



Newsletter 4

March 2024

Dunbarney Primary School

Updates & News for Families and Friends of our School



Louise Kelly HT

Dear Dunbarney families and friends,

Welcome to our latest newsletter with updates, information, and school dates for your diary.

Staffing Update: We have another retirement announcement to make... we are very sad to say that Mrs S Anderson (Primary Pupil Support Worker) will be leaving us just before the Easter holidays as she takes early-retirement. Mrs Anderson has supported many children over her ten years in post and her contributions to the school and school community have been greatly appreciated, especially by the children. As an important part of our support staff team, Mrs Anderson will be sorely missed; we wish you the very best and thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your years of service.

Mrs Anderson's post will now be advertised on a fixed term basis, internally first and then it moves to external advertising.

Mrs White started her post with us as Primary Pupil Support Worker at the start of term and we are so very pleased to have her here as part of our school staff team; Mrs White is a very busy lady as she already coaches our netball team! Thank you, Mrs White.

Mrs S Law joins our teaching team on a regular basis after having completed a few days of supply work with us. Primary Five were excited to hear that Mrs Law will have regular teaching time in their class and Mrs Law has assured us that the feeling is mutual! Well done P5 and welcome aboard Mrs Law.

Quality Improvement Review & School Visit: On the 26 and 27 February we had a number of our colleagues from our senior education teams visit us in school. They were here to carry out an authority level review of the quality of the care, learning, teaching, assessment, and attainment in our school. Their visit started with a warm welcome and a well organised school tour led by our house captains, Oona, Ruby, Alex and Anna; the visiting team were very impressed by our P7 captains' knowledge of their school as well as their confidence when presenting and guiding them around.

The team carried out a number of classroom visits, met a group of parents, chatted with our support staff team, met with class teachers, took part in a scoping meeting with senior leadership team, worked with groups of learners across the school and analysed our school data and self-evaluation evidence.

At the end of the two days, we all met to receive their feedback and overview, this will be recorded and shared with school in a report. The QIR report is not published but we will share details of this at the Parent Council meeting that follows it.

Seesaw App & Online Learner Profiling: From the 31 May 2024 Perth and Kinross Council schools can no longer use the Seesaw online platform. I'm sharing this date in advance to let you know there will be no online

platform for the month of June 2024. I was hoping that we would be able to share the new platform details with you at this point, however, I am still waiting for the outcome. There will be a decision made centrally in May about what will replace Seesaw and this will then be communicated to us so that we can share the plans with you. During this period, I am hoping that I can have staff trained for the new app and we can begin to prepare and work with you for whatever replaces Seesaw for academic session 24/25.

Homework/Home learning: As we have no online learning platform from 31 May, there will be no homework set this way during the month of June. Each class teacher will prepare a guide for general home learning activities that you may choose to participate in to support your child's learning in June, but the set homework will be limited to reading and any specifically chosen homework as part of some children's personal support plans. The general list will be sent home via the school office.

I apologise for any inconvenience cause by these changes, and we hope to be back up online as soon as we possibly can!

Dairy Dates: A list of dates and events is attached at the end of this newsletter for your information and we hope this supports planning for the next few months.

