher training qualification. Mrs Rawles will be with us Monday to Thursday up until 11th December, with online learning on a Friday. She does not need to be at the university at any point during her placement with us and all assessment will take place online.

Christmas

- This year's concert is called "The angel who nearly missed it all." This year will be very different as we will not be able to have a performance where we can invite an audience into school. Our plan is still to have a Christmas concert but instead we will record it and put it on a DVD, and we will set a date where we can watch it together, at the same time, in our own homes. Donations for the DVD will go into the School Fund. We shall have Christmas hampers this year instead of raffling individual items. We will ask for donations for this at the beginning of December, so we have time to quarantine items. The hamper raffle draw will be recorded and announced on the day of the concert viewing.
- We should be able to have a Christmas party this year although parents won't be allowed to attend. We will let you know date and details in the December newsletter once we have worked out the logistics.
- Christmas cards should also be a possibility unless we are told otherwise. We will set dates that Christmas cards can be brought up to school. We shall then quarantine the cards for 72 hours before teachers send them home.

Rag Bag

There will be a Rag Bag pick up this Friday, 6th Nov. You can drop your bags off at Pamela Bartlett's house. Alternatively you can email Pamela at crudiepc77@yahoo.com and she will pick up your bags or you can bring them up to school and leave them in the outdoor classroom before lunchtime, and she will pick them up from there. To find out more about Rag Bag and what they can and can't collect click [here](#).

Free school meals

The Scottish Government has committed to providing families in receipt of free school meals with payments during school holidays. This has recently covered the October holidays and will cover the Christmas, February and Easter breaks too. This does not cover the blanket P1-3 meals that are given during school term time. If there are any families who currently receive the P1-3 entitlement but feel that they may qualify for the Free School Meals grant, please follow the link below to complete the necessary paperwork to ensure that you don't miss out.

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/school-info/assistance/free-school-meals/>

In addition to this, anybody qualifying for the free school meals grant is automatically awarded a school clothing grant.

Eligibility is usually based on whether you are in receipt of one of the following qualifying benefits or allowances:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (JSA)
- Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit)
- Any income-related element of Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (CTC), but not Working Tax Credit (WTC), and have an income of less than £16,105
- Child Tax Credit (CTC) and Working Tax Credit (WTC), and have an income of less than £6900
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Universal Credit with a monthly take home pay of less than £610.

If you are not able to apply online, contact the Council on 01467 533400.

TechFest

TechFest will be held online this year Please click [here](#) for your TechFest Digital Festival Programme.



Dates for your diary

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| Friday 20 th November | In-service day |
| Friday 18 th December | Last day of term 2 |
| Tuesday 5 th January | Term 3 begins |
| Monday 15 th February | Mid-term break |
| 16 th and 17 th February | In-Service days |
| Thursday 1 st April | Last day of term 3 |