



# October 2022 Newsletter - Allaway Primary

## The end of the first term

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe that we are nearly at the end of our first term back. Our children are in really good routines now and we thank everyone for your support with this. We have really enjoyed welcoming parents back into school and have enjoyed open afternoon as well as some parental workshops. Classrooms are busy places where learning is explored and children are encouraged to grow in independence. We have enjoyed visitors to the school and look forward to welcoming more. Primary 5 children have been enjoying their weekly swimming lessons and it is good to see our extra curricular clubs starting again. Our Active Schools co-ordinator, Caitlyn has been absent this term so we hope to see her well and back with us soon.

We received some lovely news this term from Mrs Park, baby Lydia was born in September and we can't wait to meet her. Mrs Gibson brought baby Ruaridh to visit this term and the children loved meeting him. Staff are all working hard to ensure children receive the best experience here at Allaway. As always if you need to speak to a staff member, please phone the office to make an appointment.

I would continue to ask everyone to consider safe parking in and around the school. This is vitally important to ensure the safety for all. It is also important to us to have good relationships with our neighbours so we really appreciate considerate parking around driveways. Please do not park on the pavement or double park. We would also ask people to be vigilant on our pavements so to avoid congestion and ensure our children are safe when walking to school. Our Campus Police officer and

Ayrshire Roads Alliance have been contacted to support. Our Junior Road Safety Officers committee is also looking at ways to promote safe parking.

Children have enjoyed our new school lunch menus. We are getting use to everyone being back in the dinner hall and the children are enjoying the choice in the menu again. We would really appreciate it if parents and carers in Primary 6 and 7 could keep their child's lunch account topped up. At the moment we are using IPay but will be moving as a local authority to Parent Pay during this session. More information will follow.

Our P7 house captain elections were very successful. We were impressed with how P7 all prepared and planned their very own elections. We were grateful to South Ayrshire Council for lending us their ballot boxes and voting booths. Well done Primary 7 and congratulations to our house captains. I look forward to working with them across the session.

Our house captains this year are:

Rozelle – Lee and Summer

Culzean – Maisie and Owen

Greenan – Louie and Mia

Newark – Daisy and Francis

I hope that you all keep safe and well. Thank you for phoning in any absence to the school office as per our school procedures.

We close for our October holidays on Friday 14th October, with an in-service day on Monday 24th October and the children return on Tuesday 25th October. South Ayrshire Council have granted a holiday on 23rd December to replace the school closure for the Queen's funeral. We will now close on Thursday 22nd December at 2.30pm. Our church service will be held that morning.

Neighbourhood Services – Grounds Maintenance are planning to create a Halloween theme within the footprint of the Old Burns House site (now gardens) and will be delivering pumpkins to the school so classes can carve a pumpkin to be part of this project.

Thank you all for your support so far. We look forward to what the rest of this session has in store.

Yours sincerely,

*Fiona*

Mrs Fiona Meney

Head Teacher

## Dates for your diary



Please note these key diary dates. In some cases we will send out further information.

13th Oct 2022	Open Evening
16th- 21st Oct 2022	HOLIDAY
24th Oct 2022	In-service Day
25th Oct 2022	Pupils return
26th Oct 2022	P1/2 Halloween Party
27th Oct 2022	P3 Halloween Party
28th Oct 2022	Nursery Halloween Party/ P4/5 Halloween Party
31st Oct 2022	P6/7 Halloween Party
3rd Nov 2022	Flu Immunisation
17th Nov 2022	Parents Evening (more information to follow)
18th Nov 2022	Children in Need - Pupil Council organising
12th Dec 2022	Infant Nativity Dress Rehearsal (1pm in church - more information to follow)
13th Dec 2022	Infant Nativity (in church 6.30pm - more information to follow)
14th Dec 2022	Infant Nativity (in church 6.30pm - more information to follow) / Nursery Nativity (in school 2pm)
15th Dec 2022	P1-3 Gaiety /P6 Christmas Party*
16th Dec 2022	P4-7 Gaiety
19th Dec 2022	P1/2 Christmas Party/ P7 Christmas Party - Evening

20th Dec 2022      P3 Christmas Party  
21st Dec 2022      P4/5 Christmas Party  
22nd Dec 2022      Church Service / close 2.30pm\*

\*change of day due to SAC holidays changing

## Harvest Festival



We will be celebrating our Harvest Festival on Friday 14th October in school. We look forward to coming together as a school to mark this occasion. If you are able to, we would ask that children donate to the foodbank. This is what we would normally do at Harvest time. This year some of our upper primary committees will be taking the foodbank donations and making up Harvest bags to give out to our local community. The bags will be available in Alloway Public Library for collection from 24th October for 3 weeks. We would encourage anyone to lift a bag and pass it to someone who would appreciate this. After this time, we will box up any items that are left and donate these to the local foodbank.

