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**Ballater School**

**Weekly Update**

**Friday 7th October 2022**

We have seen a definite Autumn feel with some darker mornings this week. We have seen quite a few pupil absences so we will be continuing to reinforce our hand hygiene routines and fresh air in classrooms to try to mitigate against too many germs being spread around.

**Parent Council Information**

We are pleased to have our Parent Council making plans for the forthcoming year. The group would like to gather your ideas and opinions and would be grateful if you could spare a few minutes to undertake their short survey- link below.

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

The first Parent Council event of this session will be the return of Breakfast Club Week which will run from Monday 21st November – see attached poster for more information.

Details on how to book a space for your child will be issued after the October break.

**Drinking Water**

Our water fountain is currently out of action. Please remind your child they will need to bring a bottle of water with them (they can be refilled from the classroom taps but they won’t be chilled).

Please ensure it is water in bottle not juice as we want to avoid damage to personal and school property which we have had with juice being spilt.

**P7 Loch Insh Trip**

We were due to hold our P7 parent meeting for Loch Insh today but unfortunately due to very low numbers attending we have had to cancel the meeting.

Today we are sending out all the required paperwork in a separate email. Please take the time to read everything through and if you have any questions, please email us on ballater.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

**Fire Drill**

We had an exciting start to our day with a planned fire drill. We are pleased to say the evacuation all went to plan with everyone handling the drill very calmly and maturely.

**IDL Week**

Our classes have been focusing on Our Health and Well Being World for their Cross Curricular learning this term. We are now moving onto our IDL week as from today when the pupils will be given the challenge question of “How Can We Keep Our Community Healthy?”

We are pleased to be able to invite our families into school next week to take part in our challenge and share their learning. P1/2 and P3/4 will be sharing their challenge on Thursday 13th October and P5-7 will share theirs on Friday 14th October. Classes will send out their invitations with details of when and what you might need to wear/bring!

**Seesaw**

We are increasingly getting to grips with our use of Seesaw to communicate learning from school but also to share home learning tasks each week. A reminder for those families in P5-7 to check your Seesaw account to see what has been shared for you to work on.

**Choir**

We have received feedback on which two songs we are to be performing at the Evening Express Christmas Concert at TECA. We will be starting our formal rehearsals from today. The concert is to take place on Sunday 11th December at 2pm at TECA on Aberdeen. We will share further information when we have it confirmed.

**Assembly**

Our focus at assembly this week was feedback. This is an area of development staff have been working on this term. We introduced the idea of feedback and why it is so important in our learning. We will continue to be focusing on this in all our classes to embed feedback as a matter of routine. We also enjoyed listening to some poems as this week National Poetry Day took place.

We wish you all an enjoyable weekend and look forward to welcoming you into school next week.

The Ballater School and Nursery Team