



# Glenurquhart Primary

## News/ Cuairt-litir

Guiding, Uniting and Promoting Success

Issue 7 – end Jan' 22

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It has been quite a busy start to the January term with Covid having an impact in most classes across the school. Most classes have now been asked to isolate at some point due to ongoing cases and we really appreciate parents' support and patience in helping us complete these swiftly as well as your understanding while we work with our local Health Protection Team. Please be aware that it is not always feasible to issue emails with every new case so we ask that parents please remain vigilant for symptoms in your child(ren) over the next few weeks and if these develop, seek a PCR test for them.



Within classes we have started the New Year aptly with a Health and Wellbeing focus on Digital Wellbeing and Physical Activity. The children have been enjoying Daily Mile challenges to run the distance into Inverness (P1-3) and round Loch Ness (P4-7) with great success. We also had a very informative assembly

with Mr Quigley discussing our online relationships and how to keep positive and show respect online. This work will continue with the Digital Leaders throughout the school and Mrs Laird will be completing weekly lessons with all classes. We will also complete activities for Safer Internet Day 2022 on 8<sup>th</sup> February. Furthermore, there has been a focus on 'achievement' with the children being 'flooded with praise' following feedback from wellbeing indicator audits. This has been a super start to the year and helped all remain positive and cheerful.



### Class Events/ Tachartasan

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

Kodaly These singing and music sessions return for P3s on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> February for a four week block.

 Fairtrade Fortnight Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> February – Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> March – All classes will learn about the connections with things we eat, drink and wear to those who grow and mine them as part of learning for sustainability and a better world. This continues work classes have completed previously around the Global Goals and COP26 earlier this session. The focus this year is 'Choose the World You Want.'



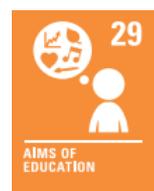
### School Improvement/ Plana Leasachaidh na Sgoil

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

This term we turn our focus to **Digital Literacy** as explained in the opening paragraph, with a whole school focus on Digital Wellbeing.

We will also continue our Fairtrade journey and look towards our **Fair Active Award**.

In the February Inset days, teaching staff will further consider our approaches to **Interdisciplinary Learning** as we aim to promote increased application of learning across subject areas.



We are also making good progress with our establishment of our new **Gaelic nursery** and hope to be able to open for this very soon.

February home learning focus: **Writing**



### **Family Learning/Homework / Obair Dachaigh**

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

For February, home learning activities will now turn to look at developing writing skills with lots of opportunities to create different pieces and discuss ideas posted weekly on the Family Learning site. This is also detailed in our weekly News blog.

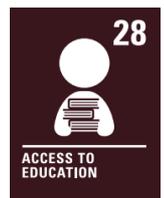


### **Gaelic Nursery/ Sgoil-àraich**

We have made excellent progress with Gaelic nursery. We welcomed Miss Nicolson to our school as Gaelic Early Years Practitioner on 13<sup>th</sup> January. She has been working to resource the nursery and set it up. The second position for Early Years Practitioner had to be re-advertised however, we are delighted to receive applicants for it. We hope to interview for this in the coming weeks. Mrs Laird has also been in touch with Care Inspectorate to receive our registration. Once these are all finalised we hope to be in touch with nursery parents and be able to open to children as soon as possible.

### **Gaelic Catchment Consultation**

A reminder that views around the recent Gaelic catchment can still be sent in to [Education.Consultations@highland.gov.uk](mailto:Education.Consultations@highland.gov.uk) until Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> February. There will also be the opportunity for parents to meet with Education Scotland's, Joan Esson to discuss their views on this on **Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March**. If you wish to take part in this, please email Mrs Laird – [kerrie.laird@highland.gov.uk](mailto:kerrie.laird@highland.gov.uk)



### **P1 Enrolment**

This week, beginning **Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> January** is enrolment week for new Primary 1 children. If your child will be five years of age on or before 28 February 2023, they are eligible to enrol for Primary 1. We have the option for both English and Gaelic Medium enrolment within Glenurquhart Primary School. These can be selected on the enrolment form. The process for enrolment is completed online here; <https://www.highland.gov.uk/enrol> This also contains further information related to enrolment. Our school handbook can be found here: <http://www.glenurquhartprimary.org.uk/school-handbook/> and the P1 padlet we created to support parents last session can be found here; <https://padlet.com/kerrielaireid/84r5gylm3mtve6d8>

### **Gaelic Nursery Enrolment**

Enrolment for our new Gaelic nursery takes place in week commencing **Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> February**. This will also be online. More on this can be found here;

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/11/enrol\\_your\\_child\\_for\\_early\\_learning\\_and\\_childcare](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/878/schools/11/enrol_your_child_for_early_learning_and_childcare)

### **Gaelic Secondary provision**

Provisions for staff and resources are now in place to provide secondary Gaelic provision for the children currently in P7 Gaelic Medium as they move into Glen Urquhart High School. This will form part of transition for those children with information being given out to parents.

## **P7 Residential**

Due to Covid restrictions and uncertainty, it has not been possible to book a P7 residential this session however, we have been looking at alternatives. I am currently hoping to book two day trips to Fairburn Activity Centre for all Primary 7 pupils, to allow the children transition activities similar to those that would have been completed on the residential. I am in the final stages of arranging transport for these and hope to be able to give more information shortly. To allow parents advance warning, these are likely to be £35-40 per day, total of £80, for those who wish to take part and will take place in May.

## **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, 26<sup>th</sup> January at 6.30pm**. Video call link; <https://meet.google.com/fqo-gqtd-itm> 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](mailto:Glenurquhart.Primary@HighlandPC.co.uk)



## **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 119. 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, 25<sup>th</sup> February**.

### 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/>



Monday, 31 <sup>st</sup> January – Friday, 4 <sup>th</sup> February	P1 Enrolment Week online
Monday, 7 <sup>th</sup> February	P3s Kodaly
Monday, 14 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday, 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Gaelic nursery enrolment week online
Monday, 14 <sup>th</sup> February	P3s Kodaly
Monday, 21 <sup>st</sup> February – Friday, 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Fairtrade Fortnight Focus in all classes
Monday, 21 <sup>st</sup> – Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	February break and Wednesday Inset – school closed to pupils
Friday, 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Dress Down Day
Monday, 28 <sup>th</sup> February	P3s Kodaly

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

Open	Close
Thursday, 6 <sup>th</sup> January – for all	Friday, 18 <sup>th</sup> February
Wednesday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> February – staff only	
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> February – for all	Friday, 1 <sup>st</sup> April
Tuesday, 19 <sup>th</sup> April – for all	Thursday, 30 <sup>th</sup> June

**\*Additional closure day** – June 3<sup>rd</sup> as part of Jubilee\*

**Inset Days** – Staff training

Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February, Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> May

**May Day Holiday** – Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May