



September 2026



Dear Families,

Average Monthly Attendance data: 95%

Tesco Community Grant

We are delighted to share the fantastic news that, following the conclusion of voting in our local Tesco store, our project came first - with 35,660 tokens!

Thanks to the wonderful support of Tesco customers, we have been chosen to receive a £1,500 Tesco Community Grant.

This generous funding will be used to support our Fruity Friday and Cooking Club activities, helping us provide more opportunities for children to enjoy healthy food, learn new cooking skills and have fun together.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported and voted for our project — your votes have made a real difference!



Curriculum

Learning About Sustainability Through Enterprise

On Tuesday 1st September, Matt from Veolia visited P4-7 to deliver an engaging session exploring the importance of the circular economy and its impact on both the environment and businesses.

Pupils worked in groups to create their own small businesses, designing logos and making paper hats to sell to the "shop". They were paid for each hat they produced and then looked at the waste created through the process. This led to discussions about the importance of reducing waste, reusing products and making better use of our resources on a global scale.

The pupils then bought back their hats and got creative by transforming them into paper aeroplanes, which they sold back to the "shop". Finally, they calculated their profits and used their earnings to buy sweets!

It was a fun and practical way for pupils to develop their understanding of sustainability, enterprise and the circular economy, while also linking directly to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and our STEM learning.

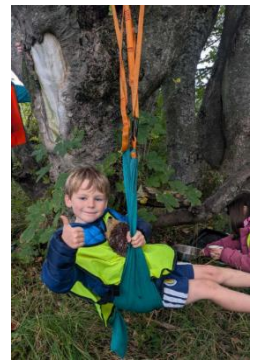
A big thank you to Matt from Veolia for an exciting and thought-provoking session!





P1 -3 Forest School Adventures

P1-3 have spent two exciting mornings with Earthtime at the local woods in Newmill. The children have been introduced to Forest School equipment and learned how to use it safely, as well as exploring the woodland environment and its natural resources.



They have been learning about animal homes and habitats, creating their own animal homes and exploring different types of trees and leaves. The children also enjoyed making natural paint from brambles and using it to create leaf outlines on fabric.

With plenty of time for free exploration, the children have been encouraged to follow their own interests, learn at their own pace and discover what the woodland has to offer.

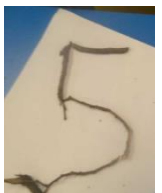
Maths Week Scotland

During the week beginning Monday 21st September, we celebrated Maths Week Scotland. It was a fun and exciting week, with lots of opportunities to explore how important maths is in our everyday lives.

P1-P3 went on a nature hunt, collecting five leaves, five sticks and five stones. We then chose one item to draw and used See, Think, Wonder to explore our ideas. We used our natural materials to investigate patterns, sorting, number bonds and arrays. P1 explored fact families to and within 5, P2 explored fact families to and within 10 and P3 explored arrays.



We also used our natural materials to explore numbers 1-10 in French. The teacher called out a number in French and pupils worked out which number it was and represented it using their materials. We also explored height by comparing, ordering and measuring our bean plants. To finish the week, we created posters showcasing all our learning experiences.



P4-P5 took part in the Sumdog Competition, putting their maths skills to the test and enjoying some friendly competition.

P6-P7 enjoyed Maths Lessons Live, where NatWest Bank introduced us to a variety of jobs involving maths and money. We also learned about careers in the NHS, including the role of an electrical engineer and explored how maths is used in these jobs.

We also introduced our new Curiosity Cube, which has sparked lots of Curious Carly questions and encouraged deep thinking and discussion during our maths learning.

It has been a fantastic week of exploring, questioning, problem-solving and discovering that maths really is everywhere!

Scottish Children's Health Week

We celebrated Scottish Children's Health Week (7-13 September) and its special 50th anniversary, focusing on children's health, wellbeing and rights.

