

September Newsletter

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



I can hardly believe this is week 6 of the term already! Where has the time gone?

Fit Like Thursday (29th September)

Please note change of date!

For those of you who are new to our school, Fit Like Days are an opportunity to come in and visit your child's class to share in their learning. On this occasion the classes are choosing their own focus for this visit rather than a whole school focus. ***Due to space constrictions, a maximum of 2 adults per child please.*** Each class visit lasts 20 minutes.

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

Nursery will hold a sharing the learning day next term.

Diary Dates

Thurs 22nd Sept Parents Evening +
Book Fair

Thurs 29th Sept Fit Like Thursday!

Thurs 6th Oct Nursery Parents
evening (Anti-pre
pupils)

Fri 7th Oct Last day of term 1

Mon 24th Oct First day of term 2

Wed 2nd Nov Parent Council
Meeting

Thurs 10th Nov Parent Council
Christmas Fair
(Evening)

Fri 11th Nov Remembrance Day -
Short service for
school at the
memorial 10.50 am

Staff changes

Interviews for our vacant Pupil Support Posts were held on Monday 19th. Brenda Whyte and Lynn Masson have been put forward as preferred candidates and hopefully once all the relevant HR checks are completed they will take up their new roles.

WELCOME TO OUR STAFF TEAM!

We were very fortunate to have 4 Academy Students spend a week with us during this month. It was great to see how they had grown up since being pupils here themselves. The staff all complimented Aaron, Caitlyn, Isla and Chloe on their attitude, hard work and how helpful they were. The children particularly liked having 'new faces' to help them with their work in the class and outside in the playground. Hopefully their week here at Inverallochy will have enthused them. Perhaps one day they may well return as teachers!



Reminders ...

- Please complete survey on cursive script by Monday 26th September to ensure your views are heard.
- Please ensure all belongings are labelled as too much time is being spent on looking for and returning lost property.
- School work will not be given for children having holidays during term time.



Our Newly Elected Pupil Council

Our pupil council this session consists of 15 pupils from P1 - P7. Eight of the members have continued on from last year and the additional 6 have been voted on by their classmates. This allows us to have 3 representatives from each class. Our Pupil Council 'Chair People' are Charlie Buchan and Louise Masson and our Secretary is Sophie Whyte.

Two Pre-school children will join the pupil council towards Easter time.



They are currently working on fundraising ideas to buy more iPads for our school.

Our Newly Elected Eco Committee

Our eco council this session also consists of 15 pupils from P1-P7 and it is a mixture of some continued members and some new pupils too. New members had to complete an application to Miss Anderson to join the Eco Committee.

There are also parent members of this committee. If this is something you would like to be part of, please contact the school so that your details can be passed on to Miss Anderson.



Our eco committee are currently looking through the information required to partake in the ECO Schools scheme.

New Pupil Group!



In the near future, Mrs West is going to be looking for volunteers to join her new pupil group focusing on the Rights Respecting Schools Initiative. As a school we have spent a lot of time and effort in integrating children's rights and responsibilities into our everyday school life. This initiative allows the school to receive credit for the great work that it has been doing and also to develop this further. We are hoping to achieve level 1 in this award during this current session.

Parent Council AGM

Our Parent Council held their AGM on Wednesday 7th September. The parent council members are as follows:

- Chair Person - Donna Pestic
- Secretary - Sarah Ritchie
- Treasurer - Lynsey Gammack

Pearl Morrison, Claire Buchan, Sarah Duthie, Diane Sim, Julie Stephen, Alison Tait, Fiona McKinstry, Marnie Laird, Jane Campbell, Karen Johnston

The next parent council meeting is Wednesday 2nd November. Please remember to contact any member of the parent council if you wish for something to be brought up at the meeting or add your comment/question to the suggestion box in the front hall beside the school office.



Music Makers in Rm 6!

Our pupils in Room 6 have been working with Mr Allroyd. Each Monday he has been visiting our school and teaching the children all about the guitar. This has been a great experience for the pupils. Here are some of their thoughts...

"It's been fun learning how to play the guitar."

(Chantelle)

"Every time I strum the guitar a unique sound comes out."

(Isla)

"I can't wait until the end of our lessons so we can perform in front of others."

(Natalia)

"We have been learning the E minor chord."

(Christopher)

"It's good finding out different sounds you can make on the guitar."

