

BOTRIPHNIE BLETHER



June 2024

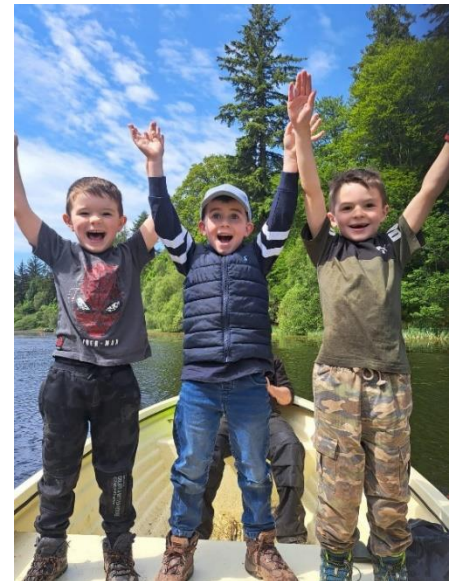
Dear families,



Another awesome month at Botriphnie, with so much success to celebrate.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our first 'Fishing Trip' on Saturday 1st June. It was bucket filling from start to finish. It was great to see almost all families and staff with extended family members enjoying a beautiful place on a sunny day. We are so lucky to have such a wonderful facility on our doorstep and we made the most of that on Saturday with boat rides, fishing, walking, swimming, cycling, football and crafts, all happening on the same day. With so many adults there, children were able to safely flit between activities of their choice and enjoy each other's company. My son, Danny, had a wonderful time. So much so, I had to

take him to Rothies Fishery the next day... still desperate to catch a fish. I've smiled a few times, recalling events of the day. However, Charles making a muscle in the Loch, shouting "Look, I'm 'Have a Go Jo,' Miss Smith" was a real highlight. Great to see them connecting our Ninjas Learning Superpowers to new activities outside school. I take my hat off to them all...I enjoy swimming but I'm not sure 'Have a Go Jo' could have persuaded me to get into the Loch. Anyway, it's a big thumbs up from everyone at Botriphnie. Here's what some of the children had to say...



"On Saturday Botriphnie Primary School pupil went to Loch Park to go fishing

because it was my dream. I used my Persevering Pete ninja learning superpowers when I was trying to catch a fish. My favourite part was...the whole day! Thank you for making my dream come true." Matthew, P1



"On the 1st of June, nearly the whole school went to Loch Park. Firstly, it started when Amélie,

Toran, James, my mum and I biked down all together to Loch Park. Since the car park was closed, we met Rosie and Lachlan at the church car park and then we cycled on until we got to Loch Park. After that long bike ride, we finally made it. First, I decorated a leaf and stone. Then I went on a walk with Max the reading dog. Mrs Chalmers and Holly came as well. Later on, I went fishing. I caught three baby fish. I was so proud of myself and so was my mum. I didn't go out on the boat. I felt nervous about it. After I had lunch, I



had a cheese wrap and my mum had a tuna sandwich. The best thing about the day was catching fish and also playing on the rope swing. This is a big thank you to everyone who organised the fishing trip." Lexi, P5

Curricular Skills and knowledge- STEM EVENT

Mrs McWilliam and P4-7 came back to Botriphnie with an overflowing bucket, after joining our P4-7 pupils on a trip to Keith Grammar School earlier in the month. All feeder primary schools were invited to the event. However, we were the only school joining for the full



day. I'd like to say a huge thank you to KGS for inviting us, to parents for transporting and Mrs McWilliam for agreeing to accompany. The children absolutely loved the event, led by RAF. All activities were based around engineering and flight. The day started with paper aeroplanes and explored stability, speed, height. They explained about the two planes they fly in Lossie. Next, they moved onto coding lego and producing different model cars and frogs. They explored skills required for a career as engineers and scientists. As part of the day, they were treated to a tour of Keith Grammar. Mrs McWilliam felt they were treated like celebrities, with staff and pupils of all ages interested and keen to meet them. In the afternoon, they spilt into teams to design cars, with a focus on time, distance and speed. It was a real bucket filler to receive the following email the next day from the Science teacher in charge of organising the event. Self-evaluation evidence comes in a variety of forms and, for me, this is real evidence that P4-7 have reached four in the pit demonstrating 'Have a Go Jo' learning superpowers. If we take a look at what 'Have a Go Jo' learning superpowers include below...there's a strong connection.



