

# BOTRIPHNIE BLETHER



March 2026

Dear families,

Average Monthly Attendance data: 92.6%

## IDL

### *Circus Workshop*

The pupils had a truly magical experience as they stepped into the world of the circus! The children took part in an exciting circus skills workshop, where they explored juggling, balancing, spinning plates and hula-hooping



The workshop wasn't just about fun (although there was plenty of that!). It encouraged teamwork, concentration and coordination, helping students build confidence and try new skills in a safe, supportive environment. Many of our pupils were amazed at what they could achieve after just a short session and it was inspiring to see so many smiling faces as they practiced their tricks. All pupils certainly displayed a 'Have a go, Jo' Botriphnie Mindset.



### *Weather Watchers*

Our pupils have started their very own "Weather Watchers" program using Sean Batty's weather calendar. Every day, the children track the weather using stickers, recording sunshine, rain, clouds and more. At the end of each month, their observations are sent to Sean, who combines them with data from across Scotland to create a fun, informative video.

It's a fantastic way to learn about weather patterns, recording data and sharing their findings with a wider audience.

### *Helping the Planet: A Hands-On Approach to Climate Change*

Jack Farge from Moray Climate Schools came in on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March and taught us about climate change and the positive approach we can have on the environment. One key takeaway was how trees absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen, making them vital in the fight against climate change. To put this into





action, we visited our school playground to brainstorm ways to make it more eco-friendly. We came up with ideas like planting more trees, adding bushes and honeysuckle to the walls and incorporating more greenery throughout the area. We then designed sketches of how our ideas would look. Sinan and Lexi

## Curriculum



### **World Book Day**

We had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. The day was filled with creativity, imagination and a shared love of reading across the school.

It was wonderful to see so many amazing costumes, with children proudly dressing up as their favourite book characters. From timeless classics to modern favourites, there was a real buzz of excitement as pupils shared stories and recommendations with one another.

Throughout the day, classes took part in a range of book-themed activities, enjoyed special story sessions and explored new authors and genres. A special thank you to Fiona and Jemima for sharing their favourite stories with the class - the children thoroughly enjoyed listening and asking questions.



## Opportunities for Personal Achievement



### **Growth Mindset**

In our assemblies, we have been exploring the importance of developing a growth mindset - understanding that mistakes help us learn and that perseverance is key when things feel challenging. In the film Zootropolis, Judy Hopps is a great example of someone who keeps trying, even when things don't go to plan.

To help strengthen the home-school connection, Judy and her friends Nick Wilde and Flash have been visiting pupils' homes to remind everyone about the importance of showing a growth mindset in everyday life.

Thank you to all the parents and carers for supporting this initiative and for sharing such wonderful examples of perseverance and positive attitudes at home. Working together helps us reinforce these important messages and supports our pupils in becoming confident, resilient learners.

### ***Scottish Opera - The Dragon of the Western Sea***



On Wednesday 11th March, our P6 and P7 pupils took part in an exciting workshop with Scottish Opera. During the session, the children developed their vocal skills, built confidence in performing and worked collaboratively as a team to bring music and storytelling to life. They showed great enthusiasm and maturity throughout, fully embracing the experience. I was incredibly proud of how they represented the school and the confidence they demonstrated during the final performance.



### ***After School Clubs***

Well done to all the children who have been taking part in our after-school clubs- Netball and Sharon Henderson Dance. Your hard work, dedication and enthusiasm have truly shone through this term.

A special thank you to Jenny and Jo for leading our Netball Club - your coaching and support have been invaluable. Also, a huge thank you to Mrs Lawrence for your help in supporting Sharon Henderson Dance.

### ***Moray Cross Country***



On Saturday 21st March, pupils took part in the Moray Cross Country, over 750 children ran at the event with 39 primary schools being represented. Well done to Rosie, Lachlan, Lexi, Amelie, Jay, Ruari and Erin for representing the school so brilliantly. They demonstrated determination, resilience and excellent sportsmanship throughout the race and we are very proud of their efforts.

A huge thank you to Mrs Simmers and Mrs Gordon-Duff for supporting the children on the day and for leading a running club in the weeks leading up to the event. Their encouragement and commitment helped prepare the team so well for the competition. Thank you also to the parents for bringing their children to Fochabers to take part in the event and to the parent council for providing Botriphnie School t-shirts to all the children that took part.





A big well done to Elsie for showing a fantastic Persevering Pete mindset by creating a boat at school and then taking it home to test. We're delighted to share that it floated perfectly— what a brilliant achievement! Great job, Elsie!

Luna and Keziah also demonstrated a Persevering Pete mindset creating their

models. Well done girls!

### Sports Leader Award

We're thrilled to have earned a Silver School Sport Award for 2026! This recognises our commitment to continuous improvement in school sport and physical activity.



Warm regards

*S. Chalmers.*

Stacey Chalmers  
Acting HT

### DIARY DATES

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March** - Maths and Numeracy Family learning event - 2.10 pm start. All welcome.

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March** - Easter Service at Botriphnie Church - 9.20 am start. All welcome.

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April** - Term 4 begins

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> April, 5<sup>th</sup> May** - Earthtime pm

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April** - Parent Council Meeting 6 pm

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May** - May Day Holiday

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May** - P6 Science Fair at KGS

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May** - Science Workshop P4-7 am

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June** - Sports Day at Newmill (pm)

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June** - Parent Council Coffee Morning at Botriphnie Hall

**Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> - Thu 25<sup>th</sup> June** - KGS P7-S1 Transition Days

**Tues 30<sup>th</sup> June - Thu 2<sup>nd</sup> July** - P7 Outfit Moray