(Archie)

At the end of their block of learning, Room 6 will be inviting their parents in to show off their new skill! (Info to follow)





Exploring our Community

Room 3 and our nursery have been out exploring our local environment as part of their learning. The nursery have visited the local library and also the small play park. Plans are in place to venture to the big playpark now too! Thank you to parent helpers who give up their free time to accompany our youngest pupils.

Room 3 have been 'doon i shorie' as part of their under the sea topic. They had a great time exploring and even managed to bring a live crab back with them. Mrs West let them keep it as a pet for the day before safely returning it to its salty, wet home! It is great to see our pupils utilising the rich learning environment right on our doorstep.

Digital News!

- Our pupil council have started to gather ideas for fundraising for our digital up-grade!
- We have a total board in the front hall so that everyone can see how we are doing
- Our P1-4 staff attended training on computer science at Early and First level. They are going to share their learning with other staff members.

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...



A+ Spelling - (Thank you to Alfie's Mum for suggesting this fun way of working on your spelling words at home.)



Special well done to **Mackenzie (P7)** who has been using last month's app **Hopscotch**. He has been able to make up 2 different games using coding! I was particularly impressed when he showed me his games as I had tried to 'have a go' and it was a whole different language to me! I think Mackenzie will perhaps have to teach me how to do it!



Well Done!

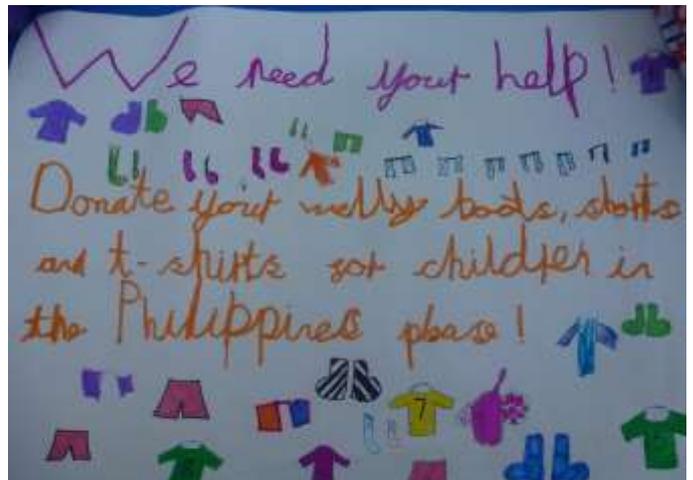
Well done to the boys and girls (and parents) who represented our school at the Doors Open event and Fraserburgh Heritage Centre.

I know the heritage centre were very grateful to the children and their families giving up their Saturday to come along. There were many positive compliments about the bairns from members of the community and Councillor Buchan too.

Excellent ambassadors for our school!

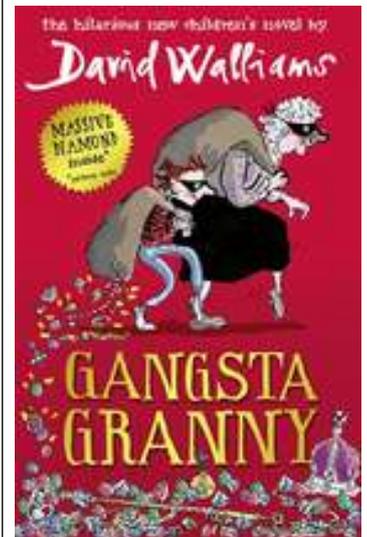
Philippines Appeal

Do you have pairs of wellies that don't fit anymore lying about your house? Or perhaps short and t-shirts that the children have outgrown or do not wear anymore. Please donate them to those who need them in the Philippines. Lynsey Gammack has kindly asked if we can collect these items through the school. Any donations can be sent in a carrier bag, clearly labelled for the appeal. Thank you.



Some exciting news...

Last year, you may remember that P1- P7 all visited the panto in Aberdeen. We all had a great time and felt that the whole school outing was something that everyone enjoyed. However given the potential weather issues during December for a Christmas visit I suggested that we look into a summer whole school trip. With this in mind, and in consultation with staff and our fundraising committee we have booked a trip to the HMT theatre in Aberdeen in June to see famous comedian and children's author David Walliams' Show 'Gangster Granny' based on his popular novel. It is a family show which will appeal to all ages. The day itself is very much in the planning stage, however I wanted to let parents know as soon as possible to avoid double booking as happened with the panto tickets.



It certainly has been a busy month! 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. Enjoy the October holidays when they arrive. Hopefully this pleasant weather continues.

Mrs Edwards