



# February Newsletter

I hope you all enjoyed the midterm break. It was a welcomed long weekend for our staff. We are now all raring to go for the remainder of this Spring term.

Our Nursery will now be adding a section to our monthly newsletter. These used to be separate but for ease for parents with siblings we have joined them together. It is also great for everyone to see what is going on in all areas of the school and can lend a hand where needed. 😊

## Diary Dates

### FEBRUARY

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> iBike- P4 bike skills (AM)  
- P6, P7 girls bike maintenance (PM)

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Special delivery to Room 1!

Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Parent Sharing Afternoon - ROOM 5

### MARCH

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> iBike - Rm 2 Led Scoot (AM)  
- Rm 3 Led Scoot (PM)

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> P7s Academy visit

Wed 6<sup>th</sup> Parent Sharing Afternoon - ROOM 1



Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> World Book Day (Children/staff  
can dress up as books/story characters)

Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Reports out to Parents

Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> Parent's Evening P1 - P7

Tues 19<sup>th</sup> iBike - DR BIKE session

Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Parent Council

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Start of our Health and Wellbeing Week

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> iBike - Breakfast @8.15am

Tues 26<sup>th</sup> iBike- P5 Led Cycle to St Combs

Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Daffodil Tea 10am - 12pm

Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Parent Sharing Afternoon - ROOM 3

Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> Disco - Evening  
(Nur - p3, 5-6pm, P4-P7 6.30 - 7.30pm)

Fri 29<sup>th</sup> Last day of term

### APRIL

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Back to school

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Good Friday - SCHOOL CLOSED

### MAY

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> May Day - SCHOOL CLOSED

Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> Parent Council

## STAFFING

A warm welcome to Mrs Patricia Cruickshank who is currently teaching in Room 5. The children and staff are all helping to get her settled in. Hopefully Mrs Cruickshank will be with us until the current vacancy is filled.

Room 7 also have a new face - Mrs Pat Kemp who will be teaching in Room 7 on a Wednesday until the end of this term.

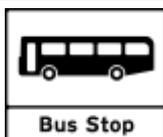
## Inverallochy Reading challenge

Thank you to everyone who completed the reading challenge. The pupil council and I will meet on Thursday (21<sup>st</sup>) to look through the entrants and we will announce the winners shortly afterwards!



Reading for enjoyment - We have been working hard on this recently and the children have all ordered items (from Gala & School fund) to create their class reading corner. Items are arriving daily in the school office which currently looks like a shop warehouse! We will be launching our new reading areas on World Book Day on 7<sup>th</sup> March.

We are encouraging the children and staff to dress up as story characters on this day too!



Please note that due to building works connected with the new houses, there will be a temporary bus stop outside the school gates from Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY



## IN-SERVICE - FEB 2019

Following the long weekend, our staff had two busy days of training.

### Visible Learning

Along with our Fraserburgh colleagues we were continuing our journey with 'Visible Learning' training. This is a long term project which will be developed over 3-5 years. It centres on the research of Professor John Hattie. Our long term goal is to have children in our school who are 'assessment capable, visible learners'. This is not something which will happen quickly and it is more of a shift in how we involve our learners in their own learning and progress. We will keep you updated on the progress on this as it develops. We are currently gathering various pieces of evidence about our school to establish a starting point ☺

### Family Engagement

We are extremely lucky in our school to have families who are keen to be part of our school and also keen to offer support and help when required. However we have been looking at ways to increase your involvement. Following on from feedback from 'Fit like Fridays' in which many parents said the sessions were rushed and would have like more time, we have decided to try out something different:

### Family Sharing Afternoons

Each class will choose an afternoon in which their parents can come and share their learning. There will **only be one class per afternoon 2pm - 3pm**, so there will be no need to rush from class to class to see siblings. The class and their teacher will decide what they are going to share with you.

Room 5, 1 and 3 have planned to have their sessions this term (See diary dates)

Room 2, 6 and 7 will plan a date into next term.

We will be looking for your feedback from these sessions too ☺



### Health and Wellbeing Week - 2019

The school is planning to have a focused week of health and wellbeing learning for the last week of this term. (25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> Mar)

We are hoping to have many different activities both physical and academic to explore our own health, including keeping ourselves body (physically) fit and mind (mentally) fit too.

If you feel you can offer anything during this week - expertise/skills/knowledge please do not hesitate to contact the school office ☺

More information will follow nearer the time.



## Nursery News - February 2019

### Learning Opportunities

Over the past 8 weeks the children at nursery have engaged in learning about a variation of different topics to support their literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing development, such as Building and Construction, Robert Burns, Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day and Volcanoes. These topics also supported the children to gain a greater understanding of culture (including cultural differences), the world around them and promoted taking an interest in their local area.



Each session also attended the library for an informal story session, and a Book Bug class which was very well received. Due to this we are looking into arranging monthly library visits and termly Book Bug classes. Keep an eye on the dates for your diary section as parent helpers would be very welcome.

Over the coming weeks we would expect to begin looking into Easter and Spring, along with a variety of other themes directed by the children.



We have started a "Book of the Week" initiative to support the children in building upon their love of literacy and to enhance their vocabulary. This will also support your child's overall development as further learning opportunities will be encouraged through the themes and topics covered in the book.

### Nursery Improvements

We are currently looking towards making improvements to our outdoor learning experiences and the implementation of literacy and numeracy within the setting.

Due to this, we have introduced pick-ups from the Community Room and outdoors to allow the children to carry on their outdoor learning and play for as long as possible. On these days a member of the nursery team will come and open the door and let you in as normal. We have also moved the welly boots downstairs and into the Community Room to allow the transition to our outdoor area to go as smoothly as possible.

We are also excited to be purchasing a variety of books, audio books and literacy resources to encourage a greater excitement in the children with regards to stories and story telling.



## Fund Raising

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March we are planning a Daffodil Tea fund raiser to build nursery funds. This will be from 10am-12noon in the Community Room. All family and friends will be very welcome. Tea, Coffee, Juice, Pancakes and Rolls will be provided in exchange for a donation at the door. There will be a baking and raffle stall, along with our larger Easter Bunny Hamper, and Mother's Day Pamper Hamper.



**If you would like to get involved, we would be very appreciative of any raffle stall donations, help selling raffle tickets or your support on the day.** If you wish to help, please add your name to the list on the registration table.

To purchase raffle tickets, please see a member of the nursery team. These will be at a cost of £1 per strip.

## Family Sessions/Stay and Play

Thank you to all who have already attended a family/stay and play session with your wee one (or supported in any other aspect of nursery life). This helps the children to feel more at home within the setting and allows you to gain a greater insight into the things we do over the course of a day. If you would like more information or support regarding your child's learning and development, please do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the Nursery Team.

## Dates for your Dairy

<u>Session A</u>	<u>Session B</u>
Gym - Monday mornings from 9.15-10am	Gym - Thursday mornings from 9.15-10am
Library Visit - Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March from 11.10am. Pick up will be from the library on this day.	Library Visit - Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March from 2.45pm. Pick up will be from the library on this day.
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March - Cairnbulg Park	
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March - Daffodil Tea, 10am-12noon in the Community Room	

If you have any suggestions on how we can improve our service please complete a form on the radiator by the pegs and place in the suggestions box.

Thank you,

The Nursery Team.

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*



INVERALLOCHY SCHOOL  
Working Together for Excellence  
Everyone's a Learner  
Be Happy  
Do your Best

