



September 2021

Note from Head Teacher

Welcome to our first Strathdevon Newsletter of the year! We have lots of interesting things and exciting plans to share with you.

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our families and staff for helping us to return safely to school after the summer holidays. Your support with our current Covid-19 procedures has been greatly appreciated.

One of the biggest and most positive changes this term has been the relaxation of 'bubbles' in our playground. It has been wonderful to see our children re-exploring the playground, forming new friendships and having fun. The friendships between our P1 and P7 Buddies are just one of example of this.

We have also re-established opportunities for our children to take on leadership roles and areas of responsibility through our House Captain and Vice House Captain elections, our Eco and Sports Committees, our Pupil Council and our Junior Road Safety Officers.

A key aim for us this term was to enhance our school community by working together with our partners. So far this term, we have been working with Police Scotland to promote active travel to school. We have begun working with Clackmannanshire Council's Sustainability and Waste Management Group and our P5s received their Bikeability Level 1 training from Recyke-a-Bike. We look forward to developing new and existing partnerships throughout this year.

This month we also welcomed the appointment of new office bearers to our Strathdevon Parent Council. The help and support of the Parent Council over the last 18 months has been invaluable and we look forward to continuing to work in partnership with all of our parents and carers this year. Our communication platforms have also received an update with our new and improved Strathdevon Blog, an increase in followers of our school Twitter account and increased attendance at our first Strathdevon Surgery!



Note from Head Teacher cont...

Our School Improvement has now been published on our blog and details the exciting work that we are involved in as a school to improve learning experiences for all our children. This includes developing our approaches to play across our Early Level Team (ELC and P1) and improving our STEM (Science, Technologies, Engineering and Maths), Writing and Health and Wellbeing curriculums.

As this term draws to a close, I would like to thank my hard-working and dedicated staff team who have risen to the challenges of the new term ensuring that our children have settled well into their new classes.

Again, thank you to all of our families for your continued support.

Mrs Emma Tomlinson
Acting Head Teacher



Absences/Covid-19

The main symptoms of Coronavirus are: **a high temperature a new, continuous cough a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.**

If you have any symptoms of Coronavirus:

1. Contact us at school on 01259 452435 to report the absence.
2. If one of your children is going for a PCR test, any siblings should not be sent to school.
3. The person with symptoms should go for a PCR test.
4. All people living at the home should isolate until you get your test result.

If your child is unwell and is absent from school, please remember to call the school office on 01259 452435 to notify us of this absence. It is important that we are able to account for all absences in school every day.

Wider Achievement

We are continuing to share children's achievements from outside of school at our weekly virtual assembly.

Please email the school with a summary of your child's achievement with a photo if you have one. So far we have celebrated golf competition winners, climbing hills and Munros and cricket tournaments.

Get sharing, we love to hear all about it!



Highlight of the Week

It is so important to share the excellent learning that is going on our classes! Every week at assembly we share a Highlight of the Week from each class. This includes a picture and a summary of what the highlight was.

We upload the summaries from each class to our blog every week so check it out for a taste of what our children are up to!

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/cl/strathdevonprimary/>



Grounds Day

We had our first whole school Grounds Day on Friday 17th September. This was an opportunity for each class to work together on a specific outdoor area of our school and make it an exciting and beautiful space for outdoor learning to take place.

The children had a great time! Here is some feedback we had from the children about our Grounds Day:

"My favourite activity to do during Grounds Day was painting the planters."

"I enjoyed watering the plants the most."

"I liked planting the bulbs!"

"It was fun to be outside with friends."



Anti-Bullying Policy Update

A reminder to parents/carers that we are looking for your support to continue developing our Anti-Bullying Policy.

Share your views and thoughts through the online questionnaire:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/19y1CiyFfUldhTRIMQ1kKtsnn4nr_a4fRcM9phR0pU3Y/edit?usp=drive_web

Join one of our parent focus groups! If you would like to take part in this focus group, please email me at cljsneddon@glow.sch.uk.

More information will be sent out about the focus group in due course.

Jen Sneddon
(Acting Principal Teacher)

Nurture Groups

Miss Sneddon has started a small nurture group this term! If you would like to find out more information about what a nurture group is, how it runs and the benefits of Strathdevon Primary having one, follow the link below for more information...

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/clistrathdevonprimary/nurture/>

Wellbeing Wednesday

We had our first Wellbeing Wednesday this week. Each class worked hard on activities that linked to the wellbeing indicator **Safe**.

We are keen to raise the profile of the wellbeing indicators across the school so keep an eye out for more information to come!

For now, follow the link below to find out more...

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/getting-right-child-understanding-wellbeing-leaflet/pages/1/>



Dates for the Diary

- Challenge Poverty Week 4th to 11th October 2021
- Food bank collection Friday 8th October 2021
- Bike to School Week 27th September to 1st October 2021
- Challenge Poverty Week 4th – 11th October 2021

Autumn term ends Friday 8th October 2021.
October holiday begins Monday 11th October 2021.
October holiday ends Friday 15th October 2021.
Winter term begins Monday 18th October 2021