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**Ballater School**

**Weekly Update**

**Friday 20th August 2021**

**Welcome**

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school this week and to welcome our new families from nursery to P3. We have had a very smooth and enthusiastic start to the session, long may this continue!

**Dress Down Friday**

We have decided to continue with a weekly Dress Down Friday pattern until the October break. We will discuss whether we will revert to a fortnightly pattern after this with pupils, parents and staff and let you know in due course.

**Clan Light up the North Lighthouse Trail**

You may have spotted some of the large light houses from the Clan trail in and around Aberdeen and other areas in the North and North- East. The Ballater School light house which was created last session by P3-6 is part of the trail and is situated in the window of the Ballater Clan shop.

Click on the link below for the map showing you where other lighthouses can be found:

<https://www.lightthenorth.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Light-the-North-Map-web.pdf>

**Nursery**

We are delighted to welcome Ms Tinne Krosgaard to the nursery team. Tinne will be working Monday to Wednesday each week, replacing Mrs Lanigan’s hours. We wish her well in her new post in Ballater Nursery.

We are also pleased to be able to offer learners the full number of hours, 9.00am – 3.00pm each day. It has taken a little longer to reach this target due to Covid and staffing restrictions, but it appears to be going well and we look forward to enjoying the extra time to work with the youngsters in our care.

**Moving Forward**

We are looking forward to being able to remove more of our current Covid mitigations, hopefully before the end of this current term. As we get back to some normality, we are keen to be able to start to offer some of the activities that we operated before. Many of these activities such as Running Club etc required parent or community volunteers. If you would like to either offer an activity or assist with one which others are taking, please let us know to discuss what we might be able to offer and we will support you complete the necessary checks.

We are able to resume curriculum areas such as indoor PE, drama and music with hygiene controls in place. We look forward to being able to hold whole school assemblies again in the near future

Staff are working to finalise their timetables and newsletters, which should be with you next week.

Wishing you all a pleasant weekend.

The Ballater School and Nursery Team