

BOTRIPHONIE BLETHER



June 2026

Dear families,

As we reach the end of the school year, we're proud of all our pupils have achieved. Thank you to staff, families and pupils for your support and hard work. Wishing everyone a restful summer—we look forward to seeing you in the new term.

Average Monthly Attendance data: 91.92%

Curriculum

Pyjamarama



On Friday 12th June, pupils took part in our Pyjamarama event, enjoying a fun-filled day dedicated to reading. Activities included Buddy Reading with a biscuit, a lively book quiz and creating their own stories and mini books.

The event was a great success and helped to celebrate a shared love of reading across the school. We are also pleased to share that £20 was raised, which has gone towards buying new books for our school library.

Cooking Club

All pupils recently enjoyed a hands-on session making their own burgers from scratch. Pupils learned a range of valuable skills, including food hygiene, measuring ingredients, shaping and preparing burgers and safe cooking techniques.

It was fantastic to see their confidence grow and even better to hear that some pupils went on to fry their burgers at home to enjoy for tea with their families. A brilliant example of skills being used beyond the classroom.



School Improvement Update

This year, Botriphnie pupils have continued to make strong progress across writing, numeracy and wider learning, supported by whole school improvement work.

In writing, pupils have benefited from the Cypic national writing programme, which has helped improve skills, confidence and engagement. Visual prompts, success criteria and self-assessment tools such as traffic light systems are now consistently used, helping children understand what successful writing looks like and how to improve their work.

Shared approaches such as non-verbal communication strategies and consistent classroom routines have helped create calm, focused learning environments where children are more engaged and able to learn effectively. Pupil digital profiles show that learners are increasingly confident in talking about their progress and achievements.

In numeracy and mathematics, pupils are developing greater confidence, independence and enjoyment in their learning. They are becoming more able to explain their thinking and apply skills in real-life contexts. Initiatives such as "Marvellous Mathematician" certificates and participation in Maths Week Scotland have helped promote a growth mindset and highlight the importance of effort and progress.

Play-based learning and the use of inclusive approaches, including the CIRCLE framework, are supporting children's communication, creativity and problem-solving skills while ensuring all learners feel included and supported.

Strong partnership working with parents has also continued, with positive feedback from recent learning events helping to strengthen understanding of how we teach numeracy and how families can support learning at home.

Overall, these developments are helping to build confident, motivated learners who can reflect on their progress and take an active role in their learning.

Ethos and life of the school as a community



The Parent Council held a very successful coffee morning at Drummur Hall on Saturday 13th June. It was wonderful to see so many members of the community coming together in support of the school.

A huge thank you goes to all our parent and pupil helpers who supported the event on the day. We are delighted to share that around £1,200 was raised—an amazing achievement for our small community and a fantastic contribution towards supporting our school.

Volunteers

As we come to the end of another busy and successful school year, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to Fiona Gordon-Duff and Elaine Henderson for generously giving their time to support Laura Simmers with P.E. lessons. We would also like to thank Jo and Jenny for running the after-school netball club.

We are incredibly grateful to all our volunteers, whose time and commitment make such a positive difference to our pupils' experiences.

If you have some time to spare and would like to volunteer at the school next session—whether helping in the woods, listening to children read or supporting other activities—we would love to hear from you. Please contact the school by email at admin.botriphniep@moray-edunet.gov.uk to find out more.

Opportunities for Personal Achievement

We are very proud of Botriphnie Netball Club on their first ever game. The team showed fantastic "Resilient Ruby" mindsets throughout—demonstrating determination, teamwork and a great attitude from start to finish. Well done to everyone involved!

Please see below an email shared from Coach Jo.

"I just wanted to send a message to tell you how impressed both myself and Coach Jen were with the way our Botriphnie pupils represented their school, their team and themselves this afternoon at our meet up with the club at Keith sports centre.

All 7 pupils who regularly attend our Thursday club were able to join us and everyone demonstrated all the skills we've been working on since we started the club in April. There were great passes, super sticky feet, space finding (no need to shout 'grapes'), calling out for the ball and some impressive goals scored. I was worried about playing on a full sized court but the team used the whole space well! We weren't officially keeping score, but Coach Jen couldn't resist and our match ended with 5:0 to us!

All the children took turns subbing out as we were playing with 5 on at a time and everyone was supportive of the players on the court when they sat out for their rests.

Coach Jen and I were so, so proud of the whole team tonight - well done to Amelie, Erin, James, Kezi, Lexi, Luna and Toran!

Photos attached of the team looking super smart in their tops and one of a passing drill (I'm distracting them with talk about positioning).



Hopefully we'll be able to go along again soon for another match, but in the meantime, we'll continue working hard and having fun on a Thursday afternoon."



Congratulations to Mathew for demonstrating a 'Persevering Pete' mindset at the football tournament in Dufftown.

Well done to Torin for demonstrating a 'Persevering Pete' mindset at rugby. His determination, effort and positive attitude throughout the tournament were rewarded with a participation medal and the Coaches' Player of the Tournament trophy.



Luna attended a Rugby Awards Night in Huntly, where she was awarded a trophy for outstanding sportsmanship and teamwork — well done, Luna!

Well done to Toran, who won his first ever match at his league fixture against Lossie. He was victorious in both the doubles alongside his partner Theo and in his singles match as well, demonstrating a 'Resilient Ruby' mindset.

Congratulations to Rosie and Amelie for taking part in the Speyside Swimming Club Gala. Rosie earned two bronze medals in the breaststroke and butterfly events. Amelie achieved personal bests in all her races. Both swimmers showed a fantastic 'Resilient Ruby' mindset throughout the competition.



Well done to Rosie for demonstrating a fantastic 'Persevering Pete' mindset and successfully achieving her Grade 1 Violin certificate. What a wonderful achievement, congratulations!

Congratulations to Llewie, who earned a new badge after attending Cub Camp. Throughout the experience, he showed great determination and independence, demonstrating a 'Resilient Ruby' mindset. Well done, Llewie - a fantastic achievement!



Warm regards

S. Chalmers.

Stacey Chalmers
Acting HT

DIARY DATES

Thursday 2nd July - Term Ends

Monday 17th August and Tuesday 18th August - In Service

Wednesday 19th August - Term 1 begins

Thursday 27th August - Parent Council AGM