Miss Kelly

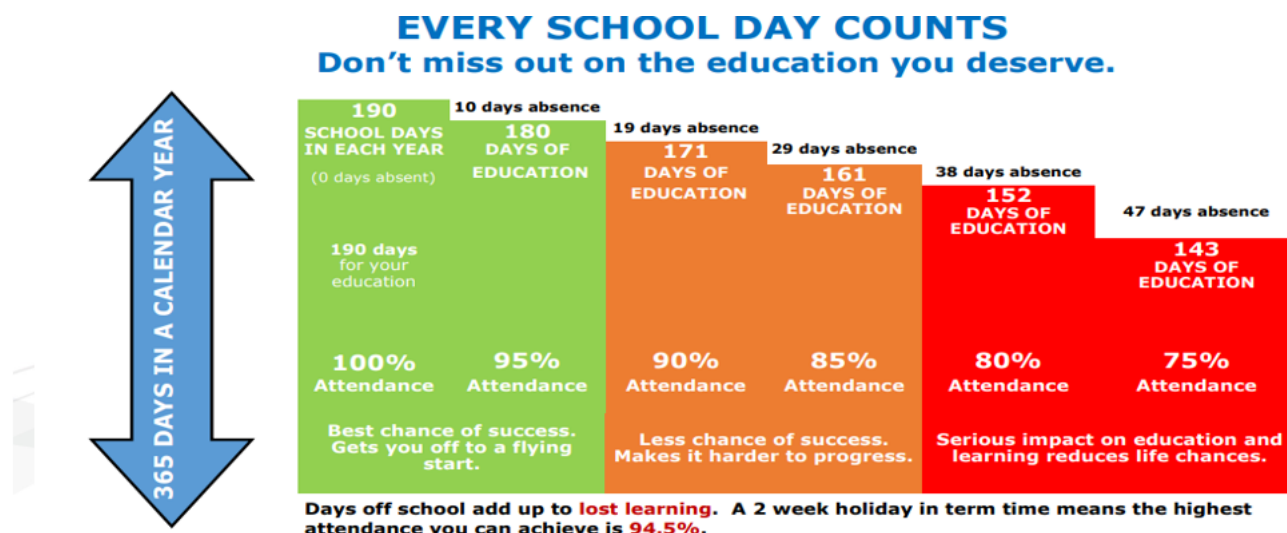
Attendance & Absence

We are aware of an increase in pupil absence from school for a range of reasons. Whilst we totally understand children may have illness and need to have time off, we have a duty to review absence on a termly basis.

You may be sent a letter which identifies the percentage of attendance your child has had and, in some cases, may be asked to come in to discuss this. PKC are tracking attendance and are asking schools to be vigilant for increases in individual absences.

Term time holidays are also impacting on children's attendance and we are aware this can also impact on learners' progress in school. We acknowledge that sometimes term time holidays are cheaper or fit in with working parents but it is worthwhile thinking about what that may affect in terms of learners' confidence and progress in school. Please note that any absence for a holiday will be marked as unauthorised. Please see the leaflet linked for further information.

[Pupil Absence from Learning leaflet](#)



Volunteers in School



We love having helpers in school to support in classes, share their skills or tell us about their jobs as adults. If you have any time to offer to help in school or if you have a talent to share, please get in touch. dunbarney@pkc.gov.uk

Intergenerational Community Initiatives

We continue to build our relationships with Sarah and the residents at Earnbank and the children of P4/5 will be spending some time crafting with them prior to the Easter holidays. We value, and the children love, their time learning together.

Class Visits and Trips out of School

I'm sure you will agree from the photographs that Primary 4/5 appear to have enjoyed their trip out to the Dundee transport Museum on the 13 March. Thank you to our parent council for their financial contribution to their educational visit 😊