"I have an awesome learning superpower to help you through Botriphnie's Learning Pit. My superpower is to always try new things. I 'get involved' in every learning experience and embrace new learning with

a positive attitude. I 'take responsibility' for having a growth mindset. I 'persuade others' to join in with all learning tasks by using encouraging words. I aim to 'take creative risks' at all times because I know this will help me grow."

Hi Rachael,

I just wanted to extend our thanks to your staff and pupils who attended yesterday. They were an absolute JOY to have in the school. So polite, well behaved, eloquent and enthusiastic! We are always happy to work with our feeder primaries on STEM and have many things on the go including staff and pupils involved in delivering the Young STEM leader course. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if we can help or support. We'd also love to organise another day like yesterday.



Opportunities for Personal Achievement

- Well done to Llewie and Torin who both demonstrated a fantastic 'Have a Go Jo' Mindset towards competing in their first football tournament at the weekend.
- Well done to Rosie who has also demonstrated a 'Have a Go Jo' Mindset , starting Swim Club in Aberlour. She is looking forward to her first Gala in a couple of weeks.
- Lexi has also recognised she is moving through the learning pit at swimming club. She tells us she was able to teach others how to swim butterfly stroke last week...clear evidence you are definitely heading towards four in the pit.
- Well done to Taylah who embraced her transtion days at KGS and returned with a big smile and a list of new friends . I am in no doubt she will continue to do well.



Life and Work of the School- Play Pedagogy

There's been a lot of excitement on the lead up to our Euros themed whole day event. The 'Adventure Room' has been a hive of activity in anticipation, with each child designing their very own Euros themed t-shirt to wear at the football coaching session. There were Firepit Friday Hot dogs, flag designs and lots more. Here's what Jay had to say...

"Today we had football training with Brian. He is Lexi's uncle. He showed us how to do back forth touches with we practised. Then we did ten minutes of control work. At the end, we played a game of football with no goalkeeper. We got to take penalties. I would say...good job to Brain. We each got a Scotland flag and to hold a replica Euros trophy. I feel excited for tonight but worried Scotand will lose. Thanks to Mrs Lawrence for organising the football and the t-shirts. I liked decorating my very own football tshirt."



Mrs Stewart has posted more photos of our 'Football themed Friday' on Botriphnie Blog.

Life and Work of the School as a Community- Inclusion focus

Throughout the last term, Helena Jones, from Moray Autsim Team has been working at Botriphnie Primary. She has been supporting learners to understand neurodiversity, with a specific focus on autism. As part of this work, she delivered a session for the whole school exploring how autism can strongly affect a person's way of seeing the world, their cognitive strengths and weaknesses, their values, their purpose in life and their sense of who they are. The aim of the session was to provide children with more information to help understand and celebrate the strengths and challenges for people with differently wired brains...we recognise this can be difficult for everyone to make sense of. We would like to extend the opportunity to all families and have included the video shared as part of the presentation to watch at home. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ezv85LMFx2E>

Staffing Update

Mrs Chalmers contract has been extended at Lhanbyrde Primary. As a result, she will not be back with us anytime soon. Luckily, Mrs Milne is enjoying being back at Botriphnie so much she is keen to stay on. In August, Mrs Milne will continue to teach Monday to Thursday and I will teach on Fridays.

Fingers crossed the weather improves for Taylah's last week of term and we can enjoy swimming, park and pond dipping in the sun.

I had to finish with this photo. All our P2s missing two front teeth at the same time...the toothfairy has been busy in Drummuir!

It's hard to believe we are once again approaching the end of term...time certainly flies at Botriphnie Primary. Thank you to all our families for their continued support and have an awesome Summer holiday when it comes. Remember... we have Bikeability to look forward to on the first week back.



Warm regards,

Rachael Smith DIARY DATES

- Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th- New P1 transition days and Sports on Monday at 1pm
- Wednesday 26th June- Whole school swimming trip to Keith Swimming Pool. St Rufus Park and tennis to follow
- Friday 28th June- last day of term-school finishes at normal time
- Wednesday 14th August- Session 24/25 begins for pupils with Bikeability all week.
- Friday 4th October- Term 1 ends
- Friday 6th December - Inverness Panto