

# BOTRIPHONIE BLETHER

November 2025



Dear families,

Preparations for our much anticipated Christmas Fayre are in full swing. From festive stalls to seasonal treats, we're working hard to bring you a magical event to kick off the holidays. And that's not all—our beloved Nativity play is also on the horizon, promising to bring some extra festive cheer to our community. Stay tuned for more details as we get closer to these exciting events. In the meantime, we've got some updates and activities to share with you.

## ***Importance of Attendance and being on time***

Regular attendance and punctuality are key to a pupil's success and learning. We want to remind all families of the importance of being in school every day and arriving on time. Did you know that pupils who miss just two days a month, adds up to 20 days a year, which is nearly a month of school.

Statistics also show that just 10 minutes of lateness each day can result in losing over six school days per year.

## **Curriculum**

### ***Book Week Scotland - Book Picnic***

On Thursday, 20th November, we were delighted to welcome the parents and carers of our P1-3 pupils to our Book Picnic. The children were thrilled to receive their brand new book bags and enjoyed a wonderful afternoon sharing stories together in our cosy corner.

It was a lovely opportunity for families to spend time reading, relaxing and celebrating the joy of books. Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make the afternoon so special.

### ***Scotch Ambassador, Lesley Gillespie visit***



Thank you to Mrs Lawrence for organising a cookery demonstration from Quality Meat Scotland.

*Lesley came in to talk to us about meat in Scotland. She chose two volunteers to help her make some lamb vegetable pasta. We learned that there are 6.7 million sheep in Scotland! We learned how to cook meat. We would all like to invite her back to demonstrate her*

*cooking skills again soon. Rosie*



## ***Celebrating Learner Participation and Ownership***

We are excited to share that our work has been published on the Northern Alliance Learning, Teaching and Assessment Toolkit as an example of effective practice, showcasing learner participation and ownership of learning. We invite you to take some time to watch our videos and see our pupils' fantastic learning in action [here](#).

## **Opportunities for personal achievement**

### ***Playmakers Training***



Our P5-7 pupils are taking part in weekly Playmakers training sessions led by Amanda, our Active Schools Coordinator. Through fun, hands-on activities, pupils are learning valuable leadership skills, teamwork and how to plan and lead playground games for younger children.

The programme helps build confidence, cooperation and a sense of responsibility. It is also a great way to stay active and have fun. We can't wait to see our new Playmakers putting their skills into action in the playground soon.

### ***Sharon Henderson Dance***



All pupils have been taking part in a fun four week block of dance



sessions with *SH Dance*. Throughout the block, pupils have been working collaboratively to learn a routine to "Golden." The pupils have shown great enthusiasm, teamwork and creativity as they developed their moves each week. A big thank you to our Parent Council for kindly funding this fantastic opportunity. It has been a wonderful experience for everyone involved.

### ***October Holidays Reading Challenge***

Well done to all the pupils who took part in the October Holidays Reading Challenge. It was fantastic to see so many children enjoying books and sharing their reading adventures. The pupils enjoyed it so much that they've already asked for another challenge over the Christmas holidays, what a great attitude towards reading!





## 500 Words Competition



Almost all of the pupils wrote narrative stories this term that were entered into the BBC 500 Words competition. This story writing competition is a fantastic opportunity for children to showcase their creativity, imagination and writing skills on a national platform.

We were very impressed with the effort and enthusiasm the pupils have shown. You can find more details about the competition on the BBC 500 Words website - [here](#)

## Personal Achievements



Toran demonstrated a Persevering Pete mindset where he took part in a tennis tournament and was proud to receive his third medal.

Amelie demonstrated a brilliant Have a go, Jo mindset during her first hockey tournament.

She scored an impressive six goals and her team won four out of their five matches.



Congratulations to Thomas and Lachlan for achieving Football Players of the Week for their excellent effort, teamwork and sportsmanship. They showed a real Persevering Pete mindset.

Lexi showed outstanding determination and great effort when she completed the 4K Fun Run at the Buckie Christmas Cracker. Well done, Lexi, for demonstrating such a strong Resilient Ruby mindset.



## Ethos and life of the school as a community

### Remembrance

The whole school came together to honour those who have served and sacrificed. All pupils gathered at the war memorial in order to pay their respects. Our Primary 7 pupils played a special role in the ceremony, laying a wreath given to the school. Llewie and Jay laid special wooden poppy art that they had created in the Adventure Room and Torin recited his poem.



## Halloween Party



A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for this year's Parent Council Halloween Party. It was great to see all the pupils from the school at the event. The hall was buzzing with laughter, music and some truly amazing costumes.

We're so grateful to the parent volunteers who helped decorate, organise and run the Halloween Party. Events like these remind us what a wonderful school community we have.

Warm regards,

*S. Chalmers*

Stacey Chalmers

Acting HT

## Diary Dates

- **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December** - Panto at Eden Court
- **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Jumper Day/Christmas Lunch/Bring a chocolate donation for a Chocolate Stall at Christmas Fayre
- **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Fayre and Nativity 1.30 - 3 pm in school hall
- **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Party/End of Term
- **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January** - Term 3 Begins

