



Beauly Primary School Newsletter – September 2012

Dear Parent / Carer

Staff News

We write to inform you that due to ill health Mrs Miller will be undertaking a course of medical treatment and it is anticipated that she will be absent for some time. Her last day in school will be Friday 7th September. In addition Annie Macphee, Additional Support Needs (ASN) Teacher has been seconded to the post of Acting Head Teacher at another primary school in the region. In order to ensure continuity for the pupils and make sure that the best candidate is identified, the post of a full-time teacher for the P7 class has now been advertised. It is hoped that an appointment can be made shortly. Mr Morrison will undertake the work of the ASN Teacher.

Open Afternoon

The school is holding an Open Afternoon on Thursday 13th September from 1.45pm – 3pm. This will allow pupils to share the work they have been undertaking and allow parents the opportunity to meet with class teachers informally. “The Magic Retreat”, our school garden will also be open for your children to show you. Following your visit you may prefer to sign your child out and take them home a little early if this is more convenient for you. Please note, if parents have any concerns regarding their child’s learning then a separate appointment should be arranged by contacting the school office.

Primary 1 Photo

A photographer from the Inverness Courier will be in school on the morning of 6th September to take a photo of the P1 children. This will then feature in a future edition of the paper. Could parents please ensure that all pupils wear school uniform on that day. Thank you for your co-operation.

Medical Protocol



The school is currently updating its medical protocol including the administration of medicine to pupils. All pupils who have allergies or other health conditions requiring medication will shortly be provided with new forms which will need to be completed, signed and returned to the school. Parents are responsible for ensuring that medication held by the school is in date and this should be replaced as appropriate.

Thank you

We would like to thank the staff (and family members) at the Co-op for all their hard work in moving the soil into the new raised bed. It is hoped the eco group will grow a mini-orchard; using the produce as part of their enterprise initiatives in years to come.

Thank you also to the garden volunteers who have tirelessly maintained the school garden over the summer.

We would also like to thank Simpson’s Garden Centre for their donation, which will allow us to purchase and install the new flag pole for the Eco ‘Green Flag’.

Rural Path

We are delighted to report that the rural path from Braeview Park to the school is to be tarmacked. We are aware that the rural path has presented difficulties in terms of ice and water retention. We hope that the resurfacing of the path will allow pupils to utilise the Safer Route to School and in turn ease congestion in Croyard Road.

Bikeability

Jane Mackintosh and Glynis Forbes have very kindly volunteered to deliver the Bikeability Scotland Training programme (formerly known as Cycling Proficiency) later this session and have undertaken training for this. The P7 children will undertake this programme initially, but it is hoped that this can then be extended to P6 and P5 pupils over the course of the year.



Bikeability Continued

The school has acquired external funding to support Bikeability Training and painted roads and junctions will be placed within the playground, using white lines to simulate roads and junctions. This will create a safe but realistic environment for children to develop their road awareness.

The school has received approval for funding for a new cycle shelter. During a school assembly pupils voted on the colour scheme of the new shelter and the most popular choice was for a green colour scheme. Metalwork UK has undertaken a site visit and it is hoped that a new secure and lockable storage facility will be installed during the October break.

In line with all the above developments it is intended to create a new school policy on cycle use. This will be drawn up following a consultation process involving parents and children in addition to the involvement of PC Jim Renwick, who has provided continued support to the school in recent months on this matter.

Hockey Club

In addition to their PE session on Wednesdays the pupils in P7 will have the opportunity to participate in hockey. This training is being led by Suzie Dobson and will take place during school time. It is hoped that the initiative will lead on to a competitive tournament and that a number of the P7 children may be selected to take part in this competition.



