



# February Newsletter



It has been another busy month here at Inverallochy School and it is going to continue to be very busy over the next few weeks.

Congratulations to **Zofia Prusinska (P6)** who won our competition to design a reporting logo. Every time you see this logo it will remind you that we are sharing information about the learning in the school.

## Diary Dates

### MARCH

Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	World Book Day
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup>	Reports home today (not Room 1)
<b>Thurs 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Parent's Evening (Not Room 1)</b>
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Science Week
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Council Meeting ( <i>fundraising only</i> )
<b>Fri 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Fit Like Friday (PM) - Science!</b>
<b>Mon 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>ROOM 1 Reports home today</b>
<b>Tues 21<sup>st</sup>/</b>	<b>ROOM 1 Parent's evening</b>
<b>Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	
Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Community Engagement Event 7pm
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	Red Nose Day
Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup>	End of Term Disco (Evening)
Fri 31 <sup>st</sup>	Last day of Term 3

### APRIL

Mon 17 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday - School Closed
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup>	First day of Term 4

## Community Engagement Event

A community engagement event has been arranged for the village on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. The school has been asked to contribute to this evening. The children will be out in the community and gathering information about what they think is working well/positive and also areas for improvement. They plan to create pieces of artwork which will be displayed as a gallery at the community meeting. Each class has taken a different focus. We hope that as many parents and carers can attend this meeting to view the children's work but also, so that your voices can be heard.

Welcome back to Mrs Tait in Room 1. We are delighted that Mr and Mrs Tait are expecting their first child in July and although she has had a bit of a horrible start to what should be an exciting time we are all glad to see her back and have our fingers crossed that the rest of her pregnancy runs smoothly.

A big welcome also to Miss Rachel Glancy, a 4<sup>th</sup> Year University student, who is joining us for the next 9 weeks. Miss Glancy will be in Room 3 and working alongside Mrs West before taking responsibility for the class for a period of continuous days.

Given the current situation regarding teacher recruitment I am pleased that our school can offer this opportunity to an enthusiastic young teacher of the future. This will be her final placement prior to starting her probationary year in a school with her own class next year.

## Lunchtime Clubs Reminder

Flutes -	Mon - Beginners
	Tues - P6/7
	Wed - P5s
	(Please remind children to bring their flute to school)
Knitting	- Thursday @ 12.45pm (P3 - 7)
LEGO	- Thursday @ 12.45 pm (P1-4)
	(If particularly nice weather lego club will not be on)
Choir	- Friday Lunchtime (Will start later in the term)



## Digital News!

### PROJECT PADZ

- Our order of iPads has been delayed which is very annoying! Hopefully they will arrive soon.
- Teaching staff completed digital training during the in service day. We have picked up a few new ideas to try and utilise our digital technology more within the classroom.

## App of the month!



Remember we would welcome parent/pupil suggestions for this too. Let us know if you use one that you feel is worth sharing.

This month, try out... (some of the apps we looked at during our training)



Music Sparkle



Tellagami



Garage Band



Explain Everything

(Although these apps are payable, there are free versions to try out at home. We will be adding full versions of these to our class iPads once they all come in)

### New Approaches to Reporting

Our new reporting format has now been agreed for this year. We have changed the area for parent comment following discussion with parent council and staff. This will allow parents to return their comments without returning the actual report.

Staff are currently compiling the reports and once complete, they will spend some time with each child to go through the report with them individually. During this time, every child will be asked to add a comment about their report and their learning. Depending on the age/stage of the child this will obviously vary however the children should feel some ownership of the report too.

As with every development in school, this reporting format will be evaluated by staff, pupils and parents and changes/improvements made for the future if required.

Reports will be sent home on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March.  
Parent's Evening Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March



(Please note due to Mrs Tait's absence, Room 1 reports will not be issued until Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March and Parent's evenings will follow on 21<sup>st</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> March)

If you require a specific time for your parents evening (due to work/childcare commitments) please contact the school office or leave a note in your child's red book by Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February. I am sure you appreciate how difficult it can be to fit everybody in so we would appreciate it if you could prioritise parent's evening over other activities on this occasion.



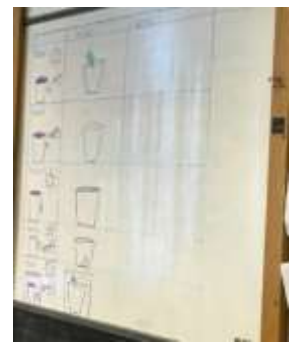
The classes here are always very busy. Here is a wee snippet of some of the learning taking place recently.

### Room 1

Room 1 have been learning to weave using coloured paper. They created colourful 'tartan like' patterns when they were learning about Burn's Day.



