



# Newsletter

## August 2019

Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome back everyone - we hope you have had a fantastic summer break. We look forward to a busy and productive term ahead.

### School Garden

Many thanks to the volunteers who gave up their time to water and look after our garden. We very much appreciate their hard work.

### Newsletter

From now on only one newsletter will be issued to parents and carers. This will be a combined nursery and school newsletter which will be sent out on a monthly basis. Please read these to keep you up to date with school and nursery matters.

### Classes

Our numbers in school mean that we have 5 classes from Primary 1 to 7. These are as follows:

P1/2	-	Mrs Cullen
P2/3	-	Mrs Fraser
P3/4/5	-	Mrs Williams & Ms Stoddart (Ms Stoddart is covering for Mrs MacRitchie who is on maternity leave).
P5/6	-	Mrs Mackenzie
P6/7	-	Mrs Lockett

If you have any queries regarding school matters please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Mrs Maciver will be covering our CCR time as well as Mrs Mackenzie's PT time. She will be working with P3/4/5 upwards on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Among other subjects Mrs Maciver will be having a focus on teaching digital literacy and Gaelic. She is also going to be taking the lead on launching the schools twitter account with some of our pupils.

### ASN/PSA support

As detailed in the last newsletter our ASN Teacher Ms Wright's time with us has been reduced from 3 days per week to 1 day. Ms Wright will be working with us on Wednesdays.

Our PSA allocation is remaining the same and our PSA's will be working in all classes in the school. Mrs Macgregor retired at the end of term so Ms Deborah Humphries will be working in school on a temporary basis to cover Mrs Macgregor's hours. Ms Humphries was previously helping out in the nursery before the summer holidays.

### School Uniform

A wee reminder that all items of school uniform - t-shirt, jumper, trousers, skirts, leggings, shoes, pencil cases and water bottles should be labelled with their child's name. This will help to return lost property items to their owner.

Could we request all pupils, from Nursery to P7, have a **jacket in school each day**? All pupils should also have a pair of indoor shoes to wear inside the school buildings throughout the school day.

### Sun cream

If the sun decides to make a reappearance (fingers crossed), please could we ask that parents apply sun cream to their children before they come to school or nursery. This is especially important for the nursery pupils as they spend much of their day outdoors.

### Bus Pupils

Please note the end of day arrangements for bus pupils has changed from last session.

Any P1-3 pupil who travels on the school bus will be picked up at 3.05pm.

Primary 4-7 pupils will continue to be picked up at 3.30pm.

### School Improvement Plan

This year in Beauly Primary and Nursery we will be focusing on improving Digital Literacy, Writing and Teaching & Learning - focusing on pupils taking more of a lead in their learning.

### **Pupil Profiles**

As you will be aware we have been working on our pupil profiles in school from Nursery to P7. The purpose of these is to give an ongoing picture of your child's progress and work in school. There will be opportunities each term for your child to share this with you.

There will be no end of year report issued to Nursery parents as was previously the case. This is in line with HC regulations where the Pupil Profile is used to give you an ongoing picture of your child's progress throughout the year.

### **P6/7 Swimming Lessons**

Lessons for the P6/7 class will commence on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August until Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November. Letters will be issued to the class. Pupils will require swimming kit, towel and £2.50 contribution for the bus.

### **Primary 7 to Fairburn Activity Centre**

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September Primary 7 will be going to Fairburn for a day of team building skills. Information regarding this was sent out last term however, several pupils have still to return their permission slip along with payment. These will be re-issued this week. We would appreciate if all permissions and payment could be returned asap.

### **Outdoor Learning Research Project**

This term, our school is taking part in a research project on outdoor learning with the University of Edinburgh. Chris Mackie, a PhD research student at the Moray House School of Education will spend the next few months working with Primary 1/2 to learn more about how children and teachers come to know the world when they are out and about in the school grounds and our local community. It is hoped that this will help us and other schools better understand the role that early outdoor learning experiences at school might play in learning for sustainability. If your child is in P1/2, you will be receiving further information and consent forms this week, and will be invited to attend an information meeting, but feel free to chat to Chris if you see him around the school.

