



March Newsletter



Spring is finally here! It is great to see the bulbs start to come up and the weather improving. It is especially pleasing to see the children out playing after school as the evenings get lighter. Hopefully our school planters will be full of bright daffodils soon.

Diary Dates

MARCH	
Wed 15 th	Parent Council Meeting (<i>fundraising only</i>)
Fri 17 th	Fit Like Friday (PM) - Science!
Mon 20 th	ROOM 1 Reports home today
Tues 21 st / Thurs 23 rd	ROOM 1 Parent's evening
Thurs 23 rd	Community Engagement Event 7pm
Fri 24 th	Red Nose Day
Thurs 30 th	Easter Church Service (1.45 pm)
Thurs 30 th	Easter Disco

(Please let office know if you would like to help ☺)

Nur - P3 5 pm - 6 pm
P4 - 7 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm
£2.50 payable at the door

Fri 31 st	Last day of Term 3
APRIL	
Mon 17 th	Holiday - School Closed
Tues 18 th	First day of Term 4
MAY	
Fri 5 th	Rag Bag Collection (Room 5)
Fri 12 th	Parent Council Fundraising Coffee morning.

Community Engagement Event - Reminder

A community engagement event has been arranged for the village on Thursday 23rd March in the Community Hall. 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.

Science Week

Monday 13th - Friday 17th March

This week is Science Week in school and each class is focusing on different science based learning outcomes from energy to famous scientists, living things to growing. There is a buzz about the classes which is great!

The children are looking forward to sharing their science learning with their parents during Fit like Friday this week.

Room 7 - 1.30 - 1.50pm
Room 1 - 1.50 - 2.10 pm
Room 3 - 2.10 - 2.30 pm
Room 6 - 2.30 - 2.50 pm
Room 5 - 2.50 - 3.10 pm

As usual each class has 20 minutes each to allow parents to visit multiple classes for siblings.

We appreciate your feedback so please remember to write your comments on a sticky note before leaving. Thank you.

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
(STARTS THIS WEEK!)



Digital News!

PROJECT PADZ

- Our new iPads have arrived and are currently being set up with class apps etc. but hope to be in classes being used for beginning of next week.
- Our digital leaders group have started a project exploring internet safety. They are making a film which they will share with the school once completed.

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...



Green Screen by do ink

This is an app which allows the children to create pictures and video clips using any background they wish.

New Approaches to Reporting



Our new reporting format has now been issued to most classes. Room 1 will receive theirs on Monday 20th March. Thank you to those people who managed to complete the short feedback task during parents evening. I will collate the responses and share them with everyone once the Room 1 parents have had the opportunity to comment on their Parent Evening.

Red Nose Day Activities

Bairns' Boorachie will be **selling red noses from 20th March at playtime (£1 each)**. Pupils will only be allowed to buy 1 initially to allow everyone a chance to get one. Later in the week pupils will be allowed to purchase more if they wish.

Dress up day - Friday 24th March - Red Nose theme - Anything related to Red Nose Day is acceptable so I have encouraged the children to be creative with what they have at home rather than buying something to wear. £1 donation to the charity for dressing up please.

Bairns' Boorachie are also organising a **Red Nose Photobooth for Friday 24th March**. 50p per shot. Children will receive a 4 x 6 photograph to keep (this will be after red nose day due to printing and delivery). Each class will get a turn to visit the booth during the school day on Friday.

RED NOSE DAY



Reach for the Stars!

Academic reporting allows us to track and share information about academic achievements. However we are all very aware that our youngsters achieve far wider than what they perhaps do in school. You may be aware of our previous display in the downstairs corridor titled 'Reach for the Stars'. This was introduced a few years ago to encourage the children to share their achievements within the school. Through discussion we have agreed that these have lost their 'sparkle' a little as nobody paid any attention to them on the wall. For this reason the children have all moved their stars to their classroom doors so they see them and think about them every day. The nursery have also moved theirs to a more visible place within the room. We are encouraging the children to think about wider achievement out with school. Ideally these should be non-academic achievements and can be absolutely anything from something they achieve through a club e.g. football/dancing or it could be something they have achieved at home e.g. learning to cook a meal or riding their bike/roller skating. There are endless opportunities for the children to achieve something and we want them to recognise their wider achievements and tell us about them! This is not just from the children... All staff have a star on the door of wherever they work most and I am hopeful that Parents will share their achievements too on a group star on our school notice board. It is important for the children to recognise the achievements that the adults around them make. It is currently blank and I am absolutely sure that we have parents who achieve different things all the time. We want to hear about it!

The children and adults in our school are encouraged to change the achievement on their star at any time.

Pupil Groups

As part of our improvements here at Inverallochy we have been looking at shared leadership across our school. We have now implemented a shared leadership approach to our Pupil Groups. You may be aware that unlike previously when each pupil group had a couple of reps from each class we now have ***all of our pupils*** as part of a group.





Why are pupil groups important in our school?

Collaborative leadership at all levels helps to develop a shared vision for change and improvement which is meaningful and relevant to the context of the school within its community.

Leaders at all levels motivate and inspire others to sustain collective commitment to the shared vision through daily actions.

Through effective leadership at all levels, our school community works together to turn our shared vision into a sustained reality.

Q1 1.3 Leadership of Change

How good is our School?

4th Edition



Why is everyone in a pupil group?

We all have a part to play in moving our school forward.

We all have ideas and suggestions.

We all have different skills and interests.

The whole school being part of a pupil group allows everyone to have their say rather than a few reps from each class.

What are the benefits of pupil groups?

Whole school pupil group time allows:

- ✓ Pupils to share their views and ideas on a regular basis
- ✓ Pupils to work alongside pupils from other stages
- ✓ Staff to build relationships with children who are not in their class
- ✓ Focused fortnightly meetings for taking new initiatives forward - rather than reps missing class lessons to attend meetings
- ✓ More than one initiative to be tackled across the school at the same time
- ✓ Pupils to develop their teamwork and leadership skills



The History o' us a!



Our coffee morning was a huge success! Thank you very much to everyone who came and contributed to adding names to our photos. It is great to see them come alive. The laughter and memories shared in the hall that day was a pleasure to watch. The name labels will be added underneath pictures where possible as part of our new display.



A huge well done to the Pupil Council, aka Bairns' Boorachie, for all their efforts and thank you to our staff for helping with the teas/coffees etc. They were even keen to do the washing up!



I think this is something the Pupil Council, or another group, would like to do again so I am sure this will be appearing on one of our agendas in the near future.

Watch this space!

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.

I hope you all have an enjoyable Easter Break when it comes and that the sun shines for the children to get out to play!

Mrs Edwards