We will have our own Harvest service on 14th October in school. All classes will attend, and we look forward to Rev Hume and Rev McNaught attending too. Our orchestra will play as well. Miss Connell who leads the orchestra will stop at the October holidays to start her maternity leave. We look forward to hearing her good news. Miss Anna-Louise Burns will cover for Miss Connell during her maternity leave.

## Curricular Open Evening



On **13th October at 6pm** we will share our learning in the school via the **School Curricular Workshop**. This event is for parents only and will give a general overview of our school priorities and give you a deeper insight into learning at Alloway Primary. There will be a presentation first then the school hall will be set up with learning stalls from every class where teachers will showcase learning at each stage. The evening should last up to 1 1/2 hours. After the presentation coffee and tea will be available from the Parent Council while parents look at the learning stalls.

## Extra Curricular Activities

Our extra-curricular activities are now up and running at lunch/after school and we would like to say a huge thank you to staff and parents who have volunteered to deliver these opportunities. The activities on offer for our pupils include Zumba, football, funky fitness, chess, reading, mindfulness and choir. As the session progresses, more clubs will be offered. We will be working closely with Active Schools and Ayr Rugby Club across the session to provide additional opportunities, and more information will follow.



## School Uniform Recycling

Our Eco Committee have set up a school uniform recycling centre in the Alloway Public Library. We have been learning about reusing and recycling and have dedicated an area in the library to reuse and recycle our school uniform. There is a drop off box for any good quality school uniform to be deposited.

Our Eco Committee will sort this onto rails. Our school community are more than welcome to take uniforms from these rails. Anyone is welcome to use this. Please help yourselves.

Every small change is a step in the right direction.



## Roald Dahl Day



On **Tuesday 13th September 2022**, our school was taken over by Fantastic Mr Fox, Matilda, Miss Trunchbull to name but a few. The children enjoyed learning more about Roald Dahl and we loved getting to know more about his stories. This was a super opportunity for the children to explore the imaginative world captured within these stories.









## Supporting charities



We were delighted to support Childhood Cancer Awareness month in September through marking a Wear it Gold day on **23rd September**. We raised £437.17 for Whiteley's Retreat. We were so pleased to be able to make this contribution to such a worthwhile local charity and one that was so close to the school's heart. This amazing charity helps families across the country and has supported families from our own community. Thank you to everyone who contributed, we are very grateful.

### **Marathon Heroes!**

We were so proud to have our very own marathon heroes. On 2nd October we had a teacher running a marathon at either end of the country! Mrs McLeod smashed the Inverness Marathon and money raised for Whiteley's retreat. We are so proud of her. The money raised will make such a difference to many families who rely on this supportive charity.

At the opposite end of the country Mrs Hopper ran the London Marathon in support of SANDS in memory of her daughter Eva. We are so proud of her too.

Well done to our marathon heroes! Their courage and determination has meant that two charities will benefit from their support. Well done ladies, you are amazing!





## Pupil Voice - School Committees



### **Committees**

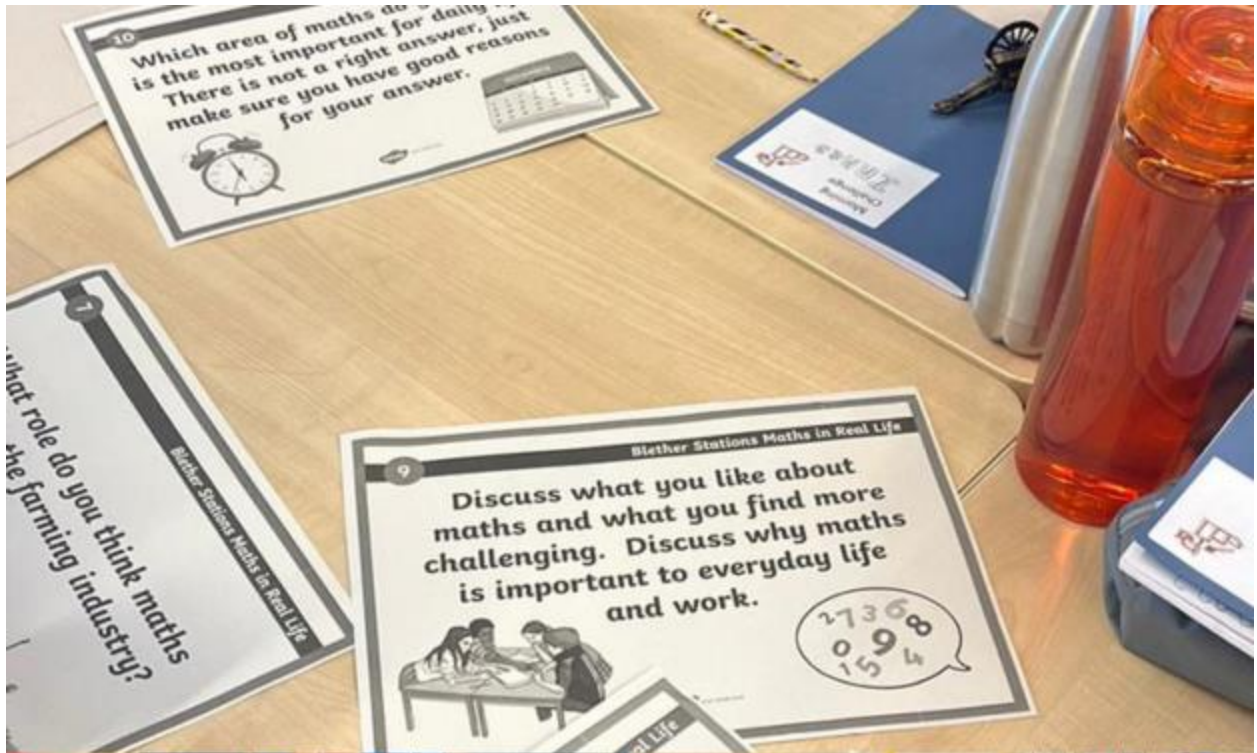
Pupil voice and inclusion is extremely important within our school and every child from P4 to P7 are members of a committee to ensure their voice is heard (Article 12). The children and staff alike were so excited to meet with their committee – this is the first time we would meet in mixed-stage groups since the pandemic. We meet each month, often working alongside other committees to make changes to our school and organise events. There are many committees such as Developing the Young Workforce, Digital Leaders, RRS and Anti-Bullying. P1-3 are also involved as part of the Little People Big Voices group and they often join in with P4-7 committees to have their say. Have a look on our website for a full committee list!