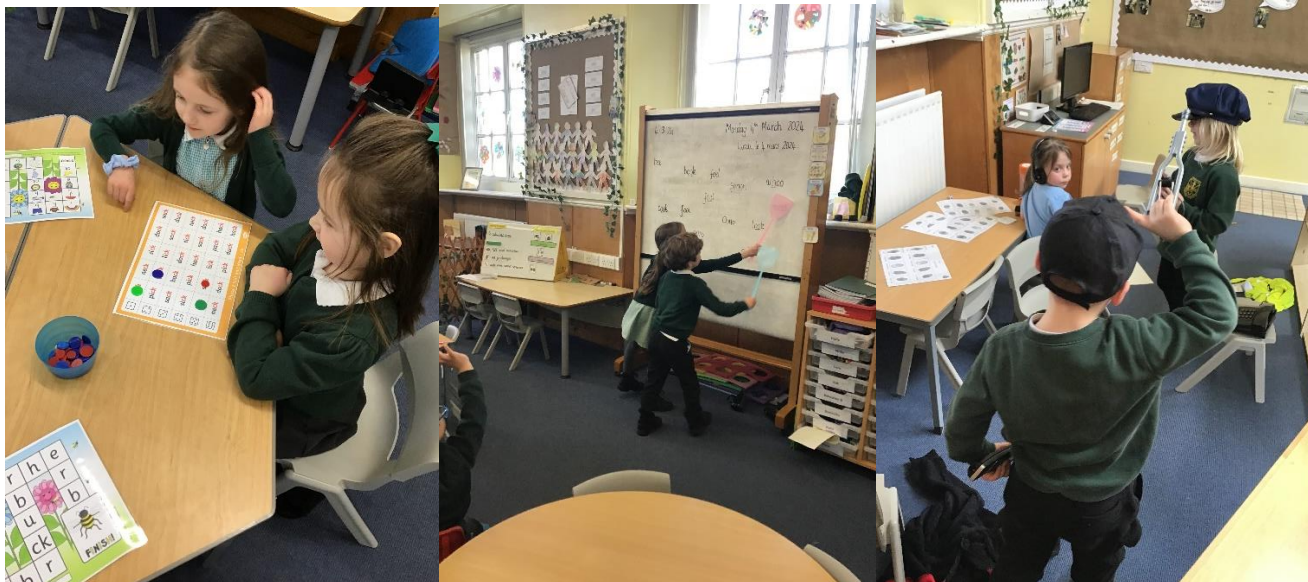


Primary 1 Class Learning Insight

This term we have been learning about the life cycle of butterflies through the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar. We used what we learned to create props and performed what we had learned in front of the school and our special grown-ups. We wanted a challenge so did our assembly in English and French.

We have been using a variety of ways to learn our common words and our new phonemes. The roll and read mats have proved very popular.

Through role play areas, videos, stories, and interviews with our grownups, we have been learning all about the world of work. We have found out lots of interesting facts about different jobs and what we might like to do when we grow up.



Primary 1/2 Class Learning Insight

In Primary 1/2 we have been looking at Mythical Creatures from around the world. We have looked at lots of different books and thought we would like to create our very own special book about Mythical Creatures. Here you can see some of our fantastic artwork of our creatures. We enjoyed sharing our favourite books from home with our friends on World Book Day and cuddling our teddies too! Our amazing Buddies came to read to us which was great fun, and they also read to us some books which they had made. Thank you, Buddies.



We shared our favourite books from home with our friends and teddies! We love to read all different sorts of books in P1/2.





We always love playing and reading with our Buddies! The Buddies made us little books which we loved. Thank you, Buddies.

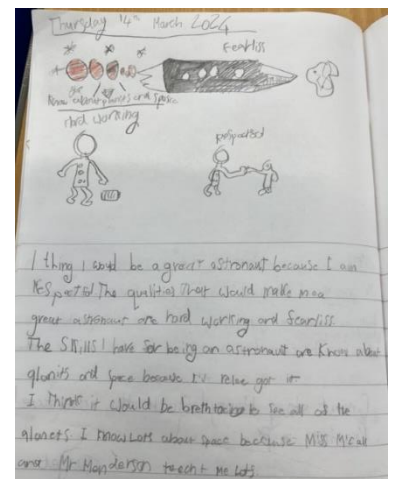
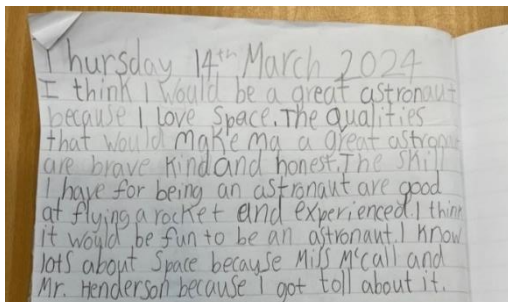


Primary 2/3 Class Learning Insight

In Primary 2/3 this term we have been learning all about space! We bravely performed in front of the whole school and our parents and shared lots of interesting facts about the planets.



For our writing this term we have been hard at work learning about what makes a great astronaut and what skills and qualities one would need. Most recently in our Big Write we have 'replied' to a job advert and shared why we would be a great astronaut.



Primary 3/4 Class Learning Insight

Primary 3/4 have been focussing on Global Goal 14, Life Below Water. We have been worried about the impact plastic pollution is having on our seas and are making it our mission to spread the word to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. We are hosting a Plastic Pollution Pick Up in the village which we designed posters to invite our friends and families to come and join us. We have also entered the Marine Art Litter Competition. We had to use recyclable materials to create a piece of artwork to highlight the dangers of plastic pollution.



Primary 4/5 Class Learning Insight

This term P4/5 having been learning about transport and we were very excited to show our learning to our grownups in our Learning Assembly. We hope they 'wheely' enjoyed themselves. We went on a visit to the Dundee Transport Museum where we saw lots of different exhibits and learned a lot about transport and travel in our local area. We created some collaborative dances and have been practising our gymnastic skills. We have been learning about how people put faith into action in their lives and the French vocabulary for places around our school. We have participated in experiments about dissolving and sound. We took part in the Booky and Footy Quiz for World Book Day and our writing has been focusing on letters and organising information in a non-fiction booklet and reports.



