



March 2026



Dear Families,

Average Monthly Attendance data: 96.40%

### Ethos and life of the School Community

#### *Quiz Night at Keith Golf Club*

The Parent Council hosted a Quiz Night at Keith Golf Club on Friday 5th March - and what a fantastic evening it was!

It was wonderful to see so many teams coming together for a night of friendly competition, laughter and community spirit.

A huge thank you to everyone who attended, helped organise the event, donated prizes and supported the evening in any way. Your generosity and enthusiasm made the night such a success, raising £735.

### IDL

#### *Weather Watchers*

P1-3 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.

### 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 Jodie Mathers for sharing her favourite stories with each of the classes - the children thoroughly enjoyed listening and asking questions.



### ***Mr Leitch - KGS School Librarian Visit***

Mr Leitch visited the school on Friday 27th February and spent time working with the P5-7 class to explore a range of different book genres. He explained the key features of each genre and shared examples to help deepen their understanding. The pupils were fully engaged throughout the session and particularly enjoyed choosing their favourite book from each genre and discussing their reasons with one another.



Mr Leitch also taught the children about fact and opinion, where the pupils worked in groups and sorted statements into fact or opinion.

The visit was both enjoyable and inspiring, helping to further develop the pupils' enthusiasm for reading.

### **Opportunities for Personal Achievement**

#### ***Leadership Groups***

#### ***Reading Group***

This Easter, pupils are invited to take part in our Reading Groups Easter Reading Challenge. The challenge sheet was sent home last week and can be brought back after the holidays where they will be rewarded with tokens. This is a fantastic opportunity for all children to really enjoy spending some quality time reading for pleasure.

#### ***Sports Leaders***

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



As part of the award the Sports Leaders group have put lunchtime clubs in place, these will be organised and ran by the pupils - rugby, hockey, gymnastics, football, skipping and basketball.

### ***Pupil Parliament***

The Pupil Parliament are excited to announce a new learning character in our school - Simmers the Sporty Seagull. Alongside Rosie the Rights Rabbit and the Global Goal Mole, these characters help to remind us of the important values that shape our school vision and curriculum.

Each character represents a key part of our learning: understanding our rights, being responsible global citizens and leading healthy, active lives. Simmers the Sporty Seagull encourages pupils to stay active, develop teamwork and demonstrate good sportsmanship.

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

On Wednesday 11th March, our P5-7 class 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.



### ***Glee Club - Monday Lunchtime***



Our Glee Club continues to be a fantastic way for pupils to come together and enjoy singing in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Meeting every Monday at lunchtime, the club gives pupils the chance to learn new songs, build confidence and share their love of music with friends.

A huge thank you goes to Mrs Allardice for giving up her time each week to run the club and support our budding singers.

Her enthusiasm and encouragement make Glee Club a highlight of the week for many pupils.

### ***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 Beth, Mia, Amanda, Dexter, Hamish, Lyla, Lewis and Brodie 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 for supporting the children on the day and for leading a running club in the weeks leading up to the event. Her 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. The children were delighted to be the first to show off our new Newmill Primary sports t-shirts.

### ***Cheerleading Success***



We are proud to share Fearne's recent cheerleading achievements. In her first two cheerleading competitions, held in Dundee and Edinburgh, Fearne and her team, the Cherry Blossoms, had fantastic results. They achieved two 1st place finishes in Dundee and a 4th place finish in Edinburgh. Well done Fearne! Good luck for your upcoming championships.

Reminder: If your child has a personal achievement you would like us to share - whether it's a sporting success, music award, club certificate or community involvement - please send a photo along with a short sentence explaining the achievement to [admin.newmillp@moray-edunet.gov.uk](mailto:admin.newmillp@moray-edunet.gov.uk) We would be delighted to feature it in our newsletter and celebrate their success with the school

community.

Warm regards

*S. Chalmers.*

Stacey Chalmers  
Acting HT

### **DIARY DATES**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March** - Maths and Numeracy Family learning event - 2.10 pm start. All welcome.

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March** - Term 3 Ends

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

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

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May** - Parent Council Meeting 6.30 pm

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

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

**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