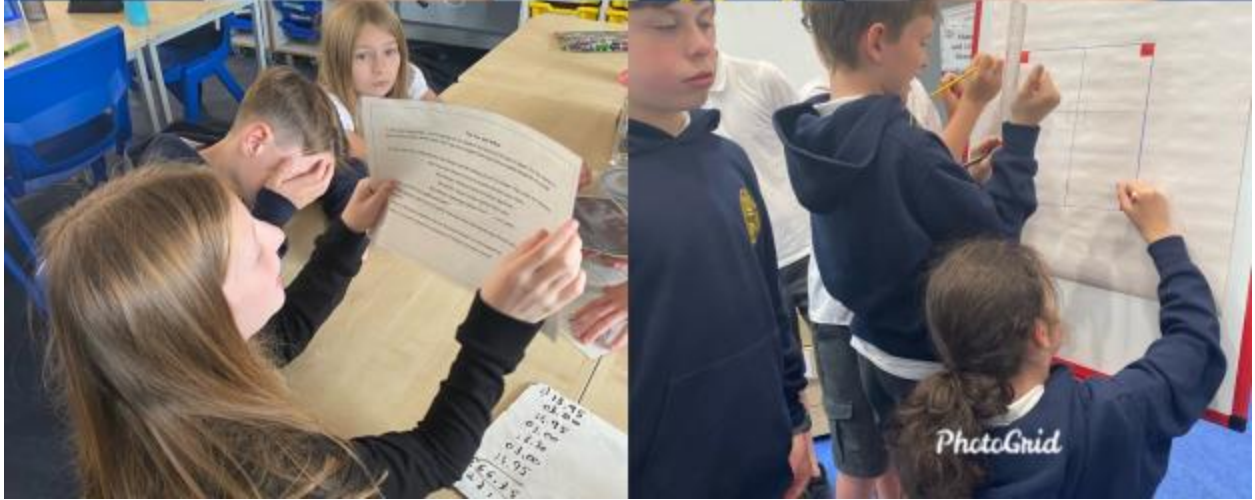
## Maths Week Scotland

### **Maths Week Scotland**

We recently took part in Maths Week Scotland to help promote the importance of maths in our day to day lives. Through the experience the pupils learned to use and develop their numeracy and mathematics skills; establishing the attitudes and mindsets that support maths in the workplace and beyond.

This year's theme was 'The Beauty of Maths' where pupils had opportunities to explore numeracy in nature and explore symmetry and patterns. Our school was bustling with activity, from geometric tiling to beautiful masterpieces made from parabolic curves. A particular highlight for P4 was using smarties to create bar graphs – who knew maths could be so tasty? P1 loved coming to visit their P7 buddies who created games to reinforce number bonds to 10. Our week finished with a celebration of learning where each class brought along something to share at our whole-school assembly.













## Parent Council

Our Parent Council AGM was held on 4th October. Our new officer bearers are Laura Cameron (chair), Catriona Andrews (vice-chair), Claire Campbell (treasurer), Michelle Gass (secretary) and Julie Grant (Fundraising Convener).

