

Glenbervie School Newsletter

Spring 2021



Article 29

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

It has certainly been a very different start to Term 3 with the switch from school to home remote learning. I would like to thank you all for your continued resilience and support as we navigate this ever changing global pandemic. Whilst we recognise Home Schooling is far from ideal, it is the measures that are necessary to keep us all safe. For the small number of children attending our school hub, which is open to vulnerable families and Key Workers, we have created a new small bubble that are being supported on a rota basis by our Glenbervie staff team. I am so appreciative we have managed to do this as it make much more sense to support children within our local community. For those in school so far this year we have avoided any significant disruption due to adverse weather - long may this continue! However, please keep an eye on our phone line and adverse weather web link as I have found that the situation can change very quickly and transport operators do contact the school with updates. We have **twitter** and **seesaw**. I will try to communicate information through this too. **The GSP Facebook** page will be updated regularly. Find us at **@glenbervieps**.



Remote Learning

We have tried very hard to act on Feedback from our Lock-down Experience in March last year by compiling Weekly Plans that will be available from the Sunday and releasing most activities on Seesaw/ Google Classroom for the Week ahead. This helps many families plan their working week around the tasks set. We are doing the same learning in school with our hub pupils so any tasks you need support with drop us a message and we will try to help. We have also kept the theme idea so we can cover the wide areas of our curriculum and allow siblings and families to work together on some tasks. However, we have kept the key literacy, numeracy and Health & wellbeing tasks in that are individual to classes and groups. We are conscious not to overwhelm with the number of these tasks as every home setting will be different, but if pupils need



further extension we can support this, but would direct you to the wealth of resources on BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary> and <http://www.esgoil.com/lockdown-live/>

Both of these have a variety of live and interactive lessons. Education Scotland also have a wide selection of resources.

Aberdeenshire Council also have a Parent support resource which can be found at <http://bit.ly/ShireDigitalSupport>.

Our Staff team have been trying very hard to get "Teams" up and running so that groups of pupils can meet live and check in and do some learning together. This will happen gradually and we hope that all classes will get this opportunity. We recognise that for our younger pupils Seesaw interactions are easier. On this note please remember in Seesaw there are 2 apps- the class app and the family app. For the pupils and home learning- it is the Class App with the Home learning Code that you need to find and respond to all the activities set by the teaching team. If you need any help with this at all then please just contact us and we can talk you through it.

Mrs Wilson and Mrs Meston have been phoning to check in on what is going well and how we can support. We will continue this over lockdown to check in. Please do contact us though at any point if we can offer any help or assistance, whatever it may be.

It has just been announced that we are in further restrictions until Mid-February, with a review taking place on the 2nd February. For the moment we will just carry on as we have been and staff will be in touch if there are further resources, items to pick up to see us to this date.

P1 Enrolment

Registration Week for Primary 1 was last week and it looks like we will have a balance of numbers coming in with our P7's going out, which will keep us at 4 classes next session.

Aberdeenshire Education and Children's Services has a common starting date for all its schools in the middle of August in any particular year. Parents are asked to complete an online admission form and if this has not been possible, should try and fill in the form/contact by the end of February 2021. To register for Primary 1 the child's birth certificate is required as evidence of their date of birth, but this can be presented digitally or brought in once restrictions ease.

Similarly we will look at our transition package and look at how we can start the process virtually again for our new Primary 1 pupils. We were able to do this last time round and saw great success and a very settled Primary 1 this year.

Primary 7 Transition Meeting

Our Primary 7's and parents will receive information from Mackie Academy via the Head Teacher Miss Moir regarding the Primary 7 Transition Programme. This will be communicated over the term.

Similarly if pupils are going to Mearns they will be in touch.



Community Support and Thanks

As Head Teacher I would like to express how impressed I have been with the hard work of all staff, parents and pupils in the school and the huge support from the local community. It has been a busy six months. On this note I would like to express my gratitude to Barr Demolition for sponsoring the cross country, allowing us to have trophies and medals for all children. Macphie of Glenbervie kindly supported the school with Baking goodies for our Community walk and drop off. They also donated our school Christmas Tree- many thanks!



Steeple Shop alongside our GSP with local donations from Auchenblae Surgery and COOP Stonehaven have supported Halloween and Christmas trails. It is greatly appreciated.

