**Ballater School**

**Weekly Update**

**Friday 20th May 2022**

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We have enjoyed another profitable week and enjoyed welcoming our new P1 parents into school on Monday evening. We hope they found a warm welcome and found the information helpful.

**Class Trips**

We have been very busy making arrangements to take our classes out on trips this term, something we haven’t been able to do in a very long time.

Letters will be issued today or Monday for the P7 trip and the P3-6 trip. Please ensure the consent section is returned by the date stated and you keep hold of the information part.

We are very aware of financial constraints on families at this time. We have subsidised all the trips either through the school fund or through donations from the Parent Council in order to keep costs as low as possible for all classes. If meeting the cost of the trip for your child may be difficult for your family, please contact our school office. We would hate to see any of our learners miss out on the opportunity to take part in their class excursion.

**Tech Club**

The tech club members have been doing some amazing things with different forms of technology. We have learned about basic coding using robots, composing our own music on the Garage Band App and are now learning how to create more complicated code programmes using Scratch.

Please note there will be no Tech Club on Tuesday 31st May as many pupils are on visits that day.

The final Tech Club will take place on Tuesday 21st June.

**Assembly**

Our assembly focus this week was about diabetes. We learned what the condition is, how many people in our country are affected by it and what the symptoms are. We were delighted when two of our pupils with diabetes came and told us all about how they manage the condition and how they feel. We certainly had lots of excellent questions asked. Thank you to the two pupils for volunteering to share their experiences with us.

Our skill of the fortnight is: “I can remain positive when completing a task even when things don’t go to plan.” This links in well with our school value of resilience.

**Achievements**

We were pleased to hear about some pupil achievements from out with school- remember to log all out of school achievements on your wider achievement tracker.

Well done to Morgan Watts who competed in a rugby tournament with his Deeside Rugby Team. The P7 team Morgan is part of won all their matches and were overall winners.

Well done to Henry Stuart who won a prize competing on his pony at a local equestrian meet. He came first for sitting well and trotting. Both boys have worked hard to reach these achievements. Keep this up and it would great to hear of any other achievements from our pupils.

**Nursery Staffing**

Tinne Krosgaard, has been appointed to a seconded post of Early Years Lead Practitioner at Tullynessle Nursery. She will be in her new post for around a year and then it is planned that she will return to Ballater. We are delighted that Julie Polson has agreed to take on some additional hours to replace some of Tinne’s time. A short-term part-time post is currently advertised to fill the rest of Tinne’s vacancy We shall let you know when we have filled this vacancy.

**Seesaw**

Thank you everyone who has returned the consent forms for using Seesaw. All the pupils who have consent, have now been registered on the platform and we are hoping to start using the app in the next week or so. You will be issued with joining codes for your child and full instruction on how to use the platform.

**Jubilee Choir**

A reminder for those families with pupils in the choir, please let us know as soon as possible if your child is unable to attend either of the Jubilee events. Thank you to those families who have already been in touch.

**Anti-social behaviour**

Unfortunately, we have witnessed some anti-social behaviour recently in and around the school grounds after school hours. We have reported this to Police Scotland who asked us to remind anyone who witnesses any of this behaviour to call them on 101.

Wishing everyone a pleasant weekend

The Ballater School and Nursery Team