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**Ballater School**

**Weekly Update**

**Friday 14th October 2022**

It is hard to believe we are at the end of our first term already and it has been an exciting start to the session. We have had funerals, bridges, Kodaly, lots of health and wellbeing, gardening and finally this week we have been delighted to share our learning with parents in the school again.

**Gairn Bridge**

Our P6 and P7 pupils were very lucky to be invited to view the lifting in of the new Gairn Bridge yesterday morning. The whole team were very welcoming and took a great deal of time to explain everything that was going on at this exciting local infrastructure project. The pupils were keen to share all they had experienced when they came back to school especially the fact that so many of the key staff involved in this engineering project were female, a great positive message for our girls in school. We have included pictures/clips of their visit in our end of term sway which can be accessed on the link in this newsletter.

**I Pad Music**

We are pleased to tell you that our school has been chosen to take part in am I-pad music project next term. The project, which is supported by Aberdeenshire Council, will run for the whole term with pupils using I-pads to learn how to play the piano. We look forward to hearing the results of their work next term.

**IDL week**

We have again had a week of lots of reflection and hard work based around the Health and Wellbeing learning focus of this term.

It has been great to be able to invite parents and family into school to share everything the pupils have learned and how they have chosen to answer their challenge question of “How Can We keep our Community Healthy. Thank you to everyone who came and took part in the activities provided by the children. There are some photos from the two days of action on our Sway.

Our next cross curricular focus is based on Our Religious and Moral World with our big question for IDL being “How Do People Choose to Live Their Lives?”

We will take some time out of this focus to prepare materials for out forthcoming Christmas Fair which is to be held on Saturday 3rd December from 10 am until 1pm.

**Assembly**

Monday was Mental Health Day. We looked at the importance of sleep for our mental and physical health. We worked out how many hours of sleep we were all getting, having learned that primary aged children need an average of 11 hours sleep a night. It seems some of us are not getting enough sleep!

**Flu Vaccinations**

These are planned to take place in school for pupils on Wednesday 2nd November.

**Dogs**

A polite reminder that dogs are not permitted within school grounds. We are having to issue this reminder as unfortunately we have had problems with pupils standing in dog poo within the school grounds and bringing it into the building on their shoes. Please help us keep the woods and surrounding school grounds a safe place for our children to enjoy.

**Parent Council Survey**

There is still time to provide the Parent Council with feedback to help them plan for the year ahead.

Use this link to access the survey:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BpPZ_i1NCUSVndDttzBKC_oZihCN7iZJlgUhV5yUcrBURVdLUUJXTDJLQ0VSTElNSzJMSjVQVVM5Ny4u>

Finally, on behalf of all the staff and pupils at Ballater School and Nursery, we wish you great holiday and look forward to seeing everyone back in school and nursery on Monday 31st October.

**Term 1 Sway**

<https://sway.office.com/kZQ7ZRdOUB3OhTbW?ref=Link>