



# Glenurquhart Primary

## News/ Cuairt-litir

Guiding, Uniting and Promoting Success

Issue 6 – end Apr' 21

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### Article 42:

Knowledge of rights.

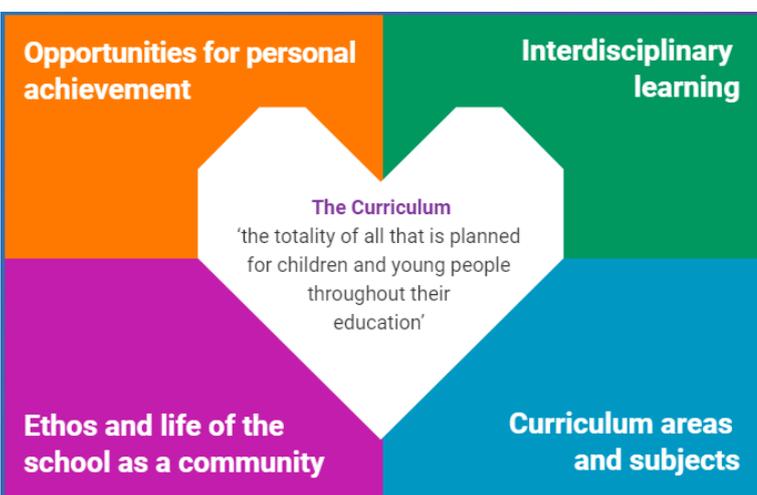
*\*The speech bubbles throughout our newsletter refer to the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child and are there to help families and parents become more familiar with these. The children have helped to map these to our learning within the school. More information can be found here; <https://www.unicef.org.uk/what-we-do/un-convention-child-rights/> There is also further information on our Family Learning website, with weekly activities relating to a specific right. As a school, we are currently working towards our Gold Rights Respecting Schools Award. We encourage the children in Glenurquhart Primary to be **human rights defenders** and wish to support parents as **duty bearers** in understanding, respecting, protecting and fulfilling children and young people's rights.\**

It is hard to believe that when I last sent out a newsletter, I was wishing you a Merry Christmas and looking forward to the New Year and all that we had planned for the January term. Little did we know, that another lockdown would ensue. Flexibility had to be key to allow us to continue to support the children in their learning, using lessons from the previous lockdown, ongoing feedback from families and questionnaire responses to aim to make this period of home learning the best we could. My thanks again to all families and the children for their support in this and to our excellent staff team who worked tirelessly to again change their practices and support all.

### LEARNING APPROACH GOING FORWARD/ AN T-SLIGHE AIR ADHART AIRSON IONNSACHADH

It now seems to be such a quick year however, as we go into our final term, we have lots of fun experiences planned for the children. In aiming to increase our learning across curricular areas and re-establish a whole school ethos, we have chosen to complete 'Focus Fortnights' across all classes for this term. Learning in each class will focus around a given theme with all coming together to share key learning and celebrate achievements at weekly online assemblies. Planning for learning experiences will be around the four contexts (shown in

Article 28: The right to education.



the picture opposite) as set out by Scottish Government in their refreshed narrative on Curriculum for Excellence. More information on this can be found at; <https://scotlandscurriculum.scot/> As such, we will aim to provide an enriched curriculum that fits our school community and our unique context and allows the children to continue to develop the four capacities; successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.

We have already begun these looking at Easter

and Spring in the final week last term and this past week within the school. The four context learning grid for this has been shared on the News page. Future 'Focus Fortnights' are below and learning grids for these will also be shared on our News page;

- 26<sup>th</sup> April – 14<sup>th</sup> May (extended due to May closure days) – Sustainable Development Goals
- 17<sup>th</sup> May – 28<sup>th</sup> May – Woodlands
- 31<sup>st</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June – Digital Schools
- 14<sup>th</sup> June – 25<sup>th</sup> June – Sports (linked with Olympic Games)

These have been planned to tie in with upcoming events and developments within the school. Each class will choose areas from the four contexts grid that relate to their level and interests. Class blogs will continue to run to share experiences with parents so please continue to follow these.

If you feel you could contribute ideas, time or skills to any of these contexts, please get in touch with me [Kerrie.laird@highland.gov.uk](mailto:Kerrie.laird@highland.gov.uk). We would love to incorporate these.

### **P7 TRANSITION OUTWARD BOUND INPUT**

We are delighted to be offered a session from Outward Bound for all the P7 children. On Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> April, an instructor from Outward Bound will join us to complete various outdoor activities and games similar to those completed in residential visits. These will be focussed around transition and the values of Glen Urquhart High School. The P7 children at Cannich Bridge and Balnain Primary will also receive similar activities that will give all the P7 children a common experience to share and discuss when they are able to all come together.

### **GMTs**

The Gaelic Medium class are taking part in a Gaelic Dragon's Den in the hope to run a social enterprise to raise funds for Glen Urquhart Care Centre. They have submitted a bid for investment funding and if successful, they will be selling t-shirts with Gaelic slogans to raise funds. We'll keep you updated on the Gaelic class blog and our News page.

### **FAMILY LEARNING/IONNSACHADH TEAGHLACH**

<https://sites.google.com/glenurquharthigh.org.uk/family-learning-gups/home>

To support ongoing family learning as we have been over the last few years (instead of set homework), this term we will provide weekly resources and activities related to our Focus Fortnights. These are highlighted on the News page each Monday and can be accessed on the link above. Furthermore, we will continue to have weekly activities related to the Right of the Week which is also linked with our 'Wonder of the Week' question and Picture News resource. These are also posted within our Family Learning page.

