

Glenbervie Newsletter for Term 3 – January 2022/23

Happy New Year everyone!

Welcome back!

After the holidays and the strike day last Tuesday, we are very much looking forward to settling back into a routine and longer, brighter days with spring on the horizon. We hope that you, along with your loved ones had a good holiday and that the pupils are returning healthy, rested and raring to go!

Looking back

Last term was incredibly busy and the atmosphere in the school was wonderful – so full of excitement and happiness. Christmas really did bring out the best in everyone as we could see in numerous ways through our school community.

P3/4 led by Mrs Russon organised a reverse advent, gathering in generous donations that were passed on to The Haven in Stonehaven to support the local community. Thank you to everyone who helped with this initiative.

As a school community, you again showed your generosity at our Christmas service. This was the first time since Covid that we celebrated together and enjoyed the nativity back in St John the Baptist Church. I don't think I'll ever take for granted again just how special it is to come together to celebrate these special events which form treasured memories. From our P1 "little angels" throughout the school to our calm and composed P7 readers – I'm sure you'll agree that the pupils showed themselves to be effective contributors, confident individuals as they performed and successful learners who managed songs, lyrics and actions without any aids. Well done to all!

Thanks to the P5/6 and Mrs McCormack for hosting a very busy Christmas community café. It was such a pleasure to welcome so many families into school. Thanks to those who took the time to review our school aims and give us some feedback.

The café raised a fantastic sum of £150 which the class decided in the Christmas spirit to donate to Aberlour Childrens Trust. This was the charity that Rev. Turner was choosing to support also and a further £112 was kindly donated in the church. Rev. Turner was just delighted and came to school to express his gratitude.

Looking forward

Staffing

We are delighted to formally announce that Mr Iain Simpson is returning to the Glenbervie team as Additional Support for Learning teacher while I am in the Headteacher post covering for Mrs Glennie. He will be in on Thursdays and Fridays and has already had a handover from myself and started making plans to continue the support in place for pupils.

Mr Tattersall is staying full time in P6/7 with Mrs Sangster hoping to return soon. We will let you know as soon as possible when we hear that she will be re-joining us.

We have a supply teacher called Mr McMorran working with us on a Wednesday up until the February break – please see your own class teacher's newsletter for details of when your child has PE. Let's hope for dry, sunny days so that they can get outside!

Starting next week, the teachers will be rotating on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons delivering blocks of high quality teaching and making use of their skills and strengths across the school. This will last four weeks and I'm sure the pupils will benefit greatly!

School Improvement

This term we continue to focus on writing and mental maths. We are continuing our work revising the school values with the pupils and after the mid term break, teachers will begin looking at Wellbeing Indicators and what these actually mean in the lives of the children, breaking each indicator down and finding appropriate language to help the children express themselves clearly and engage in meaningful discussion around their wellbeing needs.

Achievements

We are looking to refresh our wider achievements and good news board this term with current successes that the children have recently enjoyed and feel proud of! Please do send in pictures and information about how your children are

achieving and making progress across the various activities that they take part in. Please don't limit achievements to sporting victories (although we do love these!) We would genuinely love to hear about any success that matters to your child – it may be small but if something matters to them, then it matters to us and we'd love to recognise what is important to them and celebrate with them.

Managed to swim a width? Or are you swimming without armbands? Finished your first novel reading by yourself? Dancing success? Football star of the week? Smashed your time solving the Rubix cube? Completed that lego build you got for Christmas? What have you been working on? What skills did you use or what roots to learning did you need? Please email – glenbervie.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Dates for your diary

There are a couple of changes to the calendar of events so please take note. Lots to look forward to this term!

Date	Event
Wednesday 25 th January	Burns Assembly – We will record the assembly and put it onto our secure Youtube channel for parents to view
	Scottish Lunch – see email for menu.
Friday 27 th January	Haggis Drive and Ceilidh – The GSP warmly invite you and your families to a fun
	evening of Scottish celebrations! 6-9pm at the Drumlithie Village Hall. Tickets
	available at the door!
Thursday 9 th February	Occasional Day Holidays
Friday 10 th February	Mid torm Holiday
Monday 13 th February Tuesday 14 th February	Mid term Holiday In Service Days - No school for pupils
Wednesday 15 th February	In service days - No school for pupils
21 st Feb – 3 rd March	Fairtrade Fortnight – Pupils will be holding a Fairtrade day in class doing activities
	linked to Fairtrade and Eco
Thursday 23 rd February	Share the Learning Afternoon – 2-3pm.
	Share the Learning Evening – 6-7pm
	An open event where pupils can share what they have been learning about in school and you can look at their work together.
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day – Dress up optional. We will be holding a book swap and a Community Café run by P6/7. Pop in and share a story with your child and have a cuppy and a fine piece! More details will follow from p6/7 in due course.
Wednesday 22 nd March	Walk in Wednesday.
Tuesday 28 th March	School Show. This will be held in Drumlithie Village Hall. One afternoon and one evening showing. Confirmed times and information about tickets will be given later.
Friday 31 st March	Sponsored Walk and End of Term

Walk in Wednesdays

With the suspension of seesaw, we are keen to maintain the sharing of learning and the high level of parental engagement with pupil learning. Please be assured that the staff are continuing to gather evidence of your child's learning and this will be available more formally on our Share the Learning day and evening as well as reports and parent's night in April.

While we consider the options available in the absence of seesaw, we would like to welcome parents into school for a Walk in Wednesdays. The idea is that the class would continue working but your child can show you some pieces of work that they are proud of and that might have otherwise been shared on seesaw. Walk in Wednesdays will be pupil led – just a chance to pop in and see what fantastic learning they've been doing! Our first will be on Wednesday March 22nd and if it proves popular, we will add more dates throughout term 4.

After visiting with your child, you are welcome to join me in the hall for a cup of tea. This is an opportunity to share any concerns, give us your suggestions or tell us what we are doing right!

I'm looking forward to seeing you as the term progresses and please remember that the door is open and we're only a phone call away.

With best wishes,

Donna Reekie