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**Ballater School**

**Weekly Update**

**Friday 4th February 2022**

Well, maybe we spoke too soon about enjoying a calm and settled week last week! We have once again endured a fairly difficult weekend and week of power and travel disruption. We hope everyone is now back in their own homes and you will be able to have a calm and restful weekend to come. On a more positive note it has been lovely to see daylight when we arrive in the mornings and we have enjoyed lots of visits from our resident red squirrels to our feeders this week.

**IDL week**

Due to the disrupted week, class teachers may have made some small adjustments to the pupil led IDL learning but we are still on track to have the pupil presentations ready to share on Wednesday next week.

**Electric Scooters**

We have been contacted by Police Scotland regarding electric scooters who have reminded us that it is illegal to use an electric scooter on public roads or paths unless the scooter is part of an official trial scheme. There is no trial scheme operating in Ballater. See information below taken from Police Scotland information.

*While e-scooters are legally available to purchase, it is currently against the law to ride a privately owned E-scooter in any public place in the UK. This includes roads, pavements, parks, town centres or promenades. The only place a privately owned e-scooter can be used is on private land with the agreement of the land owner.*

*E-scooters are currently classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEVs) so they are treated as motor vehicles and are subject to the same legal requirements as any other motor vehicle, requiring insurance, a valid driving licence, and compliance with various construction and use requirements.*

**P7 Fundraising**

Our P7 Toast Team were delighted with the response to their first toast sale this morning. They are going to continue this weekly, please note next week toast will be on sale at breaktime on Wednesday 9th February due to the short week.

Dress down day next week will also take place on Wednesday 9th February.

**Pre-school Pupils**

Some pupils in Room 6 have found it difficult to concentrate on their learning recently as some younger children have been making noise outside their window and indeed knocking on the window while they are waiting for older siblings at the end of the day.

We would be grateful if parents of younger children ensure they stay away from the area in front of the classrooms when they are waiting to ensure interruptions are kept to a minimum for our older pupils. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

**School Meals**

We have had quite a few instances where we have pupils telling us they don’t like anything on the school meals menu for that day. This has resulted in us contacting families to arrange a packed lunch is brought to school instead. We understand this can be quite inconvenient and so would remind you that the menu can be viewed on the link below and it might be an idea, particularly with younger pupils to check this each day.

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

**Home Learning Survey**

A reminder that we have a parent/carer home learning survey open at the moment which we would be grateful to have your input on. Thank you to those of you who have already responded.

The survey can be accessed on the link below and is live until Wednesday 9th February.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BpPZ_i1NCUSVndDttzBKC_oZihCN7iZJlgUhV5yUcrBUODQ5MDFUVTdTTlMxSzEyOThGQVVQQ1Y5TC4u>

Wishing you all a calm weekend with full power!

The Ballater School and Nursery Team.