Karate Club



Dolina Ross provided a taster session for a number of our children in the upper school. In addition she will now be running a class each Thursday from 3.15pm – 4.15pm. This will take place in the school hall and there are a total of 20 places available. If you would like to book a place please contact Dolina Ross directly on Tel: 01463 233083 or alternatively e-mail her on: karate-alba@hotmail.co.uk

Cross Country Running

Paula Mackenzie and Jane Nair are re-starting the Cross Country Running club on Tuesday 11th September. Training will take place each Tuesday from 12.15pm to 12.45pm. Any pupils who would like to take part should collect a consent form from the school office.

Save A Life

On Tuesday 28th August the school received a visit from the paramedic team from the Scottish Ambulance Service. The children from P7 took part in a workshop organised through NHS Highland where they learnt resuscitation techniques.

Challenger Education

The Scottish based 'Challenger Bus' visited the region during August and this included a visit to Beaully Primary School on 29th August. Age appropriate Religious and Moral Education presentations were enjoyed by all the classes on their adapted bus, in line with Curriculum for Excellence. These included:

- A presentation with songs, a Story and puppet show for younger children
- A multi-media presentation on the life of Eric Liddell, who was best known as the Scottish Olympic Gold Medallist from the 1924 Paris Olympic Games, and featured in the film Chariots of Fire.
- The story of Kenneth Grant Fraser who, after a time in the army, became a missionary doctor in Sudan, where the impact of his work is still being felt today.
- A presentation covering topics such as discrimination, WWII and the Holocaust highlighted through the story of Jane Haining.

Beaully Songsquad

Pupils in P3-P7 are taking part in Beaully Songsquad. Music Teacher, Margaret Rae will be coaching the children over the next 10 weeks in an Olympic inspired score entitled 'Going for Gold', subsidised by locally sourced funding. The songs incorporate themes such as rowing, track and field, aquatics and cycling. There are also songs with the more universal themes of dedication, motivation and

Beaully Songsquad Continued

commitment, including the opening and closing song which incorporates the words Faster, Higher, Stronger (the motto of the International Olympic Association).

Pupils will showcase their learning with a production for parents, wider family members and members of the community. This will take place on the evening of 6th December at Phipps Hall. Further details, including how to purchase tickets will be issued at a later date.

Badaguish



P7 pupils had a fantastic time on their residential trip at Badaguish. They undertook a number of different activities over the three days 22nd to 24th August which were designed to improve confidence, help the children get to know each other better and promote team building. Here are some of their stories and comments:

“My Trip to Badaguish” by Aaron

One Wednesday I went on a school trip to Badaguish. It took an hour and fifteen minutes. When we got there the boys went into their lodge. Then Mr Morrison showed us to our room. After that we unpacked and had lunch. Me, Rae, Daniel, Duncan, Gillian, Ross, Derek and Lauren went canoeing. I went with Duncan. Duncan and I were the first everywhere. Then we had dinner. It was mince and tatties with peas.

After dinner we went mountain biking. We picked the softies or the hardies route. I picked the hardies. We cycled six miles. We stopped at a BMX track. When we got back we had a shower and watched a film. We watched Rio. After Rio we washed our hands and face, then brushed our teeth and went to sleep.



On Thursday we got breakfast and made our lunch. Then we went fishing. It took twenty minutes before I caught the first fish. There were two fish caught by our group of six. Duncan caught the biggest fish. After fishing we went back and got lunch. After lunch we played some games. Then we had a BBQ and played on the rings. We had the fish we caught, hot dogs and burgers. Then we went home and got showers, got into our pj's and went to the girls lodge for a talent show. After the talent show we had a quiz. I was with Ellie and Daniel.

The next day we had our breakfast, made our lunch and then went orienteering. I was with Daniel and Derek. We were the last to leave and we were first back.

“My Trip to Badaguish’ by Ciara

On Wednesday 22nd August Beaully Primary Seven went to the Badaguish Outdoor Activity Centre. When we got there the boys went to their lodge and the girls went to ours. When we got in we all went straight into the living room. Our names were called out so that we knew who we would be sleeping with and where we were sleeping. I was sleeping with Rae and Evie upstairs beside Lauren, Nikki and Ellie. The boys came over to our lodge for lunch. After lunch we sat in the living room to see whose group we were in. I was in a group with Rae, Lauren, Derek, Aaron and Daniel.

