**Ballater School**

**Home Learning Update Friday 15th January 2021**

Firstly, a big well done to all our learners, parents and staff for making such a brilliant start to home learning part 2! It as been amazing to see all the work you have been sending back, everyone attending your class “Meets” and some of you attending individual meetings with Mrs Bull.

**Google Meets- Next Week**

It has been great to see everyone on the Google Classroom Meets this week, even after only two sessions we can see everyone getting to grips with the technology and settling into tasks.

Going forward, teachers will be using these all together sessions to cover mainly our Listening and Talking outcomes of the curriculum which are just as important as subjects such as numeracy and literacy.

**Google Meet times next week will be as follows:**

P1-3 – Monday and Friday at 9.30am

P3-6 – Tuesday and Friday at 11.30am

P6/7 – Monday and Thursday at 1.30pm

We look forward to seeing everyone again at these times.

**Working Hard**

Like all our families, our school staff are working very hard to ensure work is prepared and posted for all our learners. As a remote learning task, this takes considerably longer than preparing work to present in a classroom. As staff settle into their routines, they may adapt of change how they operate remote learning eg they may decide to provide feedback during a certain time slot of the day. Staff will let classes know of any changes they might need to make. Please be patient with our staff when they are giving feedback, it takes many times longer to get touch with everyone electronically than it would going round a classroom.

Likewise, if any families are finding things difficult, please email the school in the first instance to allow us to look at how we can best support home learning for you. ballater.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

**Photograph Competition**

We have had a fantastic response to our first week of our photo’ competition with some amazing pictures. I have had a very hard job choosing 3 pictures from each class as my favourite. I have chosen pictures which I feel created the atmosphere of weather best.

This newsletter will be posted on the school website which will also share some of the other pictures from next week.

Photographs for next week – Our theme for week 2 is going to be **Wildlife- Sightings and Clues.**

Try to make sure the photographs are taken by the pupils themselves!

Photos’ should be attached to an email and sent to ballater.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Please try to use this email method as sending the pictures on Google Classroom is proving to be a very time-consuming task for staff to transfer the pictures.

We hope you enjoy and non-digital weekend and a chance to relax and get some fresh air.

We look forward to seeing your photos and our learners again next week.