They have also been learning about living and non-living things and they are currently completing a science experiment to see what the best environment is for growing beans. They've even hidden some in a cupboard! They will be recording the results over time.

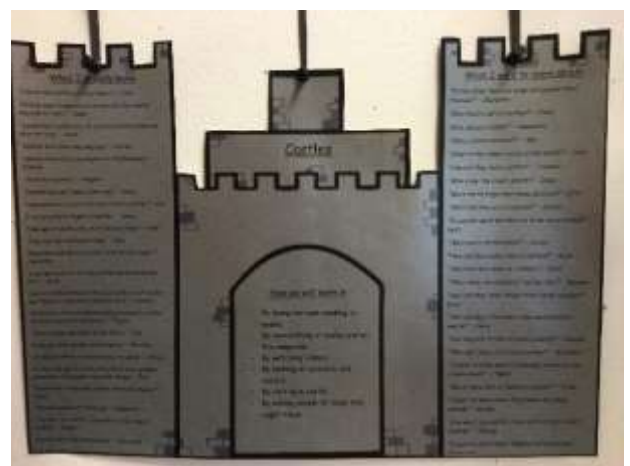


### Room 3



Room 3 really enjoyed all their learning for Burn's day. After learning the Gay Gordons for our whole school afternoon, they have continued on and they challenged themselves to learn to 'Strip the Willow'! Many of you will know that this is not an easy dance but they've cracked it. Well done Room 3!

Room 3 are also learning about castles this term. They have really thought about their learning - what they know already and what they would like to find out more about. Great thinking Room 3!





## Room 5

Room 5 are learning about landscapes, the environment and their community. They hope to be out and about in the village and along the coast learning about the different characteristics in their locality. They have been busy in the art room creating these spectacular stag heads which have been added to their own interpretation of a Scottish landscape. I think they look impressive. I am hoping they make me one for my house!



## Room 6

Room 6 have just finished their project on the Titanic. They brought their learning together in a fantastic assembly performance to their parents and the rest of the school. An enjoyable time was had by all and the amount of effort and hard work was clear to see. Confident children with enthusiastic and happy faces - a delight to witness.



## Room 7

Room 7 have been learning all about WWII and particularly about the choices and dilemmas people had in wartime. They have been trying to put themselves into situations that may have been encountered and discussing decision making and the emotions involved with this. They have been learning about propaganda and creating their own versions.



Room 7 have also developed their learning in French to learn about French Artists. As you can see they have worked extremely hard to re-create famous pieces of art and carried out some research on their chosen French Artist.





## Nursery

The nursery have been busy too! They have been learning about colours and shapes with our College Students and used their shapes to create houses.



As part of their learning for Burn's day the children created their own tartan using rulers in the paint to get nice straight lines. Session B also joined the school for our Burn's afternoon and enjoyed some yummy shortbread!



The boys and girls in nursery have been learning about their responsibilities within the nursery and trying very hard to keep to their class charter. They have been collecting stars for good listening, manners, sharing and playing nicely and for tidying up and looking after their nursery toys.



They have made a good start and I am sure they will keep it up. The incentive of a trip to Boomerangs is, I'm sure, helping!



## New Look Hall Entrance!



As you can see from the photo, Mrs Campbell and some of the pupils have made a fantastic job of the artwork in this area. It highlights the journey made by Dummy Jim and includes all the characteristics of our beautiful village. Well done to everybody involved.

We are also looking to revive our display of pictures from the past in a display called 'The history o us a!' You may remember Room 7 writing a song with this title during last year's Tak a Beat.

To make the pictures and the history more real for the children we would like to add possible dates and names to those people that we know. To help us with this we are holding a special coffee morning on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March in the school. We will have all the photos laid out to try and name as many faces as we can. I hope many local people will come along, have a cup of tea, a fine piece and a claik about the auld days to refresh the memories of all the faces! Please share this with grandparents, aunties and uncles etc! The more the merrier! Our pupil council will be putting posters up around the village for this too.

### 'The History o us a!'

Are you local to the village?  
Did you come to sqweel here as a  
bairn?  
Would you ken some o the faces in oor  
auld photos?



Come along to oor coffee morning to  
pit names to the photos.

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 10am – 12pm**  
**Inverallochey Sqweel**





## PARENT COUNCIL

I have added a section into the website titled Parent Council. Minutes of the meetings will be uploaded for you all to read if you so wish. There is a suggestion box in the front hall for anything parents wish to bring up at parent council or any suggestions you might want to make. The next Parent Council meeting on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March has been cancelled as I am on a first aid course that evening. However the usual fundraising committee meeting is going ahead at Sarah Ritchie's house.

As always if you have any suggestions or information which you would like to share through this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact myself at the school.

*Mrs Edwards*