Our first activity was canoeing. Me and Rae shared a canoe. Ronnie (the instructor) was with Lauren, Derek was with Daniel, and Aaron was with Duncan (Mrs Miller's son). We canoed at Loch Morlich. Me and Rae were so bad we had to get towed. Then we went back to our lodges and had a shower.

It was dinnertime then and the boys came over to our lodge. We had soup for a starter and then we had mince and tatties. Then we cleared up the tables and got ready for mountain biking. Mountain biking was so much fun.



"My Trip to Badaguish" by Evie

On the 22nd August I was at school. I was very excited because it was the day of the trip. I brought a really heavy bag packed with all my stuff I needed in it. I went to put all my things into Mr Morrison's office. Then the bell rang so I quickly ran to the front of the line and lined up. Mrs Miller opened the door. We all went straight into the class room and sat down. After all the girls got all their things from the office so did the boys. Tracey took a picture of us by the bus pulling funny faces.



Once we got on the bus I looked at my Jacqueline Wilson magazine with Ellie. When we got to Badaguish we went to our lodges and sat on the sofa. I was with Rae and Ciara. When we found out our rooms we all went straight upstairs into our room. We all unpacked our bags and made our beds. Then we went fishing with our group. My group was Rebecca, Ellie, Callum, Ross and Robbie. When we were at the pond we learned how to put the bait on the hook. Guess what the bait wasMAGGOTS! Yuck, yuck, yuck! At first I didn't put them on the hook, but at the end I did put the maggots on the hook. I nearly got a fish. The fish nibbled the maggots instead. I couldn't believe it - Ellie caught two fish. I thought Ellie was really good at fishing.

When we got back to the lodges we all had mince and tatties with peas. For pudding we had sticky toffee pudding. YUM!!!! I didn't like toffee so I just had the sponge. After that we went mountain biking which was really fun. We went really fast downhill and really slow up hill. When we got home we all got into our pj's and watched Rio in the boys lodge. I fell asleep in the middle of the movie. After Rio we all went to bed.

In the morning I had cornflakes, toast and jam and orange squash. Yum. After breakfast we all packed our lunches and got dressed. Then we went orienteering."



Pupils were asked what was good about the trip. Some of their comments were:

- *"I most enjoyed gorge walking because I like swimming and climbing. I also thought the school trip was good because we got to work with all our friends" – Chloe*
- *"The activities were the best. I enjoyed cycling with friends and trying to beat them" – Matthew*
- *"The mountain biking because we went down a big hill" – Cameron*
- *"What I enjoyed about the trip was the mountain biking because we went down steep hills and we went fast" – Ross*
- *"We got to do stuff that we probably won't do again with the school" – Derek*
- *"Gorge walking because we got to climb up water falls and we got to jump off a cliff into deep water and I jumped off three or four times" – Lauren*
- *"Being with my friends and having fun. I really enjoyed doing all the activities like mountain biking and gorge walking. The Rings was fun but when you fall in its cold. Canoeing was good. We learnt how to do it properly and we got to jump off and swim about in our spare time" – Jade*
- *"The instructors were really kind, funny and jolly, a bit like Santa! All the activities were fun and I learned lots!" – Rae*



Pupils were asked what they had learned:



- *"I learnt how to canoe. I learnt to trust my class mates more than I did" – Jade*
- *"I learned how to put bait onto a fishing rod and how to cast out, which are two things I would never have done before!" – Rae*
- *"I learnt how to read a compass and how to canoe" – Ciara*
- *"To trust people because the man was helping us up so I had to trust him" – Nikki*
- *"I learnt to work together with the people on my team to do things more successfully" – Ellie*
- *"I learned to be independent and to do things for myself" – Robbie*