Primary 5 Class Learning Insight

P5 have been learning about Natural Disasters. We have learnt about earthquakes and volcanic eruptions being caused by the movement of tectonic plates, the earth's crust. We learnt how earthquakes can be measured using a seismograph and even tried creating one ourselves, using cardboard boxes, a hanging pencil cup and paper. Now we are learning how people predict and prepare for Natural Disasters in the future.

In Maths we have been learning to add, subtract, multiply and divide numbers with a decimal point and have used these skills to solve money, buying and bill paying problems.



Primary 6 Class Learning Insight

This term Primary Six have enjoyed learning about Inspiring People as their context for learning, and one highlight of this has been having the opportunity to research our own inspiring person to create a biography book on them. Researching facts, making notes, and learning how to copy images onto a word document were some of the key skills developed to create our detailed pieces of work – come and take a read of our work which can now be found in our class library!

Our class team participated in the Creative Day of Dance event and shared their brilliant routine 'Eye of the Tiger' based on their own ideas of moves, rhythm and keeping to the beat. We all loved watching your confidence, stage presence and enthusiasm shine through on the stage. 😊

Finally, Primary Six loved coming to school in pyjamas for World Book Day and completing book and writing themed activities linked to making 'Guess my Book' quizzes, our inspiring mathematician Fibonacci and having a go at some Fibonacci Poetry, and to end the day our classroom turned into Starbooks book tasting café. It was enjoyable having a taste of different genres of books and having time to 'sip, taste and read' biographies, poetry, comics, comedy, and fantasy books to name a few. Some of us even found a new book and genre of book to start reading!



Primary 7 Class Learning Insight

Primary Seven joined a live stream and draw along with author and illustrator Sarah Bowie as part of their World Book Day celebrations on 7 March.



'Eggstronauts! P7 have been applying their learning on weight, mass and gravity! Some fantastic designs, construction and problem solving! 🐣 🚀



Sporting Achievements

Our Gymnastics team were kitted out in their brand-new leotards (thank you to our parent council for purchasing these) and school t-shirts; they perfected their routines and were ready to perform and compete on Sunday 17 March! **Go Team DUNBARNEY PS!**

Did you see Miss McCall in her fabulous Team Coach hoodie?

...The results are in and our level 3 Team won joint 1st place, receiving their gold medals and the team trophy to bring back to school. **This means they go forward to the Scottish School Championships! WOO HOO CONGRATULATIONS** to all our gymnasts, we look forward to hearing all about your experience in assembly this week. Each competitor will also receive a certificate.



Do you have a recent extra-curricular achievement that you would like to appear in our next newsletter? Please email dunbarney@pkc.gov.uk with a photo and a one- or two-line description and we will make this a regular feature.

Pupil Leadership Groups

Our Student Council met on 26 January. Here are their most recent minutes from the last meeting:

Dunbarney Student Council

The Cheese in the Bread Council! – 26-01-2024

Chairperson Anna Lee P Secretary – Amy P7

Present: James, Camille, Lacey, Dominika, Amy, Anna Lee, Rosa, Josh, Theo, Holly, Duncan, Alex, Madison, Neiva, Miss Kelly HT, Kate & Ethan, Max & Charlie

No Apologies

Agenda Items	Discussion	Actions
Suggestion box for every class. We opened the boxes to see what was requested.	More toys in playground – we think there is enough! Toilets to be cleaner – AY we think cleaners do a lot but students need to be more responsible! Astro turf/grass in playground	We (the council) think there are enough toys in the shed- Share these minutes with our class: Max and Holly to speak to classes about keeping the toilets clean. Flush the toilets, turn taps off. Don't throw wet paper towels. Don't waste toilet paper and clog toilets. Toilets are not for hanging out.

