



January Newsletter

WELCOME BACK
TO SCHOOL

Welcome back everyone and a Happy New Year to you all. I hope the holidays were lots of fun. I am sure you are all happy to get back into a normal routine though and I'm pleased to see the children back, settled and working hard.

Diary Dates

JANUARY 2019

Mon 21st - Nursery enrolment fortnight - forms can be collected from office for new children. Returning children will have a form in their nursery tray.

Fri 25th Robert Burns Celebrations - children can wear tartan today

FEBRUARY

Fri 1st Hand in Reading Challenge sheets

Mon 4th iBike - P1 Balance bike session

Wed 6th P7 Parent meeting at Academy
(information to be sent out from the Academy soon but please note the date)

Fri 8th HOLIDAY - School Closed

Mon 11th HOLIDAY - School Closed

Tues 12th IN-SERVICE - School closed to Pupils

Wed 13th IN-SERVICE - School Closed to Pupils

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

MARCH

Mon 4th iBike - Rm 2 Led Scoot (AM)
- Rm 3 Led Scoot (PM)

Tues 5th P7s Academy visit (TBC)

Tues 12th Reports out to Parents

Thurs 14th Parent's Evening

Tues 19th iBike - DR BIKE session

Thurs 21st Parent Council

Mon 25th iBike - Breakfast @8.15am

Tues 26th iBike- P5 Led Cycle to St Combs

Thurs 28th Disco - Evening (Usual times)

Fri 29th Last day of term

STAFFING

As you are aware Kim Purcell moved on at Christmas time and she is settling well into her new role.

Mrs Patricia Cowie was successful in the recruitment process before the holidays and now that all the HR processes have been completed I am delighted to let you all know that she will be starting in Inverallochy Nursery from Monday 21st January. I know she is looking forward to the new challenge and working with our children and staff in nursery.



It is also with huge sadness that we will be saying farewell to **Miss Fallon Anderson** at the end of the month. Miss Anderson has been successful in securing the Depute Head position at St Andrews School in Fraserburgh. Her last day with us will be Friday 1st February. Many children and parents will have worked with Miss Anderson either in school or in nursery and I know that she will be a huge loss to our team here at Inverallochy. We are



delighted for her and we know that our loss will be a massive gain to the children and staff at St Andrews. This teaching post is currently advertised and Room 5 Parents will continue to be kept up to date with staffing for their children in that class. I am sure you will all join us in wishing Fallon the very best of luck in her new position. I am sure that the children will continue to see her out and about in the village with Daphne, her beautiful puppy! 😊



N.B. There are currently Pupil Support Worker Posts advertised however please note that these are for the Fraserburgh Network and not specifically within our school as the original advert may have suggested.

REMINDERS...

HEALTHY SNACKS - Staff have asked to remind parents and children that they should be bringing **healthy snacks Mon-Thurs**. An increasing number of children are not bringing any snack which also can be detrimental to their learning throughout the morning, particularly if they are hungry. Snack attack offers healthy choices - most items costing only 15p - 20p. (A great way to get rid of any loose change you may have!)

WATER BOTTLES - Your child should be bringing a water bottle to school to have in the class. Being hydrated is key to being a healthy learner. **NO JUICE** please. If children are bringing diluted juice to have with their lunch then it should be in a separate bottle from the one they use in class. (If required, water bottles can be purchased from the school office - £1.50)

GYM - Please ensure your child has everything they require for PE lessons, including a hair band for tying up long hair. Given the previous issues with lice it would be sensible to have long hair tied back/pleated anyway, however it must be tied up for safety within the gym.



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 12th February until Friday 22nd February.

This is likely to cause further congestion at the school gates as parents will not be able to park at the bus stop.

I appreciate some of our children need to be driven to school but this would be a great opportunity to begin a new habit of walking to school to decrease congestion at this time.

Inverallochy Reading challenge

Reminder that this competition is still going on. All reading sheets to be handed in to the school on Friday 1st February.

Prizes will be awarded to each stage P1 -P7 and also the adult prize will be awarded which is open to any adult within the school who hands in a record sheet.



iBike Cinema

Room 5,6 and 7 had the opportunity to use the iBike cinema when it visited the school on Tuesday 8th January.

The children learned about creating electricity and enough power to make the cinema screen work.

They had to cycle to get the Joe Wicks video to play. They also had the opportunity to watch some cool biking tricks.

It looked like hard work but a fun way to get rid of some excess energy after the holidays





S.S.I.F

S.S.I.F? What is that I hear you ask? S.S.I.F is the winning party from Room 5's mock election last term. All the children were in groups who each had a name and a set of promises that they pledged to keep if they earned your vote. All the children within the school voted and S.S.I.F won.

Scottish Sports is Fun is their name and I had the pleasure of their company for a meeting last week. I was very impressed with their ideas and their negotiation skills! Following their meeting we have plans in place to:

- Reinststate the basketball hoops in the playground on a Wednesday in Term 4 and Term 1. The smaller hoop to be put out for the younger children away from the main court.
- Create a football skills kit which can be used on the grass in Term 4 and Term 1 so that people can practice their football skills on the grass when it is not their football day. This is on the understanding that no games of football are played on the grass as we agreed that the grass should be for everyone and not just those who wish to play football.
- Look to source goals for the football pitch in the playground - S.S.I.F are keen to take responsibility for putting them out and tidying them away again as they felt that Mr Whyte already has a lot to do each day.

I was so pleased with their communication skills and their ability to see various points of view and also their ability to come up with solutions. Perhaps a politician amongst them in the future.

Well done boys!

(We even joked that they might be able to help Westminster out with Brexit!)

BURN'S DAY 2019

The children and staff will be celebrating Robert Burns on Friday 25th January. The children can wear tartan or Scottish themed clothes that day. Throughout the day they will be learning about the famous Scot through poetry, singing and dancing. We are also very lucky to have a real chef coming to help cook our Burn's Supper! Mrs Leye's husband has kindly offered to come into school and work with some of the children to create the famous meal. All the children will have the opportunity for a wee taste of haggis, neeps and tatties. It is going to be a fun day!





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