



Guiding, Uniting and Promoting Success

Glenurquhart Primary News

Issue 9 – end April'19

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A warm welcome back after the Easter break. We hope you all enjoyed our beautiful Spring weather and some family holiday time. As always, we have another busy term planned ahead. There are many dates noted in the events below all of which can be kept up to date with, on the calendar page of our school website. This is regularly updated to support parents: <http://www.glenurquhartprimary.org.uk/calendar/>

CLASS EVENTS Please follow the class blogs on the school website for more information and regular updates.

Kodaly The last of these singing and music sessions takes place Monday, 29th April.

Shinty - The second shinty event takes place on Thursday, 2nd May at Bught Park for those involved in the team. Good luck!

Generation Science - We are delighted to welcome Generation Science to complete their 'Power to the People' electricity workshops with the two P6/7 classes on Thursday, 2nd May.



Swimming - All the Primary 4 and 5 children will go swimming next term on a Thursday afternoon starting 2nd May and finishing on 27th June.

Ceald Rocks - These hands on workshops on rocks, fossils, volcanoes, local landforms and climate change have been booked for the two P6/7 classes on Tuesday, 7th May.

These tie in with learning in Science around Materials, Forces, Planet Earth and Topical Science and will allow the children to handle the various materials, see presentations around real-life volcanoes and even see a real volcanic eruption!



Amnesty International We are delighted to welcome Elena Soper, an Amnesty International speaker to complete a presentation on 'An Introduction to Human Rights and Amnesty International' to the whole school on Wednesday, 8th May. This will support our work towards the children's understanding of the Rights of the Child.

Care Centre Links As part of our continuing work with the Care Centre, the P3 children will visit to complete crafts activities on the afternoon of Thursday, 9th May.

Safe Highlanders The P7 children will again have the opportunity to take part in this excellent event which raises awareness of dangers and promotes a healthy and safe attitude towards risk. It takes place at Cameron Barracks on Monday, 13th May.

SSPCA Visit Unfortunately, the SSPCA were not able to attend for their visit last term. This has therefore been rescheduled for Tuesday, 14th May when they will present their robotic animals workshops with the children.

Nursery visit The nursery will continue their visits to the school on Friday, 17th May when they will look at road safety with the P1 children.



Sports We have primarily booked Friday, 31st May as our whole school Sports Day. This will be organised with Mrs Woodhouse and take place up at the High School as in previous years. It will run from 9-12.10pm and parents/family members are welcome to come along and watch.

LOCH INSH INFORMATION EVENING

It is that time of year again when we start looking towards next year's P7 residential trip. We have preliminary booked Loch Insh again for Tuesday, 24th to Friday, 27th September and will hold an information evening for this in the P6/7 classroom on **Thursday, 2nd May at 5.30pm** (prior to the next Parent Council meeting.)

PARENT OPEN MORNING

We would like to invite all parents and family members in to an open morning on **Thursday, 9th May from 9-10am**. This will focus on our work to improve spelling within our improvement areas this year and start with a short 20 minute presentation in the hall followed by the opportunity to walk around and see work in your children's classes. This will demonstrate our new way of teaching spelling up the school and show word building activities for the infant end.



GROUNDFORCE DAY

As we did last year, we are hoping to update and rejuvenate our outdoor areas for the nicer weather. This will take place on **Friday, 10th May**. We would appreciate any support to help us with painting, moving, building, planting for any amount of time throughout this day (between 9 and 2pm). We hope following this, to have re-established our curricular areas (Numeracy, Literacy, Technology and Music), refreshed the painting of various equipment and tidied up the loose materials. Children are welcome to bring a packed lunch and stay with their parents and play/paint after school finishes at 12.10pm also. *Bring your own paintbrush and tools if possible.* Tea/coffee and cakes will be provided.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

<http://www.glenurquhartprimary.org.uk/our-school/improvement-plan/>

Our improvement targets for this session are regularly shared in the posters and more detailed information on the above page. Updates on our progress towards these targets are then given in each newsletter.