If you have any trouble with the site or questions related to this, please email the Head Teacher; [kerrie.laird@highland.gov.uk](mailto:kerrie.laird@highland.gov.uk)



### **SUSTRANS BIG PEDAL 26<sup>th</sup> April-30<sup>th</sup> April**

As part of our Sustainable Development Goals focus and in supporting active travel initiatives within the community, we have registered the school to take part in the Sustrans Big Pedal. More information on this was posted recently on the News page –

<https://202021gupsnews.wordpress.com/2021/04/2>

[2/sustrans-big-pedal/](https://sustrans-big-pedal/) This is a UK challenge for schools to encourage active, healthy, sustainable journeys

[Article 24:](#) The right to the best possible health.

to school. All schools taking part will be entered into daily prize draws for rewards if over 15% of the school takes an active journey on each day of the challenges. Prizes up for grabs include accessories and equipment such as scooters and bikes. We will be recording journeys in school and registering them so get travelling! Active journeys to school – walking, cycling, wheeling or scooting – will all count as a journey in the challenge (including from the school park if children live too far away to travel the full journey.) If parents travel actively too as supporter journeys also count towards our class totals.

### **PARKING/PARCADH**

We continue to ask parents and family members who are collecting their children from school to reduce disruption to our neighbours by not parking on the St. Drostans side of the school but instead parking at the play park and making the short walk up. We would also encourage parents to park away from the main gate entrance. Children continue to be reminded to walk out of the gates and walk bikes to the nearest pavements to help ensure safety in these pick up areas.



**No parking**

### **KODALY**

We are delighted to be able to continue these music sessions again this year for P2/3 and P3/4, connecting with instructors through Google Meet. The material this year has been altered to avoid singing and shared equipment in line with Covid-19 guidance. These will take place on Thursday morning for a four week block starting on May, 27<sup>th</sup>.



### **GAELIC NURSERY/ SGOIL-ÀRAICH**

Children from P3-7 started back in their new classrooms with the completion of the installation of the new modular units. Plans are ongoing for work to now turn the old P3-4 classroom into a Gaelic Nursery and we continue to liaise with Highland Council to promote this.

### **OUTDOOR CLOTHING and LOCAL AREA VISITS/CUID-AODAICH TAOBH A-MUIGH AGUS TURSAN DHAN SGIRE IONADAIL**

As restrictions ease, we are now in a position to ask for parental volunteers to support and enable us to arrange visits within the wider local area. This will include promoted use of Craigmonie Forest. We continue to ask parents to consider sending children with waterproof jackets (and trousers if necessary) and wellies if possible, dependent on the weather.

[Article 31:](#)

Leisure, play and culture.

[Article 31:](#) Leisure, play and culture.

### **PLAYGROUND/RAON CLUICH**

We continue to separate the children in their class bubbles within the playground to support risk mitigations related to Covid-19. After discussion with the older class, it has been agreed to keep classes at the front and rear of the school and to rotate them on fortnightly basis from front to back and to rotate on a weekly basis the area for resources. We have added new resources to again create a music wall, basketball nets in two areas, building blocks, balls, rackets, den building, loose parts play and sand and water play. These have been well received by the children.

## PARENT COUNCIL/ COMHAIRLE NAM PARANT

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

Our next Parent Council meeting will take place online on **Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> May at 6.45pm**. Minutes for previous meetings and upcoming agendas can be found on the link above. If you would like to attend, have any questions or would like to find out more about what is involved, please get in touch with our Chairperson, Jenny Neill through the email: [glenurquhartprimarypc@gmail.com](mailto:glenurquhartprimarypc@gmail.com)

[Article 5](#): The rights and responsibilities of parents and carers.

[Article 24](#): The right to the best possible health.

### ILLNESS/ TINNEAS

It is important that you contact the school by 9.15 each morning to inform us if your child will not be attending. We also need to record a reason for this.

### COVID-19

Various information has been added to the school News page to support parents and keep them up to date with any changes. Advice can be sought from NHS Inform <https://www.nhsinform.scot/> or on 111. No one should attend school if they have any COVID-19 symptoms. These are: a new continuous cough; fever/high temperature; a change in/or loss of taste or smell. Please can we remind parents that if any member of the family experiences symptoms, *the whole family should isolate until testing is complete*. Risk assessments to support safe practices within the school have been posted on the News page.

### SICKNESS OR DIARRHOEA

Children experiencing sickness or diarrhoea should be kept at home and remain off school until 48 hours from the last case of vomiting or diarrhoea.

### SCHOOL CLOSURES/ SGOIL A' DUNADH

Updated guidance was added to the school website this week. To check for information on school closures or other details you can contact the school information number for a 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/ LEABHAR-LATHA

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

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



April 26 <sup>th</sup> -April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Sustrans Big Pedal – travel actively to school
April 26 <sup>th</sup> – May 14 <sup>th</sup>	Focus Fortnight – Sustainable Development Goals
Thursday, 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Outward Bound work with P7
Friday, 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Dress Down Day
Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	School closed for May holiday
Thursday, 6 <sup>th</sup> May	School closed – Inset training and polling station
May 17 <sup>th</sup> - May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Focus Fortnight - Woodlands
Monday, 17 <sup>th</sup> May	P1 transition for nursery children
Thursday, 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Kodaly for P2/3 and P3/4
Friday, 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Dress Down Day

**Term Dates 2020/21** A downloadable calendar can be found here:- [Downloadable Calendar](#)

<b>Open</b>	<b>Close</b>
Wednesday, 17 <sup>th</sup> February – staff only Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> February – for all	Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> April
Monday, 19 <sup>th</sup> April – for all	Friday, 25 <sup>th</sup> June

**INSET DAYS** – Staff training - Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**MAY DAY HOLIDAY** – Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021