

BOTRIPHONIE BLETHER



January 2026

Dear families,

January has been a busy and positive month at school, with pupils working hard and settling well into their learning. In this newsletter, I am pleased to share updates, celebrations and important dates as we move toward February.

Average Monthly Attendance data: 98.92%

Curriculum

Glasgow Science Centre Visit

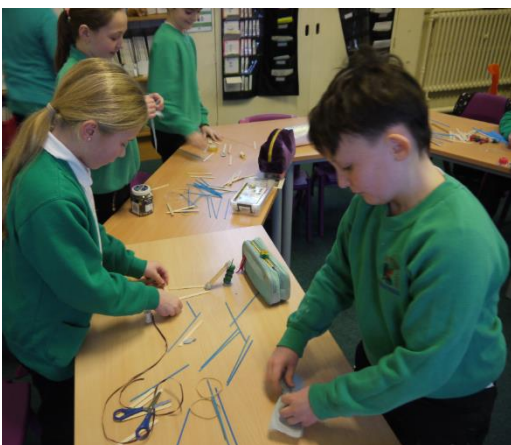


On Thursday 15 January, the Glasgow Science Centre on Tour team visited our school to deliver the Bodyworks Science Show. Pupils learned all about biology and how the human body works, including what it's like inside the body through videos and demonstrations. They also explored the long-term effects of unhealthy choices, such as smoking and drinking alcohol

and saw what the body might look like after 10 years. The session was full of fascinating facts, including that the small intestine is around 7 metres long, the large intestine is 1.5 metres long, the stomach sits on the left side of the body and that smoking causes wrinkles. It was an engaging and informative experience that pupils really enjoyed.



P5-7 STEM



In a STEM lesson this month, pupils learned about different types of energy through an engaging, hands-on challenge. Working in pairs, they explored how to move a bobbin without physically touching it, using a variety of materials such as beads, tape and lollipop sticks. The activity encouraged teamwork, problem solving and creative thinking and pupils were fascinated to discover that objects can be moved using energy without direct contact.

P1 -4 Science



During science lessons this month, Primary 1-4 explored different types of energy through hands on learning. Pupils developed their investigation and problem solving skills by carrying out experiments to discover the quickest way to melt chocolate, making predictions and observing changes. They then applied their learning in Chef's Club, where they followed instructions carefully, worked collaboratively and enjoyed making tasty Chocolate Crispies.



Homework

Homework is a great way for children to practise skills, build confidence and take pride in their learning. To help make homework a little easier, Mrs Chalmers will be running a Homework Club every Friday. This relaxed and supportive session will give pupils the chance to ask questions, get help if they're stuck and complete their homework in a calm, supportive environment.

Ethos and life of the school as a community

Thank you to all the parents and members of the community who helped clear the snow to allow the school to open after the winter break. Your support truly went over and above and you fully deserved the Botriphnie 'Over and Above' Certificate for demonstrating our Community and Determined values. Your commitment ensured that our children were able to access their right to a high quality education, as outlined in UNCRC Article 28. We are extremely grateful for your support.



IDL - Climate Action

The interdisciplinary learning (IDL) this term focuses on Climate Change. In Science, pupils will develop their understanding of renewable and non-renewable energy sources. Within Social Studies, they will examine natural disasters and explore the impact of human activity on the environment. In Technologies, pupils will investigate how technological developments affect the environment, while also enhancing their ICT skills using a range of applications, software and digital platforms.

Opportunities for personal achievement



The Joinery Club remains a favourite among our pupils, with fantastic projects being created each month. This month, Matthew crafted an impressive boat, while



Charlie put his skills to work building a creative xylophone. Keep up the great work, everyone! Both demonstrating an

Independent, Imaginative Isla Botriphnie Mindset.



Llewie displayed a Persevering Pete Mindset through his outstanding LEGO models, demonstrating great determination and focus in every build.



Warm regards,

S. Chalmers.

Stacey Chalmers

Acting HT



Diary Dates

- Monday 2nd February - P1 and P7 dental inspection
- Monday 2nd - Friday 6th February - Reading Schools Week
- Thursday 12th February - In Service
- Friday 13th February and Monday 16th February - Mid Term Holiday
- Thursday 19th February - Netball starts 3-4 pm
- Tuesday 24th February - Parent Appointments
- Wednesday 4th March - SH after school dance starts (4 weeks)
- Wednesday 11th March - Scottish Opera for P6/7 pupils
- Monday 23rd March - Outfit Moray biking
- Friday 27th March - Term 3 ends