

Dear Families – I hope this bulletin finds you well. I can't believe we're at the penultimate week of Term 1. It's been full throttle this week, again, and we're excited about next week with a few treats in store. I hope you find the following information helpful.

- As mentioned last week, there's a fun bike/scooter day on Thursday led by Ally Mallinson of 'Walk, Wheel, Cycle Scotland' (a catchy new name). Ally will be setting up a fun course in the playground and all classes (Nursery to P7) will get a turn to join in the bike/scooter fun. Children should bring their bikes, a bike lock/chain if possible and helmet for this event. Helmets should be taken into class with children. If you don't have a bike/scooter, we have some spares to borrow. P6 & 7 should use the bike racks by the gate and other children should park their bikes outside the classroom doors. Please help your child get to school and home again safely – it might be busy so take good care out there.
- Next Friday, our House Captains are arranging for a team session of games. P1 & P2 will be taught some new outdoor games by them, and P3 & P4 then P5-6-7 will have some Capture the Flag fun in the playground. This is a super opportunity to rally team spirit and we hope the weather is good for us.
- As part of our work in developing the Numeracy aspect of Maths learning, teachers have been talking about how we develop children's spoken skills in and around number. We're trying to increase the confidence and skill level where children can describe **how** they generate answers and solutions in number work. The National research says that we all have a role in promoting maths in a more positive light, to remove the 'fear' around maths such as it's a tricky thing or a subject where you're either 'good at it' or not. By encouraging talk and explaining our thinking we can help work on the processing of our understanding. I'll be in classes next week, observing maths lessons which is always a pleasure for me. I'll be chatting with children, too, about their views on how we learn about number/maths.
- Teachers will also be leaving school early next Tuesday (3.15pm on the bell!) as we head off to Oakbank Primary School for a moderation visit with other teachers and schools in PKC. We'll be taking our children's writing jotters and discussing the progress of our learners. It's a great opportunity to swap good ideas and support planning for challenging learning next term. Visits like these help us question and justify our professional judgements about learner progress.
- Please scroll down for some important dates for your diary, in Term 2. Sometimes due to unforeseen circumstances there may be changes to plans. We'll try to ensure that rarely happen – we hope you understand the sometimes unavoidable / fluid nature of school diaries. We'll do our best to keep to these dates or give you plenty of warning where there are changes.
- Don't forget: Next Friday (last day of term) will be a non-uniform day for the school children. Please, if you can, wear something that matches your House colour (Ballo – red (sorry kids!) Farg – green Nethy – yellow) Please don't buy anything special for this.....we can give out coloured bibs for our fun House Event that day to show Team allegiance.