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**Ballater School**

**Weekly Update**

**Friday 18th February 2022**

We hope you have all enjoyed the recent break and managed to get time to spend some time together with friends and family.

**IDL Week**

We had a rather fragmented IDL preparation week due to problems with weather. However, all our pupils shared their learning on Wednesday 9th February with their class.

Below is a link to a Sway sharing just some of the work that was shared. We hope you enjoy seeing what we have been up to.

<https://sway.office.com/QK91pkEoXk6qCITx?ref=Link>

The next cross curricular focus will be Our Expressive World with the IDL big question to answer at the end being “How Can We Entertain Our Community?”

**School Meals**

We have become concerned at the amount of food that is being thrown in the bin by pupils taking school meals. Some pupils are telling us that there is nothing on the menu they like which is why they choose anything and then just throw it out. We obviously do our best to encourage children to eat but cannot force this upon a child.

Please make sure you have looked at the menu with your child each day to discuss with them what they will be choosing and if there is nothing they would choose, perhaps a packed lunch might be a better option that day.

We don’t want to see pupils going hungry but also it is sad to see perfectly good food being thrown in the bin.

The link to Aberdeenshire School Meals menu is below:

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/media/26585/autumn-winter-2021-22-menus-w-cover.pdf>

The link to dietary requirement information is below:

<https://ourshiremenus.mysaffronportal.com/>

**Parents Portal**

Thank you to the vast majority of our parents and families who are now using Parents Portal. We still have a handful of parents who are not yet using this system. It is the system which in the very near future will be used for all school payments eg school meals, schools trips and is already used to maintain all data for your child. Please ensure that you have registered on this system to have access to all the facilities that your child will need moving through education. Mrs Florence will be in touch with the remaining families.

A free bus travel for young people (under 22s) in Scotland initiative has been launched. Parents of primary school children can apply for the free bus initiative using parentsportal.

**Inspection**

We are sending you the letter from Education Scotland following their recent visit. We will be creating a refreshed plan to action their findings which we will share with you very shortly.

Wishing you all a pleasant weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone for a full week next week.

The Ballater School and Nursery Team