Parent Council (GSP)

A virtual meeting will be held this term and info for this will follow. All parents are warmly invited to attend to find out more about the valuable work that the GSP does to support the life of the school. GSP is one of the ways in which the 'parent voice' can be shared; enabling the school to consult with representatives of the parent body on a wide range of issues.

In addition to this, GSP's fundraising efforts have a significant impact on our capacity to purchase new resources and organise visits and workshops. I cannot re-iterate enough how the money raised goes to improve the quality of experiences at Glenbervie for all Pupils. So far we have managed to use GSP funds to help with school equipment, Christmas crafts and parties and the pantomime. We have also been able to plan Digital Skills sessions and experiences for the children throughout the year and plan to purchase much needed



essential resources for the school. I cannot thank the GSP enough for all their hard work and support and hope we can encourage as many families as possible to get involved. The GSP and myself try to publicise as many events as possible on our Face book and twitter pages so if you haven't followed us yet, please take a look. Our Chair Dawn Campbell or the school and would be happy to answer any questions you have. It may be happening virtually, but they are still very active and this is appreciated.

Eco group- Rag Bag Collection

As part of our Sustainable development the school now have a Rag Bag collection bin, situated between our kitchen and playground. Any unwanted items of clothing, shoes etc. can be placed in a bag in the bin. Bags are available from the school, but any plastic bag is fine. Our Eco group are keen to promote this and hope to use some of the funds raised from this to purchase new recycling bins for the school.



JRSO- Parking

The JRSO team are keen to thank parents for taking a more sensible approach to parking and drop off outside the school. They are currently running a "Be safe Be Seen" competition and have handed out reflective keyrings kindly donated by our Bikeability scheme.

Scots Poetry Competition and Burns Celebration

Our annual Poetry competition is well underway with our pupils due to perform their poems this week. Certificates will be sent out to pupils for participating and taking part. We encourage you to have a family fun night to celebrate Burns, by sharing the songs, dances, poems on Seesaw and perhaps trying out the Haggis Drive. Not quite the same, but I for one will be having the Haggis, Neeps and Tatties and trying to recreate some of the traditions at home.

Christmas Events

We had a lovely end to our term with some lovely events. Sadly we missed having you into school for our traditional show, nativity and sing along, but we did try to keep many of the Christmas traditions going such as the lunch, Santa visit and virtual pantomime. We also had a lovely time at our Christmas Parties.



Curriculum- Shared Learning

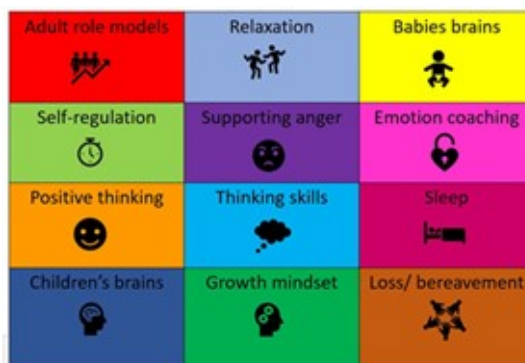
As part of our Improved Reporting Framework we would normally welcome you into the school for a Shared Curriculum session. This year sadly it has been very different, but throughout lockdown I will try to share either by Social Media or Seesaw some of the things we have all been doing. I would also point you in the direction of the Aberdeenshire link on Page 2 which has some Digital learning that can support parents at home. Similarly the link to the Educational Psychology Service has some fantastic resources surrounding nurture, emotions and supporting mental health.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/as/aberdeenshireeps/family-nurture-leaflets/>

School Development Update

The upcoming In-service days will mostly be completed remotely with an opportunity for staff to focus on key areas of this year's school improvement plan:

- Nurture and Behavioural and Supported Needs Training.
- Cluster Visible Learning Day- We will be looking at how we involve children and Parents further in Feedback of their learning.
- Working on our Digital skills development!!- (although we have come on leaps and bounds in the past 2 weeks!!)
- Outdoor Learning & Health & Wellbeing



At the moment everything is very much running day by day and we acknowledge how difficult this is and frustrating that we cannot plan ahead, but in reality we want all our families safe and well and able to return when restrictions ease. Please look after yourselves and keep in touch. We are here to support and help.

With Very Best Wishes,

Jenny Glennie

Head Teacher