### **Parent Council**

The next Parent Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 6.30pm in the school staffroom. Please come and join us to support our school if at all possible.

### **House Captains**

All P7 pupils who would like to run for House or Deputy House Captains will be presenting a short speech to their 'housemates' on the afternoon of Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August. All pupils in school will then cast their votes and the House Captains and Deputy House Captains will be revealed at assembly on the morning of Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August. Get writing and practising your speeches P7!

### **Dress Down Day**

Dress down days will be given as a reward for pupils consistently wearing their uniform. Spot checks on uniform will take place each week and if percentages remain above 90% pupils will be rewarded with a dress down day. If possible a donation of £1 to the school fund would be appreciated. Our first dress down day is due to be on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August.

### **In-Service**

The school will be closed for In-Service training on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September. The staff will be working on developing aspects of our school improvement plan including attending a course about writing. Please note the authority have 2 In-service days in September and 2 in November too. These dates are detailed towards the end of the newsletter.

### **Parents Evening**

Our parents evening will take place on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 5.30 - 8.00pm and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 4.00 - 6.30pm. More information will be issued in due course.

### **Class Assemblies**

All classes will be holding an assembly during this session where they will be sharing some of their learning. All parents, carers and friends are warmly invited to attend. The dates for these are as follows:

- P5/6 - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30am
- P6/7 - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January at 11.30am
- P3/4/5 - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 11.30am
- P2/3 - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May at 11.30am
- P1/2 - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 11.30am

### Family Update Forms

Family update forms will be issued in due course. Please keep the school informed of any change in contact details as and when they happen. It is vital that the school holds up to date contacts for your child in case of an emergency.

### School Clubs

Basketball club will be starting on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August in the school hall from 3.30-4.45pm. Louise Moir has very kindly agreed to run the club with some support from Active Schools. Interested pupils from P5-P7 will be issued with forms this week.

Art Club run by Mrs Stewart will start on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August in the Creation Station. This is always a very popular club in high demand but we can only offer very limited places. We hope over the course of the year everyone who is keen to attend will get a chance to be part of the club. This is open to P4-7 pupils. Letters will be issued this week to those who are interested.

We are hoping to have cross country club up and running soon with Gavin Macgruer too.

Mrs Maciver is also in talks with me to start up a very exclusive after school club...watch this space!

### Nut Allergy

We have a small number of children in the school and nursery who have a nut allergy. Could all parents please ensure their **children do not bring any items to school that contain nuts**, either for their snack or in their packed lunch. Many thanks for your support with this.

### Morning Break Snack Prices

Slice of Toad & Spread	-	0.15p
Half Bagel Toasted & Spread	-	0.20p
Cracker/Oatcakes (2 biscuits) & Cheese	-	0.20p
Small Piece of Fruit	-	0.15p
Scone / Pancake / Homebaking *	-	0.25p
Cup of Milk	-	0.20p
Bottled Water	-	0.30p

One of these baked items available once a week \*

### School Meals Payment

**Please remember that school meals should be paid for in advance.**

Payment can be made by either cash or cheque at the school (cheques made payable to Highland Council).

### Highland Council - Invoice Surcharge

Highland Council introduced some changes to invoicing processes in April 2019. **To cover the high cost of administering invoices the addition of a £15 surcharge will be added to invoices issued for something that could or should be paid for another way.** As school meals should be paid for in advance - the £15 surcharge will be applied if an invoice has to be issued retrospectively for school meals.

### Payment of School Meals

- Payments are submitted by you in a sealed pre-payment envelope. These are collected by the catering staff from the collection boxes in the classrooms. **(Primary Pupil meals cost £2.30)**
- The envelopes are available for collection from the catering staff and there will also be a supply in each classroom and at the school office.
- The envelopes should be filled in with the **full name** of the pupil, their class and the amount to be credited to their account. **If you have more than one child in the school please fill in the name of each child and how much is to be credited to each child's account.**
- You can pay by **cash or cheque**. Cheques should be made payable to The Highland Council and the pupil's name and class written on the back.

**PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE GIVEN OUT BY THE CATERING STAFF FOR SCHOOL MEALS - ANY CHANGE WILL BE CARRIED FORWARD TO THE NEXT WEEK**  
**LUNCH TICKETS WILL NO LONGER BE HANDED OUT TO PUPILS**

Instead the amount paid by each child, their balance and whether they have had a school meal will be recorded daily by the catering staff. Any balances will be carried over to the following week i.e. if you have paid for your child to have 5 meals but your child has been absent for 2 days the balance of those 2 days meals will carry forward to the following week.

### When do I pay?

- We would prefer to receive the payment envelopes on **Monday mornings to cover the upcoming week**. Payments can be made throughout the week but we would appreciate payments on Monday mornings.
- These amounts are added to the pupil's account by the catering staff.
- Cash will NOT be accepted for school meals except in a labelled envelope in advance as described above.

If required forms for free school meals and clothing grants are now accessed via the Highland Council website at [https://www.highland.gov.uk/news/article/11124/financial\\_assistance\\_with\\_the\\_cost\\_of\\_school\\_clothing\\_increased\\_to\\_140\\_for\\_highland\\_pupils](https://www.highland.gov.uk/news/article/11124/financial_assistance_with_the_cost_of_school_clothing_increased_to_140_for_highland_pupils)

### SUPPORTING OUR FUNDRAISING

#### Rag Bag

All the following items are accepted;

**Clothing, All Fashions, All Ages, Paired Shoes, Handbags & Belts. All items should be wearable, dry and clean and wrapped in a plastic bag as the bin is not totally watertight and any wet clothing cannot be collected.**

**To date this has raised a massive £3,722.60**

#### Easyfundraising

As the title suggests it is easy to sign up and raise money for Beaully Primary School. Simply log on to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) select support a good cause, search BPS, select and support us now, follow the online instructions and happy shopping. There is also a link to this on the school website.

**To date this has raised £1,450.90**

**Your valued and continued support with all our fundraising initiatives really does make a difference to every child in the school. Thank you!**

#### Reminder to All Parents/Carers

##### Pupil Absences

Please contact the school office before 9.30am if your child will not be attending school for any reason, unless prior contact has been made.

##### Parent Contact Details

Please keep us updated with any changes of address, telephone numbers (home and work), mobile numbers and emergency contact details.

##### Pupil Medicines

Please ensure that you inform us of any medication your child is taking or any conditions affecting your child's wellbeing, providing medication where applicable. Please help us to be prepared for any eventuality; all information will be treated confidentially.

##### Head Lice Advice

Head lice are often a problem within schools and the wider community. Regularly practicing 'wet combing' with a suitable comb is advisable for parents of children throughout their school years. If head lice are detected, Pharmacists are able to advise on the management of a head louse infection. We would also be grateful if you would contact the school if you find your child has head lice. Children should be returned to school once they have been treated. Head Lice 'alert letters' are against Highland Council policy as most schools will have a few pupils with head lice at any one time. Also, in the past these letters have led to parents attempting preventative treatment which does not work and over-use of treatment may also lead to resistance.

#### School Calendar 2019-20/21

School Closes after School on:	School opens for pupils on:
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2019	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> August 2019
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2020
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2020	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> August 2020
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2020	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2020	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2021
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2021	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> August 2021

#### **Extra Closure Days**

Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> August 2019	Inset Day - Staff only
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	Inset Day - Staff only
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	Inset Day - Staff only
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> November 2019	Inset Day - Staff only
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2019	Inset Day - staff only
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	Weekend Break
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	Weekend Break
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	Inset Day - Staff only
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2020	May Day Holiday
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2020	Inset Day - Staff only
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> August 2020	Inset Day - Staff only
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	Inset Day - staff only
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	Inset Day - Staff only

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	Weekend Break
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	Weekend Break
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2021	Inset Day - Staff only
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021	May Day Holiday