



# ABOYNE LODGE

CREATIVE • CURIOUS • CARING

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Friday 22nd November '24



Dear Parents/Carers, It's been a cold one this week and at one point I thought we might be outside playing in the snow. Sadly it didn't settle much this time but the children made the most of the smattering that was around.

Next week the children can wear their Christmas jumpers to school. Please make sure they are named so we can return any that are misplaced. We also seem to be getting a growing collection of gloves at the moment.

This week the netball team played against Wheatfields. It was a close game against a decent (and very tall) side which we lost by a narrow margin. Well played to all the team in the bracing conditions.

We are looking to develop the playground in three phases starting this year. To begin with we are planning to

create active play zones. The idea is to provide an environment where the children can play creatively and they have shared some of their ideas—many asked for a mud kitchen and water tray for example. They also wanted an area where they can play on scooters, a space for den building, a loose parts area (for an obstacle course) and quiet areas for drawing, Lego and board games. This will be alongside the current sports equipment.

One of the zones will be role play area and a stage. If you have any old dressing up costumes that you want to pass on, please send them to school where they will find a good home. We would also welcome any unused board games too.

The second phase is think about bigger items—for example a climbing boulder and a rethink of the trim-trail.

Lastly, I want to think about the field at Normandy Road and its scope for a small forest school. To do this we will need volunteers to help clear some of the wooded areas out but we are a little way off from this at the moment.

Next week is the Speakers Cup Final. This year the classes have chosen two children from Key Stage 2 for the final. We have the former Aboyne Deputy Headteacher, and now Headteacher of Boxmoor Primary School, Mrs. Vicky Campos coming in as our guest judge. We will announce the finalists on Monday, but all parents are very welcome to attend.

Congratulations to all our Hot Chocolate Friday participants this week and our effort certificate winners.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr Smithard

\*\*\*\*\*ALSA notices \*\*\*\*\*

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November** – the date that children can start wearing their yellow Christmas jumpers!!

**CALL TO ACTION FOR** volunteers and Christmas Fair donations.

ALSA really needs your help to make the Christmas fair a success. It is on Friday 6th December, 3.15-5.30pm.

We need volunteers to help set up from 1pm, run stalls during the event and for clear up at the end - please add yourself to the WhatsApp volunteers group set up for this event or speak to your year rep for more information.

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/La7VSDG1c3FERabkgQe5pn>

***We also need lots of donations...***

Please donate any toys and soft toys which are in a really good condition from Monday 2nd December to the office.

Please donate new pocket money style toys for the pocket money game stall to your individual classrooms from Monday 2nd December. The class with the most toys will get an extra playtime.

Please bring a bottle of something you would like to win for the bottle tombola at drop off on Friday 6th December in exchange for an extra playtime

We need donations for the cake stall - please let your class rep know if you can help

We need lots of family friendly prizes for each of the stall raffles.

We also need bigger prizes for the door raffle.

Thank you ever so much for any effort you can put into getting these.

We are also looking for pre loved sports equipment for the Sport Council's stall at the Christmas fair.

Please donate all things sporty including football kits and boots, shin pads, leotards, along with other sporting apparel along with balls, bats, rackets, skateboard pads etc. ..

Please bring these to the office from Monday 6th December.

However, if you are not able to make it, please consider donating to our Just Giving page. We are currently trying to raise money to buy lots of exciting equipment for the outside area to make playtimes much more engaging.

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/clare-jones-1731496261796?utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=page%2Fclare-jones-1731496261796&utm\\_source=copyLink&utm\\_campaign=pfp-share](https://www.justgiving.com/page/clare-jones-1731496261796?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fclare-jones-1731496261796&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share)

In other news, ALSA are planning to launch a book entitled Tales of Aboyne in Easter 2025 to mark the school's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Both past and present pupils – or parents – are invited to submit up to 250 words of either a story of their time at the school or a poem along with a photo, illustration or simple sketch.

The closing date for entries is Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February.

To make a submission, send your word document and image to: [admin@aboyne.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@aboyne.herts.sch.uk)

**Dates for your diary up until end of term**

Monday 25th November—Netball vs STAH's (H)

Tuesday 26th November—Y5 Football vs Samuel Ryder (H)

Wednesday 27th November—Netball vs Sandridge (A)

Thursday 28th November—Netball vs Bernards Heath (A)

Friday 29th November—Occasional Day SCHOOL CLOSED

Monday 2nd December—Music Assembly (Y1 & Y2 musicians parents invited) 10am

Tuesday 3rd December—Girls Football vs Alban City (H) \*Friendly\*

Tuesday 3rd December—ALSA Wreath Making (Tickets available on Gateway!) 7.30pm

Wednesday 4th December—YR 2025 Perspective Parent School Tour 1.30pm

Friday 6th December—ALSA Christmas Fair 3.30pm-5.30pm

Friday 6th December—YR 2025 Perspective Parent School Tour 1.30pm

Monday 9th December—KS1 Dress Rehearsal to rest of the school 9.15am

Monday 9th December—KS1 Performance to parents 2.15pm

Tuesday 10th December—Whole School Trip to Panto (Sleeping Beauty) 10am

Wednesday 11th December—KS1 Performance to parents 9am

Wednesday 11th December—Music Assembly (Y5 & Y6 musicians parents invited) 11am

Wednesday 11th December—Christmas Dinner Day

Thursday 12th December—YR 2025 Perspective Parent School Tour 1.30pm

Friday 13th December—Music Assembly (Choir & Orchestra parents invited) 11am

Monday 16th December—Electric Umbrella Christmas performance 1.15pm

Tuesday 17th December—Music Assembly (Y3 & Y4 musicians parents invited) 10am

Tuesday 17th December—YR Christmas Performance to school 1/30pm

Wednesday 18th December—YR Christmas Performance to parents 9.30am

**Friday 20th December—End of Term 1.30pm**

Monday 6th January—INSET Day School Closed

Tuesday 7th January—Spring Term begins