

BOTRIPHNIE BLETHER



October 2023

Dear Families,

Welcome back to term two!

Open Night

It was a real bucket filler to have such a fab turn out for our Open Evening at the end of term. We were delighted to launch our Interactive Wall to help support parental understanding of the curriculum we provide here at Botriphnie. 'The wall' helps our learners make sense of the skills for learning, life and work they are developing. Please remember it can be accessed at any



time, on our Glow Blog site. <https://www.thinglink.com/card/1649529024898138114> I remember parents asking me more about our Botriphnie Ninjas. Next on our list is to create an interactive version of the Learning Pit to help develop a shared language, promoting an aspirational Botriphnie Mind-set at home and school.

We hope you all enjoyed taking part in all the activities on offer and that they helped support a clearer understanding of what your child experiences here on a daily basis, as well as, how to support further at home. Our pupils thoroughly enjoyed being the teacher for the afternoon and sharing their expertise around diacritical marking and place value, amongst other things. Just a reminder to everyone there are videos to support these approaches on our blog which can be accessed to support spelling homework. <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/my/botriphnieprimaryschool/latest-news/literacy/>

Shoebox Appeal

The whole school, led by Nicola, set to filling shoeboxes again just before the holidays. Thanks to Nicola for organising. The children really enjoy the experience. In order to fundraise for more items, Nicola has organised word searches and they will be for sale for £1. Word searches went home in bags this week.



Reading Schools News- Trip to Elgin Library

The whole school thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Elgin Library. Mrs Chalmers was impressed with their Curious Carly Mind-set and their engagement in the workshops. The library staff were extremely helpful and the workshops were excellent. Thanks to all involved in organising. Here's what our learners had to say...

Today we went to Elgin library with P3-5 from Newmill Primary.

First, we were split into two groups to take part in activities. One group went to take part in Digital Learning.

We coloured in pictures and then brought them to life using the iPad App Arbi. We used another app to bring animals and reptiles in books to life! We also got to see inside a human body using a special t-shirt and app. We even saw 3D printed objects like an armadillo.



Next, we took part in a treasure hunt to find witch characters hidden around the library. We worked in groups to find books in the library.

We learned that there are 239,363 books in 11 Moray libraries. We learned about other uses of libraries such as using the internet and they can provide bus passes. We learned that you can borrow a book for 28 days. We also learned that you can take out 16 books at a time! We learned how to look after books by using bookmarks instead of folding corners.



P5-7 went to Waterstones book shop and purchased four books for our school library.

- *The Case of the Lighthouse Intruder by Kereen Getten.*
- *Signed copy of The 169-story Treehouse.*
- *Beano Annual 2024*
- *Wild Wild Wood by Anna Kemp*

We also took everyone back a bookmark.

Overall, we thought the day was 10/10. Next time, we would like to spend longer there to explore the books further.

Primary 3-7



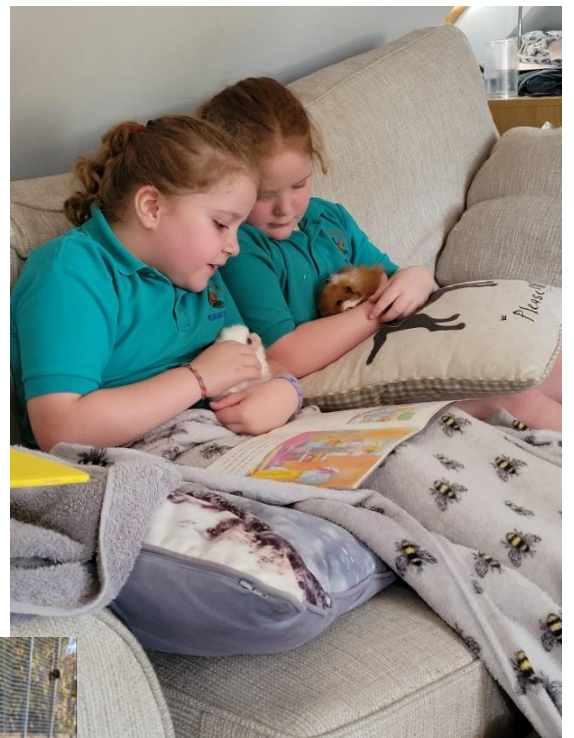
I forgot to include this wonderful photo of the whole school dressed up for Roald Dahl day. What a fantastic effort...thank you to all parents for supporting.

We have been delighted to receive some photos of our learners reading for enjoyment at home. Thank you for sharing.



St Andrew's Day Event

We would like to welcome all parents to a St Andrew's Day Event on Thursday 30th November. Debbie McKay is working with P4-7 next week to record the Gaelic Film they have been creating. The children would like to share the final video with you all at a showcasing event. Ideally, we would like to hold it in Newmill Village Hall and make it a joint event so they children could see each other's films. There we could accommodate more people and make use of the stage. However, we need to organise a projector for the children to show their video. This is something we are working on. If we can get technology in place, it will be in Newmill Village Hall at 1.30pm. Failing that, it'll be in here at Botriphnie Primary, aiming for 11 am start. We will keep you posted, with more exact details in November.



Playground Fun

Mrs McWilliam reports we have a magic show in town this week at break times. Charles has been entertaining the school with CPP Magic Show. I seem to remember it arrived last year or maybe it was the CPP Circus. It's great to see their creative ideas in action...they really do make good use of the stage area during playtimes.



Outdoor Learning

Our learners continue to enjoy weekly outdoor learning sessions. Hopefully, you were able to take a look at your child's Outdoor Learning Passport. Mrs Chalmers is using 'Wild Passport' as a framework for planning and monitoring skill development and learners complete them to keep an accurate record of their personal achievements. Charlie and Taylah have been tracking outdoor learning sessions using SWAY which was shared on the smartboard during the Open Afternoon. Mrs Chalmers has some ideas about extra resources and equipment required to support outdoor learning skill development which I shared at our parent Council meeting this week.



Outdoor Learning will now be a Monday afternoon instead of a Thursday. The focus this term will be fire (in playground with Mrs Lawrence) and nature. Children will need appropriate footwear and jackets on Mondays.



Pen Licences

Pen licences were awarded at the end of last term. This pupil-initiated incentive is still going strong, with learners demonstrating great motivation to achieve their targets. Well done to the pupils awarded below.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Halloween party on Friday.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Smith'.

Rachael Smith, Head teacher



DIARY DATES

- **Monday 13th Nov and Tuesday 14th Nov-** School Closed for In Service
- **Thursday 30th November-** Date for Community Gaelic Showcase Event-time still to be confirmed-either 11am or 1.30pm
- **Friday 1st 8th and 15th December-** Active Schools 3.00-3.45
- **Monday 18th December** - Nativity Play 2.00-3.00
- **Tuesday 19th December-** Christmas Party Day
- **Friday 22nd December-** Term ends
- **Monday 8th January-** Term 3 begins