



October 2025



Dear Families

I hope you had a relaxing and refreshing holiday break. As October winds down and the last of the autumn leaves begin to fall, let's take a moment to reflect, share a few updates and get ready for what's ahead. Here are some of our highlights — and what's coming next.

Curriculum

Restart a Heart (RSAH) Live CPR Session

On Wednesday, October 1st, Primary 5-7 pupils participated in the Restart a Heart (RSAH) Live CPR Familiarisation Session. This engaging and interactive event introduced them to life-saving CPR techniques and the proper use of defibrillators. More than just learning vital skills, our pupils are now ready to share their newfound knowledge with their families, becoming ambassadors of life-saving action in the community.

Bonfire Safety Visit

On Monday 27th October, we were delighted to welcome Stuart Mount, a Community Safety Advocate, to our school for an informative presentation on Bonfire Safety. We discovered that you need to be five years old to hold a sparkler and that sparklers can burn five times hotter than a BBQ! We also learned that you must be 18 years old to buy fireworks.

Stuart reminded us how important it is to think about animals during firework displays, as the loud noises, bright colours and smoke can cause them distress.

Through this session, we developed important safety awareness skills, including how to plan and enjoy bonfire celebrations responsibly, recognise potential hazards and make sensible decisions to keep ourselves and others safe.

P1 -3 Fresh Air Friday



Our P1-3 learners have been making the most of Fresh Air Fridays with outdoor play and exploration. It's a wonderful chance for the children to connect with nature, build social skills and develop their imagination — all while enjoying the benefits of fresh air and active play. A great way to end the week!

Macduff Aquarium visit



We got a special visit from Macduff Aquarium! We learned about different animals and where they are found. Did you know that all sea life at Macduff Aquarium is found around the Moray Firth? They brought in some animals in a big tank. They brought an anemone. I



had to be a Have a Go, Jo and try to touch it even though I didn't have to. They also brought in 3 starfish. I felt them all. The second one felt hard when I expected it to be soft. The last one felt weird and it had tiny scales on it.

Interdisciplinary Learning

Primary 3-5 class - Isabella's Footsteps Performance

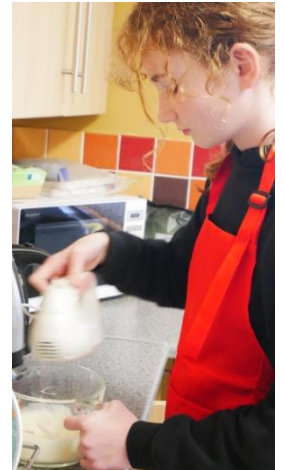


The P3-5 class wowed parents/carers with a fantastic performance of Isabella's Footsteps. The children practiced important skills like teamwork, confidence, memorisation and public speaking, all while having fun. It was wonderful to see their hard work and creativity shine through. A big thank you to all the parents/carers who came along to cheer them on!

Opportunities for Personal Achievement

Wednesday Cooking Club

Our Wednesday afternoon Cooking Club, run by one of our fantastic helpers, is off to a delicious start — with cheesecake as the first recipe! Along the way, students are learning essential kitchen skills like measuring, mixing, following instructions and working safely and hygienically in the kitchen. It's a fun, hands-on way to build confidence and creativity through cooking. All pupils have successfully displayed a



'Have a Go, Jo' mindset.

Football Festival



Pupils from Bottriphnie Primary joined Newmill Primary for an exciting Football Festival, where they developed key skills like teamwork, communication, coordination and sportsmanship. A big thank you to Mrs Simmers for organising this fantastic event and giving our kids the chance to play, learn and enjoy the game together. Lots of 'Resilient Ruby' Mindsets were displayed when not even the rain could dampen their spirits!

Achievement Assembly

We are delighted to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our pupils who recently received their Pen Licences and Value Certificates. The Pen Licence is awarded to students who have shown exceptional effort and skill in their handwriting, marking an important milestone in their learning journey. Alongside this, our Value Certificates recognise learners who consistently demonstrate our core school values — growth, support, belong and aspire — both in and out of the classroom. Congratulations to all our award recipients for their outstanding achievements and commitment to excellence! Keep up the great work!

Warm regards

S. Chalmers

Stacey Chalmers
Acting HT

DIARY DATES

- **Wednesday 29th October** - P5-7 class Playmaker Training begins, P3-5 and P5-7 Build a Bridge Workshop
- **Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th November** - Parents Night, Scholastic Book Fair, Kit for All (pre-loved sportswear)
- **Monday 10th November and Tuesday 11th November** - In Service Closure
- **Thursday 13th November** - P1 Screening
- **Thursday 4th December** - Panto at St Thomas Hall
- **Thursday 11th December** - Christmas Jumper Day/Christmas Lunch
- **Wednesday 17th December** - Christmas Fayre 1.30 - 3 pm (all welcome)
- **Thursday 18th December** - P3-5 and P1-3 Christmas Parties
- **Friday 19th December** - P5-7 Christmas Party