



Glenurquhart Primary

News/ Cuairt-litir

Guiding, Uniting and Promoting Success

Issue 6 – end Dec' 21

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I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all families a very Merry Christmas and send our best wishes for a happy, healthy New Year. We hope that you all manage to enjoy the Christmas break.

As the situation with Covid remains quite unpredictable, please let me also reassure families that we are here to support and are working to provide the best consistency and learning experiences we can for the children. We thank you for your ongoing understanding and support.



Class Events/ Tachartasan

Please follow the class blogs and our News page on the school website for more information and regular updates.

Health and Wellbeing Week 6th-14th January

We aim to start the next term with our annual Health and Wellbeing focus again. This year we will have two themes – **Digital Wellbeing** and **Physical Activity**. Each day classes will complete learning related to both of these including learning how to stay safe online, about cyber resilience and the importance of activity to our physical health. As part of this Robert Quigley, a Collaborative Lead with a focus on Digital Learning will join on Wednesday, 12th January for our weekly assembly to share information on Internet Safety to all the children.

The children will also complete daily physical activities including Daily Mile challenges. Please could we therefore ask that all children come with **suitable trainers and jackets for this.**



Following an audit of the wellbeing indicators with the children, **'Achieving'** came out as one to focus on. We are therefore going to be looking at what achievement means with the children as well as, revisiting learning around a growth mindset and positivity. The whole school will concentrate on what success and achievement means to each child with everyone being encouraged to model giving and receiving compliments. Teaching staff will also consider this in terms of feedback given in class with January used to boost the children and 'flood them with praise' rather than always giving a next step, following a very turbulent time for many.

The Health and Wellbeing committee have also been focussing on this and are looking at how we can award achievements. We are also going to restart our Achievement Tree that we have previously had in the hall and ask each class over next term to take a turn at sharing wider achievements with all.

School Improvement/ Plana Leasachaidh na Sgoil



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



We were delighted to be awarded the Unicef UK's Rights Respecting School Award at **Gold: Rights Respecting**. The Award recognises achievement in putting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart of a school's planning, policies and practice. A Rights Respecting School is a community where children's rights are learned, taught, practised, respected, protected and promoted. We will continue to promote rights within the school and develop this further. As we move into next term we will now begin to focus on **Digital Literacy** beginning with our Health and Wellbeing week as detailed above and also looking at our Digital Strategy.

January home learning focus: **Health and Wellbeing**



Family Learning/Homework / Obair Dachaigh

<https://sites.google.com/glenurquharthigh.org.uk/familylearninggups2122/home>

For January, home learning activities will have a focus on health and wellbeing to tie in with our focus week detailed above. Each week there will be challenges and activities posted on the Family Learning site along with details of how you can support at home.

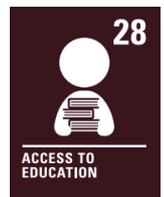


Gaelic Nursery/ Sgoil-àraich

We hope to have the Gaelic nursery completion by the end of term. Interviews will take place to fill the Early Years Practitioner posts this week also. Following this we will liaise with Highland Council to discuss our next steps and how we can move towards an official opening date of the nursery.

Gaelic Catchment Consultation

A reminder that views around the recent Gaelic catchment can still be sent in to Education.Consultations@highland.gov.uk until Friday, 4th February.



Gaelic Secondary provision

The Highland Council have made a commitment to provide continuing Gaelic provision at the High School when the current P7s transition next August. I wish to reassure parents that this is still going ahead and I will be meeting with the High School and Council Gaelic Support Officers in January to discuss arrangements for this and plan transition in relation to this. I will update in the new term.



Free School Meals for P5-7

Last year the Scottish Government announced a commitment to provide Free School Meals for all Primary age children to be delivered in a phased approach by August 2022. From August 2021, the universal provision of free school meals for all children in P1-P3 was extended to include P4 children, this will **extend to P5 as from January 2022** when pupils return from the Christmas break.

Please also be aware that we will start next session on Week 1, with a change on the Thursday, 6th January to fish and chips due to delivery difficulties. Menus can be found in the Parents section of the school website.

Parent Council/ Comhairle nam Parant

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

Our next Parent Council meeting takes place through Google Meet on **Tuesday, 25th January at 6.45pm**. Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/shx-hfka-xkk> This can also be accessed through our Google calendar on the school website. We hope that more people will be able to join us and support the school. 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 Kath Fraser, our Parent Council chairperson, through the email: Glenurquhart.Primary@HighlandPC.co.uk



LOST PROPERTY

We have a number of items of lost property without names in bags. If you have items missing, please can you encourage your child to look for these. I will post photos later this week on the school news page and if you recognise items please let the school know.



Illness/ Tinneas

Children who are unwell for any reason should not attend school. It is important that you contact the school by 9.15 each morning to inform us if your child will not be attending – 01456 450458. We also need to record a reason for this.

Head Lice

We have had a few outbreaks of head lice recently in different classes. Head Lice are a common problem in school aged children. They can't be prevented, but regular checking ensures early detection and treatment if necessary. Parents and carers should check their children's head once a week during hair washing. You need your usual shampoo, conditioner, and a detection comb – ask your local pharmacist to recommend a suitable one. Remember that you are looking for living moving lice, the only evidence that your child is infected. If you find a living louse, ask your local pharmacist, school nurse, health visitor or GP for advice regarding treatment.

COVID-19

Up to date advice can be sought from NHS Inform <https://www.nhsinform.scot/> or on 111. If they have any symptoms relating to Covid, we ask that they do not attend school and book a PCR test. Other members of the household should also isolate in this case.

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

During incremental weather, we try to get information to parents as early as possible once we are aware of conditions, transport and staff availability. To check for information on school closures or other details you can contact the schools 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.

Dress Down Day / Latha as aonais aodach sgoile

The last Friday of each month we normally do a 'dress down' day. Pupils wishing to 'dress down' are asked to contribute £1 towards school funds **where possible** and can come in to school in casual clothes. We continue to ask that no team colours/kits are worn as part of this and also remind parents that this is **optional**. The next dress down date will be **Friday, 28th January**.

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/>



Tuesday, 21 st December	Class Christmas party afternoon
Wednesday, 22 nd December	School closes at normal times for Christmas break
Thursday, 6 th January	School opens for all at normal times
Thursday, 6 th January – Friday, 14 th January	Health and Wellbeing focus – Digital Wellbeing and Physical Activity
Wednesday, 12 th January	Assembly on Internet Safety with Mr Quigley
Tuesday, 25 th January	Parent Council, 6:45 – 8:00pm Google Meet joining info Video call link: https://meet.google.com/shx-hfka-xkk
Friday, 28 th January	Dress Down Day

Term Dates 2021/22 A downloadable calendar can be found here:- [Downloadable Calendar](#)

Open	Close
Monday, 25 th October – for all	Wednesday, 22 nd December
Thursday, 6 th January – for all	Friday, 18 th February
Wednesday, 23 rd February – staff only	Friday, 1 st April
Thursday 24 th February – for all	
Tuesday, 19 th April – for all	Thursday, 30 th June

***Additional closure day** – June 3rd as part of Jubilee*

Inset Days – Staff training

Wednesday, 23rd February, Thursday, 5th May

May Day Holiday – Monday, 2nd May