	<p>Calm down place people for place to go to when angry or upset – we have this already</p> <p>Monkey bars & slide –</p> <p>Better lines on football pitch and in gym hall –</p> <p>Get rid of the marks and cracks on our walls and re-paint school. Miss Kelly says she has raised this with PKC property and we are awaiting.</p> <p>New Paint and Paint brushes AL: – Mrs Cochrane has already done this.</p> <p>P6 want to get out at 3:15 and not 3:20 pm</p> <p>Football Team in school – LK: a new Active School Co-ordinator Alison Taylor.</p> <p>Can we have a school running club:</p> <p>More fun experiments – ask teachers in class</p> <p>More old fashioned topics? B in P6</p> <p>People push in the lines – 5S lines isn't working!</p>	<p>Everyone needs to talk about it with their class to make sure they know about it. We have the area at the back of the open area and reception is quiet and calming.</p> <p>Our council think this is too expensive! AL: we already have a trim trail and paying to fix this!</p> <p>YES! We agree – Miss Kelly to enquire -Miss Kelly to organise lines being painted</p> <p>Miss Kelly says she has raised this with PKC property and we are awaiting. New furniture ordered and coming easter holidays. Some new carpet being fitted.</p> <p>Mrs Cochrane has already done this.</p> <p>– LK discuss with class as this it not an easy thing to do. Wants to know why?</p> <p>LK: a new Active School Co-ordinator Alison Taylor. New club being set up for P4/5 in February.</p> <p>LK ask staff to take a running club.</p> <p>Speak to your teachers and share this with them.</p> <p>They enjoyed WW2 and this has inspired them.</p>
A.o.B	None today	Next Meeting 15 March 2024

Community Events

Live Active Easter Programme Link: <https://www.liveactive.co.uk/holidays>



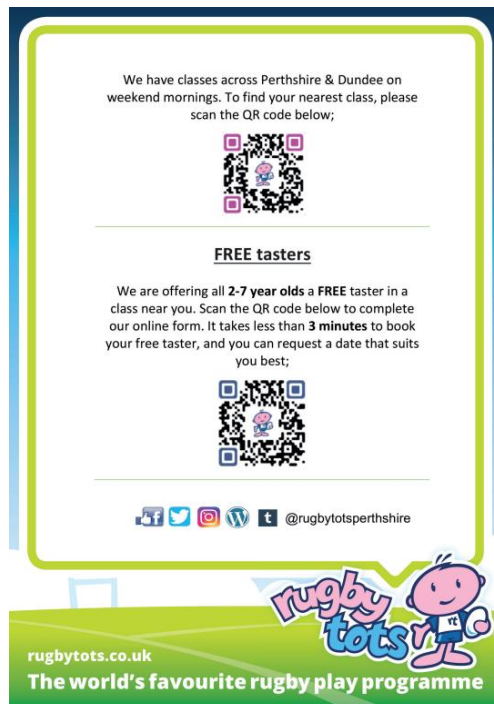
AS SEEN ON 

MAKE YOUR CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT MORE FUN!
TRY RUGBYTOTS


Our dynamic weekly play sessions enable **boys and girls aged 2-7** to develop their social and physical skills in a fun, positive environment. For more details, just call or email.

0345 313 0288
samaan@rugbytots.co.uk


rugbytots.co.uk
The world's favourite rugby play programme





We have classes across Perthshire & Dundee on weekend mornings. To find your nearest class, please scan the QR code below;




FREE tasters

We are offering all **2-7 year olds** a **FREE** taster in a class near you. Scan the QR code below to complete our online form. It takes less than **3 minutes** to book your free taster, and you can request a date that suits you best;



 @rugbytotsperthshire


rugbytots.co.uk
The world's favourite rugby play programme

Daffodil Coffee Morning Dunbarney Church Hall Sat 23 March 10-11.30am

MINIATURE EASTER GARDEN COMPETITION

for Nursery / P.1-3 / P.4-7

Create your garden in an empty biscuit tin, sweetie tub or bowl.

Make sure you have

- Minimum of 3 living plants ie with roots
 - Decorate with moss, stones etc
- Bring it along on the day between 9 and 9.45am to the church hall
 - Write your name, age and age category on a piece of paper
 - Small prize for every entry!!! 😊

Further information from Avril - a.f.fulton@icloud.com



A small, friendly club for adults and kids of all tennis abilities.

Easter Tennis Week for Children 2024

Nb 4days

Tuesday 2nd April-Friday 5th April 2024.