Our pupils have been learning all about the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and what children's rights mean in everyday life. During Tower Time, we have been exploring a new 'Right of the Fortnight', helping everyone understand, discuss and celebrate their rights.

It has been wonderful to see our pupils becoming rights-respecting, confident and informed young citizens.



Roald Dahl Day



"We celebrated Roald Dahl Day. In the morning, the whole school took part in a golden ticket hunt. I think this made people feel included because the whole school took part. I didn't find one, but I managed my emotions.

We also had a challenge to design and make our own sweet for Willy Wonka. I was a 2 in the pit because I didn't know what to do to begin with. Then I was a 'Have a Go, Jo'.

Did you know Roald Dahl's parents were Norwegian?" Ailsa P7

Author Visit - Catherine Stables



P1-3 were delighted to welcome local author Catherine Stables to our school. Catherine told us all about her job as a vet and explained how her love of Scottish animals inspired her to write her books.

She showed us some fascinating animal X-rays and read her first book, 'Shona the Vet'. Catherine answered all the children's questions and even challenged us to a fun game where we had to identify where the animals in her book could be found.

We also learned about the different stages of creating a book, from planning and writing to illustrating. It was a fantastic visit and the children really enjoyed finding out more about Catherine's work as both a vet and an author.



Childsmile visit

P1-3 were delighted to welcome a dental nurse from Childsmile to school. She watched the children's toothbrushing routine and was very impressed by how confident and careful they were when brushing their teeth.

The children enjoyed a fun demonstration of how to brush their teeth, with the help of her friendly pet dragon! We also played a guessing game to learn which foods are good for our teeth and which ones we should enjoy less often.

We learned that we only need a pea-sized amount of toothpaste and that treats can be enjoyed as part of a healthy diet. Most importantly, we should brush our teeth for two minutes in the morning and two minutes at night. We also learned that fizzy drinks should be avoided to help keep our teeth healthy.

It was a fun and informative visit and the children were fantastic at showing off their toothbrushing skills!

Opportunities for Personal Achievement



A huge well done to Lewis, Kaden and Brodie for taking part in the Edinburgh Cup during the summer holidays. We hope you had a fantastic time and enjoyed the experience!



Congratulations also to Molly, who took part in a football tournament at Simpson Park in Keith. Well done, Molly, for getting involved and taking part in the tournament!



A huge well done to Kaden, Jack and Brodie, who travelled all the way to Turin, Italy, to take part in the Pro Eureka Cup, proudly representing Keith Football Club!

What an amazing experience and fantastic opportunity to play football on an international stage. We are very proud of you all

A special mention goes to Jacob, who was keen to share his fantastic football achievement with us! While playing as goalkeeper, Jacob scored an incredible goal from the opposite end of the pitch! What a super strike, Jacob — well done!





Well done to Lyla, who recently competed in a Tae Kwon Do competition in Motherwell. She achieved two bronze medals for patterns and sparring and a silver medal for her special technique, a jumping front kick. A fantastic achievement, Lyla!

Reminder - Head Lice

We would like to remind families to check their child's hair regularly for head lice. Head lice are common among school-aged children, and cases can occur at any time during the school year. Regular checks can help identify and treat head lice quickly, reducing the likelihood of them spreading to others.

We would encourage parents and carers to check their child's hair at least once a week throughout the school year.

If you find head lice or nits, please let the school know. Early detection and effective treatment are important in helping to prevent further spread.

Treating head lice is straightforward and your pharmacist, GP or health visitor can provide advice on the most appropriate treatment.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep our school community healthy.

Warm regards

S. Chalmers

Stacey Chalmers
Acting HT



DIARY DATES

- **Friday 9th October-** Tempest Photography/Term ends
- **Monday 26th October-** Term 2 starts
- **Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th November** - Parents' Nights
- **Tuesday 3rd November** - Scholastic Book Fair Arrives
- **Monday 9th November and Tuesday 10th November-** In Service Closure

