

Glenbervie School Newsletter

Winter 2019



Article 29

You have the right to education which develops your personality, respect for other's rights and the environment

It has been a pleasure to be part of this extremely industrious and committed team this year and I would firstly like to thank all the parents, staff and pupils for their continuing support and hard work. We congratulate Mrs Brown who will be moving to the position of Additional Support For Learning (ASL) Teacher and will take up the post in the next two weeks. We also said goodbye with a lovely retirement afternoon tea and assembly to Mrs Ingram. We wish her well in her retirement and are hugely appreciative of the many years of hard work and dedication she has given to Glenbervie.

We will be interviewing for our P5/6/7 vacancy shortly and I will of course inform you of this. At present Mrs Brown, Mrs Sangster and a supply teacher Mrs Forbes will ensure continuity and smooth running of the class. We also have a few Support team members working with the school this session including Catriona Masson - Pupil Support Worker, Carol Collette - Intervention & Prevention Teacher, Karen Findlay - Education Psychologist and Christine Schoepfer - Speech & Language.

Improved reporting Update - Seesaw & SHANARRI

A lovely evening was spent with pupils, families and members of staff with the children leading tours around the school and discussing the rich variety of learning experiences taking place in the school. It was particularly nice to meet all the parents and have the opportunity to discuss and share progress. We will be sending our Interim reports home shortly and would ask that you complete our online booking system when it opens to arrange your Parent & pupil Consultation with



Rotary End Polio Campaign

The local Rotary Club have asked us to plant crocus bulbs in aid of their End Polio campaign. This year we have planted them around the Community and look forward to seeing them bloom in spring.





the teacher. We look forward to meeting **both** parents and pupils at our Parents evenings on Tuesday 26th November (5.30–7pm) and Wednesday 27th November (4–5.30pm). Should you require any assistance with the online booking, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Wilson/Mrs Meston at the school.



We also held our first Sharing in the learning session of the year. In response to parent consultation we opted for a morning session to accommodate parents at drop off. We have other sessions throughout the year in the afternoon and evenings. We hoped you enjoyed taking part in lessons with your children. If you have any feedback on how this went and the meet the staff evening went then we are always happy to hear from you.

We hope you are enjoying seeing the learning taking place through our See-saw profiling and we really appreciate those of you who take the time to comment back to your children. If you have not already signed up to this, then **please** do so as this is how our assessment and feedback will be shared instead of the red folders. The team here will be happy to help you get started.



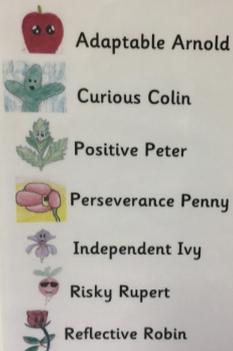
The children will soon take home a wellbeing survey. This is part of our work on SHANARRI, which we started last year after a whole school theatre performance. This session we have had Pupil parliament sessions with the children's voice telling us how well we are doing and where we need to go next. We ask that you take the time to complete the traffic light survey with your child, and if we have concerns regarding well-being then lets use the comment box to work in partnership to address these as soon as possible.

No Bells Trial

We have been trialling the No Bell System since the start of the year. This idea is based on current research which suggests that this could have a two-fold positive benefit for the children in that it can reduce potential anxiety and therefore keep the school community a calmer environment. Also it can promote independence in time management skills for all pupils. A third benefit is that Mackie Academy – where the vast majority of our pupils go for their Secondary Education have operated a bells free school for several years now and have highly recommended this to us. So far Feedback from staff and pupils is that they find it very positive and the main advantage is valuable

teaching time is not being wasted waiting for the children to line up. Instead they are in the building ready to learn and if you consider this over the course of the time we waited for lining up first thing, break and lunches, then we are adding nearly 30 mins to the teaching day. The children are becoming very independent and showing responsibility at getting themselves promptly into school first thing and after break times. As ever, we welcome any feedback and comments you may have on this—please just drop us an email to the school.

Roots to learning



School Improvement Plan Update:

In-Service Training

The staff are participating in a wide range of worthwhile workshops, training activities and discussions during the November in-service training days. We will be engaging in our Visible Learning workshop with the inspirational work of John Hattie at Mackie Academy. His work focuses on how children learn best and



uses the concepts of the Learning Pit and Growth Mindset. As we are trying to raise attainment—getting this right underpins all our academic work within the school. Feedback and how it is shared with the children to help them improve their learning will be our main focus this session. We have been engaging with our “Roots for Learning” which helps the children use the characters to understand the way they are learning. We will also be engaging in our Emerging Literacy project, looking at our numeracy resources and taking forward areas of our school improvement plan.

The Improvement plan can be found on the school website, alongside a child friendly version.

Parent Council (GSP)

Our AGM took place last term and I'm delighted to say we have an active group of parents on board this year. We are always looking for new members. Without their help in contributing to improvement planning and organising a vast range of fundraising activities throughout the year the school would be unable to purchase such a wide range of resources to support learning experiences of every child. The Partnership is open to all parents and it would be lovely to see many of you coming along and adding your ideas to this important parent forum. They are holding a Soup Bowls (Village Hall) on Saturday 9th November and Family Quiz in the school hall on Sunday



1st December . We hope you will be able to attend and support the school.

Upcoming Events and Christmas Activities



As always, we have several activities planned this term as well as our Christmas celebrations. I have updated the School Annual calendar and included these dates. As ever, should there be changes I will let you know as soon as possible.

School Pantomime Trip

This year we are heading for Arbroath to see Snow-White on Wednesday 18th December. This is a whole-school trip and further details will follow.

Cross Country Championships

Finally, a big thank you to everyone who offered to support the Cross Country Challenge, including our sponsor Barr Demolition Ltd. Health and Safety is our primary concern and we will re-schedule it for Term 3 or 4 when the weather is better. We may add into our Health Week activities.

With very best wishes,

Jenny Glennie

Head Teacher

We value your feedback– If you have comments either compliments or concerns please let us know. If you want to comment on our No bells, Shared Learning Sessions then please email or use the slip below. We have an Open Door Policy and encourage you to come in. If you would rather put it in writing, please use this slip and put in an envelope marked for Mrs Glennie.

Comment

Name if you wish to be contacted _____

Article 31

You have the right to play and relax and do things like sport, music and drama