It is now time for us to consider reporting on our progress and achievements for 2018-19 in our annual Standards and Quality report and then plan for improvement for session 2019-20, both of which are published at the end of June. Feedback gathered throughout the year including from workshops and at parent meeting events have been gathered and are used to support this evaluation. We also annually give parents an opportunity to feed into this in more detail through a parent

questionnaire. We had 42 responses to this last year which is approximately half of our families. We would encourage you to add your comments through the online form below which should take only a few minutes.

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

It would be very helpful if you could take a few minutes to complete the online survey by following the link: <https://forms.gle/CUnwYtveEnXDCMLk7> to add to this. Paper copies are available from the school office.

HELP TOWARDS SCHOOL MEALS AND CLOTHING and PUPIL EQUITY FUNDING

We would like to encourage any families who are entitled to support with meals and clothing to apply for this. We are aware that there may be a number of families who are unaware that they are entitled to this support, especially for those who are in Primary 1-3 who already and will continue to receive free school meals.

For every child who is registered for free school meals, the school also receives Pupil Equity Funding money to help us provide the best possible opportunities for your child's learning and support your child to achieve their potentials. This money is given to schools as part of the Scottish Attainment Challenge and we plan and evaluate how we use it through our school improvement planning process. This year it has helped increase our digital provision with more Chromebooks and Ipads, supported extra teaching and learning in mathematics, provided the kit go-kart building experience, provided free break-time and paid for outside agencies such as, Live N Learn to visit the school and complete work around Growth Mindset. Further information and the application process can be found here: [Highland Council - Free School Meal and Assistance with Clothing](#)

PARENT COUNCIL <http://www.glenurquhartprimary.org.uk/for-parents/parent-council/>

Our next Parent Council takes place on **Thursday, 2nd May at 6.30pm** in the school upper classrooms. All parents and carers are warmly invited to attend. Next year, we will require a new **secretary and treasurer** and the parent council are very keen to have new parents attend. If you have any questions or would like to find out more about what is involved, please get in touch with Lynn Milton through the email: glenurquhartprimarypc@gmail.com

The Parent Council have also agreed to change the date of the **School Summer Fayre** to **Saturday, 29th June 2-4pm** in the school grounds.

DRESS DOWN DAY Pupils wishing to 'dress down' pay £1 and can come in to school in casual clothes. We continue to ask that no football colours are worn as part of this and also remind parents that this is **optional**. The next dress down date will be **Friday, 24th May**. This is the 2nd last week due to Sports the following Friday.



SCHOOL CLOSURES To check for information on schools closures or other details out with school hours, telephone the schools information line to access the latest pre-recorded message(s) from the Head Teacher.

The number is **0800 564 2272 + the school's PIN 04 2130**. Information is also posted on the website: <https://www.highland.gov.uk/schoolclosures> and is regularly updated on local radio station MFR.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

A reminder that these are regularly updated on the Google Calendar on the website:

<http://www.glenurquhartprimary.org.uk/calendar/>

Thursday, 2 nd May	Generation Science workshops for P6/7 Shinty 10-3pm P4s and P5s Swimming 5.30pm Loch Insh meeting 6.30pm Parent Council
Monday, 6 th May	School closed for May holiday
Tuesday, 7 th May	Ceald Rocks for P6/7 classes
Wednesday, 8 th May	Amnesty International speaker at assembly
Thursday, 9 th May	9-10am Parent Open Morning P4/5 Swimming 1.45 P3s visiting Care Centre
Friday, 10 th May	Groundforce Day - garden painting and tidy up
Monday, 13 th May	Safe Highlanders P7s
Tuesday, 14 th May	SSPCA re-arranged visit
Thursday, 16 th May	P4/5 Swimming
Thursday, 23 rd May	P4/5 Swimming
Friday, 24 th May	Dress Down Day
Thursday, 30 th May	P4/5 Swimming
Friday, 31 st May	Sports Day
Monday, 3 rd June	School closed to pupils for Inset training

Term Dates 2018/19 A downloadable calendar can be found here:- [Downloadable Calendar](#)

Open	Close
Tuesday, 23 rd April - for all	Thursday, 4 th July

INSET DAYS - Staff training Monday, 3rd June 2019

MAY DAY HOLIDAY - Monday 6th May, 2019

