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**Ballater School**

**Weekly update**

**Friday 26th November 2021**

We have seen another week of quite high pupil absences due to a variety of ailments, including Covid. We hope all those who have been unwell this week are starting to feel better and we look forward to seeing everyone back in school next week.

**Sharing Learning**

We have created a Sway to share with you what has been going on in our school and what some of our classroom displays look like. We hope you enjoy our sway and it helps you see what we have been up to.

Click on the link to view the Sway.

<https://sway.office.com/UhzRO0kYD1HyUXNZ?ref=Link>

**IDL Week**

Next week we will be operating our second IDL week, which comes at the end of our cross curricular work on our global world. The big question that we will be asking our learners to evidence in a method of their choosing is “Is anyone too small to make a different to climate change?”

We look forward to seeing and hearing the results of their feedback on Friday next week when we hope to be able to share some of the pupil work with you.

**Inspection visit**

We are hosting a small team of inspectors in school on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning to discuss our progress since their last visit in 2019 and to discuss the impact that Covid 19 has had on our school. We will provide you with their feedback when we receive this.

**P1/2 Home Learning**

We have been working hard to provide a routine for home learning for the P1/2 class. This is now fairly well established but we are finding some home learning bags are not being returned to school each day. The expectation for our routine is to bring the bag into school every day, word boxes should be practised as often as possible at home, preferably daily and reading will be issued every Tuesday and Friday.

Pupils can be encouraged to take some responsibility for packing their own school bags as part of their wider achievement targets

**Choir**

We are delighted to have the choir attending the Hilton Craigendarroch Christmas light switch on at 5.30 pm on Monday 29th November.

Everyone is welcome to join us for this seasonal event but there will be no indoor drinks and nibbles available this year for either the choir or guests.

**Tree planting**

We were fortunate to be gifted 200 native tree saplings from the Woodland Trust. The saplings have arrived, and we are aiming to start planting these in school grounds towards the end of next week, weather permitting.

In addition to planting trees in our school grounds we are gifting a sapling to every child in the school and nursery which they can plant in their gardens as part of the initiative to encourage tree planting across the UK. It would be lovely to have some pictures of where pupils plant their tree sapling.

We look forward to a busy weekend in the village at the Winter Festival and hope the weather will be kind to us.

The Ballater School and Nursery Team