10am-11.00am age 5-7yrs

(£20 members, £24 non-members)

11.00-12.30pm age 8-11yrs

(£30 members, £36 non-members)

Children's Tennis in April 2024

Starting Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th April

for 8 weeks

4-5pm age 5-7yrs

5-6 pm age8-11yrs

(£40 members, £48 non-members)

Coach- Zoe Gulson, LTA level 3 registered coach

Book places: email bridgeofearntennisclub@gmail.com



FYI Summer Kids sessions 8-12th July



THE FALDO FUTURES

Developing Tomorrows Champions

JUNIOR COMPETITION FOR 7 TO 12 YEAR OLDS



Kingussie Golf Club is a Host Venue for a Faldo Futures Qualifying Event. Open to new and existing junior golfers aged 7 to 12 years old.

No handicap required!



Played over a shortened 9-hole course

Divisions: Girls & Boys
7-8 Years Old
9-10 Years Old
11-12 Years Old

Top 2 & ties from each category advance to the Regional Finals in the May half-term

National Final to be held at The Belfry in August, the week of The British Masters



Competition Details

Date: Thursday 4th April 2024 || **NO ENTRY FEE**
Location: Kingussie Golf Club
Tee Times: From 11:00 AM
Free Coaching Available On The Day

Visit The Faldo Futures Website To Enter!

Scan To Enter



Our Partners:



www.faldoseries.com/the-faldo-futures
series@nickfaldo.com
The Faldo Trust For Tomorrow's Champions
Company Number - 3295676
Charity Number - 1102719

Peanut Allergies

Please remember we are a peanut free school. Please consider this when providing your children with snacks or packed lunches.




Free School Meals & Uniform Vouchers


Please note the following:-

Applications for free school meals and assistance with school clothing/ footwear for school session 2023/24 opens from 1 July 2023. Parents will be able to complete the form online **on or after** 1 July 2023 here - [Free school meals and school clothing grants - primary and secondary - Perth & Kinross Council \(pkc.gov.uk\)](#)

Applications should be made for children in P1-P5 to obtain the school clothing grant. Applications are required for pupils in P6 and P7 to obtain free school meals and the school clothing grant.

Tayside School Contracts

 Let your kids choose their favourite dish!

Check out our menu  [tc-document \(tayside-contracts.co.uk\)](https://tayside-contracts.co.uk)

and our Nutrition and Allergen Webpage

 Lower Primary [Home - Tayside Contracts - tcprimaryad \(mysaffronportal.com\)](https://mysaffronportal.com/tcprimaryad)

 Upper Primary [Home - Tayside Contracts - tcprimary \(mysaffronportal.com\)](https://mysaffronportal.com/tcprimary)

Severe Weather

Let's hope our weather is set to improve but we still need to be prepared for the weather changing for the worse and possibly impacting school opening and closing.

Please keep these details somewhere handy for future reference.

Should there be severe weather prior to the start of a school day, our school group call text will contact you, our Dunbarney Parent Council and School Facebook page and our X feed will be updated and will intimate any school closure as soon as this information has been decided. In addition to this, information regarding emergency closure due to snow or flooding will also be available from the following sources: *(It is important to note that Radio Tay will be used in all instances and that this should be the main source of information. The other information services will only be updated in the event that the severe weather is widespread and is not a localised situation.)*

The information sources are as follows:

➤ **Radio Tay** (used in all instances)

Frequency	AM 1584	FM 96.4	-	Perth only
Frequency	AM 1161	FM 102.8	-	Everywhere else

- **PKC X and Facebook** – www.pkc.gov.uk/socialmedia
- **Dunbarney School X and Dunbarney Parent Council and School Facebook page** (see above)
- **PKC Website** – www.pkc.gov.uk Closures will be **will be flagged up on the** Home page, or alternatively access the information on <http://www.pkc.gov.uk/Schoolclosures>
- **Perth and Kinross Council Customer Service Centre**
(Available from 08:45 hours to 17:00 hours Monday – Friday)

Parents/Carers should dial 01738 475000. Calls are charged at the local rate.

Remote Learning will take place for all classes via Seesaw if there is a severe weather school closure

School Closure during the School Day

Should the children already be in school and the weather conditions worsen the school will always remain open. Parents may make the decision to collect their child/ren from school early and should come to the School Office if this is their intention. You are the best judge when deciding whether or not weather conditions are likely to cause difficulty or danger for your children returning home.

In the unusual event of the school having to close during school hours, the school office will communicate this to parents/carers by text, email and our online social media accounts. Parents should then come to the School Office to collect their child/ren. No child will be sent home to an empty house. The school will not close until the last pupil and staff member has left it.

