



Glenurquhart Primary

News/ Cuairt-litir

Guiding, Uniting and Promoting Success

Issue 8 – end Feb' 22

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Over the course of the next few weeks all classes will have a focus on Fairtrade Fortnight. Teaching staff have jointly planned experiences to tie in with this year's theme around 'Climate, Fairtrade and You' around bananas and chocolate. Due to the long weekend, this will take place over the next few weeks to enable the children to take part fully.



We have also continued our Health and Wellbeing focus from pupil feedback with a focus around 'Achievement.' All children in each class will have the opportunity to feedback wider achievements to add on a leaf to our school's new achievement tree in the hall. With Covid mitigations beginning to lift and minimum Covid cases in the school, we will have the first whole school assembly for two years in the hall this week also.

Staffing/Luchd-obrach

Mrs McLean has accepted a secondment closer to home for the remainder of this session and we wish her luck. Unfortunately, this was finalised close to the long weekend and notice for the children was exceptionally short. We apologise for this. Mrs Brown will cover Mrs McLean's class commitments for the remainder of this session and we welcome her to the school.



Parent Meetings

We had scheduled parent meetings originally for last week however, while awaiting Covid updates, we had postponed these, hopeful that we may have been allowed parents in the building. It now seems that these will again be **online** as updates are unlikely to come to allow us to organise these in school before the end of term.

We have therefore rescheduled these to take place afterschool on **Tuesday, 22nd and Wednesday, 23rd March**. Invites to book into these will be sent to the emails we hold next week.

We are aware that some parents have never been in our school and look forward to welcoming parents when we are able to. We have a parent open session scheduled next term and hope that by then this will be possible.

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, 7th February for a four week block.

World Book Day Thursday, 3rd March – We have chosen to celebrate reading on this day by inviting the children to take in their favourite book and a soft toy. We will have various opportunities to share the enjoyment of reading throughout the day.



Euroquiz Four of our Primary 6 pupils will take part in the annual Euroquiz heats on Tuesday, 15th March against other Primary children in Highland. This supports the children in widening their knowledge of Europe and the wider world. Winning teams from all areas progress on to the National Euroquiz Final held in the Debating Chamber of the Scottish Parliament in June. Wishing them the best of luck!



World Gaelic Week This takes place the week commencing 21st March and the children in school will support us in considering the best events we can have to continue to promote Gaelic language within our community. In the lead up to this, we will again begin our 'Phrase of the Fortnight' at weekly assemblies with the children and staff encouraged to use a set phrase over the course of the week (alternating between Gaelic and French.)

Creative Learning Week 28th March-1st April This last week of term will allow us to consider our Creativity again and have lots of ways for the children to consider how they continue to show Creativity, one of our key values within Glenurquhart Primary.

School Improvement/ Plana Leasachaidh na Sgoil

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

During the recent Inset day, we agreed our current draft of the **Relationships and Behaviour Policy** that has brought together pupil ideas and thoughts along with staff training, further research and Highland Council guidelines. This draft policy will be emailed out today and we invite parents to email in any feedback to Mrs Laird – kerrie.laird@highland.gov.uk



We also looked at our current **support programmes** with all new staff to ensure consistency of approach, update staff training and allow teachers to consider what the best form of support for those who are struggling is.

Furthermore we looked at our **Interdisciplinary Planning** process with the teaching staff and jointly planned for our 'People in the Past' whole school context that will be completed following our focus on Fairtrade Fortnight.

As we move into next term we will begin to evaluate this year's actions and plan our continued improvement priorities with parents, children, staff and community members.

March home learning focus: **Reading**



Family Learning/Homework / Obair Dachaigh

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

March will follow on from our fun reading experiences for World Book Day to focus on reading. Various activities and challenges will be posted weekly on the Family Learning site. This is also detailed in our weekly News blog.



Gaelic Nursery/ Sgoil-àraich

We are delighted to have employed Miss Avril Garrow as our second Early Years Practitioner. We hope that Miss Garrow will be able to start with us as soon as possible.

We also received our Care Inspectorate registration last week, making our nursery now official. Enrolments have been received and as soon as resources arrive, we hope to be in touch with parents to arrange children to start.



Gaelic Catchment Consultation

Mrs Esson from Education Scotland will meet with parents who have expressed an interest, children and staff on Thursday, 3rd March to discuss the Gaelic catchment consultation

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, 26th April at 6.30pm**. Video call link; <https://meet.google.com/fgo-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



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.

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, 25th March**

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, 28 th February	P3s Kodaly
Monday, 21 st February – Friday, 11 th March	Fairtrade Fortnight Focus in all classes
Thursday, 3 rd March	World Book Day Gaelic Catchment Consultation
Monday, 7 th March	P3s Kodaly
Tuesday, 15 th March	Euroquiz for P6s involved
Monday, 21 st March – Friday, 25 th March	World Gaelic Week focus
Friday, 25 th March	Dress Down Day
Monday, 28 th March – Friday, 1 st April	Creative Learning Week
Friday, 1 st April	School closes at normal times for Easter break
Tuesday, 19 th April	School returns at normal times for all

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

Open	Close
Wednesday, 23 rd February – staff only	
Thursday 24 th February – for all	Friday, 1 st April
Tuesday, 19 th April – for all	Thursday, 30 th June

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

Inset Days – Staff training

Thursday, 5th May

May Day Holiday – Monday, 2nd May