

# Balmalloch Primary School and Nursery Class



## Class Newsletter

responsiBility  
grAitude  
**BELIEVE IN YOURSELF**  
huMility and forgiveness  
perseverAnce  
Love  
**ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS**  
hOnesty and generosity  
Compassion and respeCt  
friendsHiP & family

### **A PLACE OF ENTHUSIASTIC LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT**

**Welcome parents and carers to Primary 6's newsletter for Term 2.**

I am very excited to be starting Term 2 following such a positive and enthusiastic start to Term 1. In Term 1 we focused on building relationships, both between myself and the pupils and between the pupils themselves. This has enabled us to develop a class ethos based on friendship and respect and we will continue to focus on this in Term 2.

Different aspects of Health and Wellbeing education permeates our school day and each day begins with an 'Emotional Registration' check-in and follow up discussions. We have a class 'worry monster' and time is always set aside to discuss children's emotions and concerns. This year the class teachers will lead learning in Health and Wellbeing linked to the SHANARRI indicators.

In term 2 there will be some slight changes due to changes in staffing. Miss Luxton will be working with the class on a Thursday afternoon (11:45-15:00) during which she will be focussing on RME and HWB.

P6 will have gym with myself on Monday mornings, which will be indoors and a Wednesday afternoon (outdoors) when our swimming lessons finish. Please could you ensure that on these days children attend school wearing comfortable shoes, black jogging bottoms/leggings and a white polo-shirt. If pupils want to change into trainers or more suitable footwear for sport, they can do this on PE days. Please ensure that all of your child's clothes are labelled and he/she refrains from wearing jewellery on these days. If your child has earrings which cannot be removed for several weeks, please try and cover them with tape on P.E. days (e.g. Micropore), for health and safety purposes.

As Balmalloch Primary School is a Health Promoting School, could you please ensure that your child only brings water to drink in class. Water bottles can be refilled throughout the day as fruit juices/cartons should only be consumed at lunch. Although gym days are Tuesdays and Thursdays, outdoor education and activities such as the Daily Mile will often be incorporated in to learning so it would be helpful if children brought a water bottle each day.

If you could also please ensure your child brings their homework jotter in to class at the start of each week (usually a Monday), children will write their spelling words in their homework jotter to allow practise to be completed at home should you wish to do so. In P6 children focus on homophone words, spelling rules, affixes and tricky words which require the use of spelling strategies. The spelling strategies that children learn in class are:

- Sounding out letters
- Syllabification
- Words within words
- Compound words
- Use of analogy
- Mnemonics
- Applying a spelling rule

Children should be encouraged to explain these strategies to you and show you how these can be used to help with spelling.

As always, I am very grateful for your support during your child's learning. Please remember to follow our school twitter @balmalloch for regular school updates and photos of our work in class. Should you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's learning or welfare please do not hesitate to contact me. You can phone the school office to request a call back, send a note in with your child, or email: enquires@balmalloch

I am very excited for the year ahead and I look forward to speaking with you all soon.

Kind regards,  
Mr B Clark  
Class Teacher



## Technologies



**ICT:** Using digital technology to access websites directly, comparing search terms and working between multiple tabs and windows.  
Using Scratch and the Microbits to code and create different animations.

## School Values



Primary 6's School Values:  
**Forgiveness & Humility**

### Homework:

Each term a grid will be given out with a variety of homework activities, these tasks are optional and can be returned to class so I can see what has been completed. The main emphasis of homework is reading. Each child should complete a minimum of 20 minutes reading per night which will support reading activities in school. This should be recorded in your child's reading record. Each night the pages read should be recorded in the jotter and the entry signed by a parent. This record will be checked weekly.

### Snapshot Jotters and Learning Logs:

Each year, children will be given a Snapshot Jotter specific to their stage (P1-P7). The jotter will include a 'snapshot' of children's work each term in Numeracy and Maths and Literacy Across the Curriculum providing evidence of learning and achievement. The Senior Leadership and Management Team will monitor these jotters as part of Quality Assurance procedures, including comments that support children's progress. In addition, parents and carers will also be asked to comment on their child's work each term, improving partnership working to support a holistic approach to learning and progression.

Learning Logs will also be provided but these jotters are kept for your child's journey through every school year - Early Level/First Level/Second Level which will contain the following, depending on the level:

- 50 Things to do before you are 11  $\frac{3}{4}$
- Number Square
- Words I use a lot
- Conjunctions/Connectives
- Homophones
- Days of the week/Months of the year/Colours
- Punctuation
- Language Devices
- Parts of Speech
- Writing Targets
- Novel Studies
- Comprehension Strategies
- Pupil Profile
- SHANARRI Web (Safe/Healthy/Achieving/ Nurtured/Active/Responsible/ Respected/ Included) Pupils

- SHANARRI Web (Safe/Healthy/Achieving/ Nurtured/Active/Responsible/ Respected/ Included) Parents & Pupils
- Four Capacities
- Self-Assessment
- Progress Report
- Target Setting/Benchmarks

**Class Charter:**

As a Rights Respecting School and in our journey to become a School of Character, our class has determined and agreed upon their own Class Charter to ensure everyone's rights are being met and to encourage a positive and productive learning environment. Our Positive Relationships and Behaviour policy has been devised to reflect the views of all stakeholders and ensure our school values are reflected in all aspects of school life.