Entrance to School

As with previous years we will have one entrance and exit into the building kept clear during severe weather conditions. Our Janitor will attempt to keep a path along the length of the playground clear but if weather is severe all pupils should enter and exit from the main school reception entrance on the main street. A member of the Senior Management Team will be at this door. **All other gates will be open but paths not cleared.** Please take care if weather is icy as our paths can be extremely slippery.

Parents of nursery children should take extreme care when crossing the playground during icy/severe weather.

Staff Car Park during Periods of Extreme Weather

As at all times of the school year the use of the staff car park for parent parking is not permitted. Snow clearing and emergency vehicles require access at all times. Parents must not park in this area as it is restricted to staff only. Please adhere to these rules to keep all service users safe.

Please note it is permitted for parents and carers to use the car park after school hours (3:45 p.m.) for pick up from clubs etc.

Suitable Clothing

Over the coming months we are unsure how or what the weather may do and would like to take this opportunity to remind all pupils that they should come to school suitably dressed for the weather. The children will have every opportunity to go outside and play but this may be limited depending on the safety of the playground. Playground staff will assess the playground on a daily basis and determine the activities suitable.

Diary Dates

<u>Event Dates</u>		
Inservice Day 5	Monday 15 April	School closed to children
PGDE Student - P7 Placement	Monday 15 April – 24 May	Welcome Miss L Smith
P3/4 Trip to Dynamic Earth	Wednesday 17 April	All school day
Bertha Park Pastoral Visit to P7 class	Wednesday 17 April	11-12noon
P1 Bakery – open afternoon for parents	Friday 19 April	Info tbc on SeeSaw ASAP 2-3pm The children will be running their own bakery for family visitors
P3/4 and P4/5 Tennis block begins	Wednesday 24 April -15 May	During school day
Pupil Council Meeting 6 of 7	Friday 3 May	9.50-10.30am staff room
Occasional Holiday	Monday 6 May	School Closed all day
Nursery's Assembly	Friday 10 May	School 9.50-10.30am
Class-Group photos only today	Monday 13 May	Shoot Bamboo Photography
BeatBox Music rehearsals P7	Monday 21 June, 27 June, 3 May	Mornings
P5 Class Assembly	Friday 24 May	School 9.50 -10.30am
School Sports Afternoon	Monday 27 May	Victory Park 1.15-3.15 approx
SeeSaw app shut-down	Friday 31 May	Last day of platform use across PKC
New P1 Parent Information & Induction Event	Thursday 6 June	Afternoon – times tbc Invited to Strawberry Tea afterwards
Parent Council Strawberry Tea	Thursday 6 June	3pm -4.30pm
P7 Induction Days at Park High School	Thursday 6 June & Friday 7 June	All school day at BPHS
P7 Leaver's Show	Friday 14 June (PM)	Time tbc – in school
Parent Council Scotland Themed Fundraiser Event	Friday 14 June Evening Event	Timing & Venue tbc from Parent Council (looking like B.o.E Institute)
P7 Residential Trip - Newtonmore	Monday 17 June -Friday 21 June	Emails to follow – accompanied by Miss Menzies(CT), Miss Kelly(HT) and Miss Bowden(PSA)tbc
PKC County Sports Finals	Tuesday 18 June	tbc
End of Term Summer Service	Thursday 27 June	11am - in school as church closed
School closes for Summer	Thursday 27 June	12 noon
First Day of Summer Holidays	Friday 28 June	
Thursday 21 March and Tuesday 26 March 2024 – Parent Contact Dates		

Please note that information for each event will be shared with parents / carers closer to the date. We have assemblies in school most Friday mornings, this year each class will host an assembly to share their learning.

- **Nursery Class Assembly Friday 10 May 9.50-10.30 am – Parents/carers welcome to attend – 1 visitor per child max. (hall capacity)**
- **P5 Class Assembly Friday 24 may 9.50-10.30 am – Parents/carers welcome to attend – 1 visitor per child max. (hall capacity)**
- **P7 Special Leavers Show/Assembly PM (time tbc) - Friday 14 June 2024 (this will be a special celebration for P7 and their families) with 2 guests invited per P7 pupil**
- **End of term Summer Service in school as church closed for refurbishment. Thursday 27 June. Parents/carers of P7 only are welcome to attend – 1 visitor per child max. (hall capacity). Final farewell message to P7 leavers**

HONESTY

AMBITION

Be Your Best Self

RESPECT

KINDNESS