We look forward to relaunching our parent council. The parent council are looking for new members who can work with the school in a supportive manner.

The Parent Council is a great opportunity to become more involved and get to know more about your child's school and the environment for learning. It is a separately constituted group who are expected

to work in close partnership with the school and the local authority. The Parent Council works with Head Teacher in partnership to discuss whole school priorities and whole school developments. The Parent Council meetings identify ways of working together to help parents to make the most out of learning opportunities in the home and community. The Parent Council also supports the school through fundraising. Parent Council meetings dates will be sent out soon. These meetings are there to discuss whole school working and Mrs Meney will provide a school update. Any individual matters or matters pertaining to individual pupils should be directed to the class teacher or senior leadership, rather than the Parent Council. We look forward to welcoming parents to join this group. If you would like some more information please contact Laura, Catriona, Michelle or Julie.

[allowayparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:allowayparentcouncil@gmail.com)



## South Ayrshire Council - ASN Parent's Forum

**ASN Family Forum**  
**@ Belmont Academy**  
**Thursday 13 October**  
**6.30pm—8pm**

**Supporting your child at home**

The evening will consist of two 45 minute sessions, one for Literacy and one for Numeracy. We will share tips and strategies to support your child at home.

**Literacy**—this parent session will focus on strategies to help you support your child in their reading and writing development. We will also talk about ways to help build confidence in your child's literacy learning and for parents of older children, there will be discussion around study strategies too.

**Numeracy**—this parent session will look at how to support your child to develop their conceptual understanding of maths. We will look at the most effective ways to support your child with numeracy work at home.

*This event is open to all parents and carers of young people with an additional support need (no diagnosis is necessary).*

To book a place at this event, email  
[Fiona.priestnall@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Fiona.priestnall@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)



## School Meals and Clothing Grant

Free school meals and clothing grant - South Ayrshire Council ([south-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://south-ayrshire.gov.uk))<sup>1</sup>

Click above for further information about applying for a free school meal or clothing grant.

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<sup>1</sup><https://south-ayrshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

A love for learning!









GREENAMITE  
★ Harrower ★  
2022  
2023  
★ Vote Louie FOR House ★ Captain

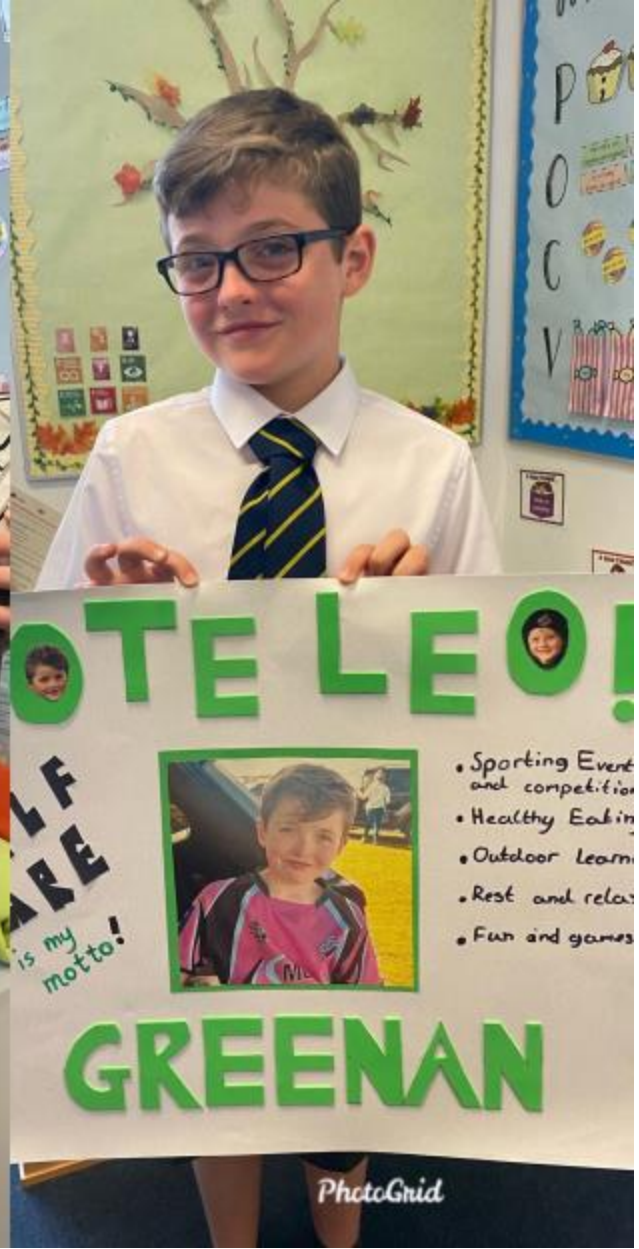


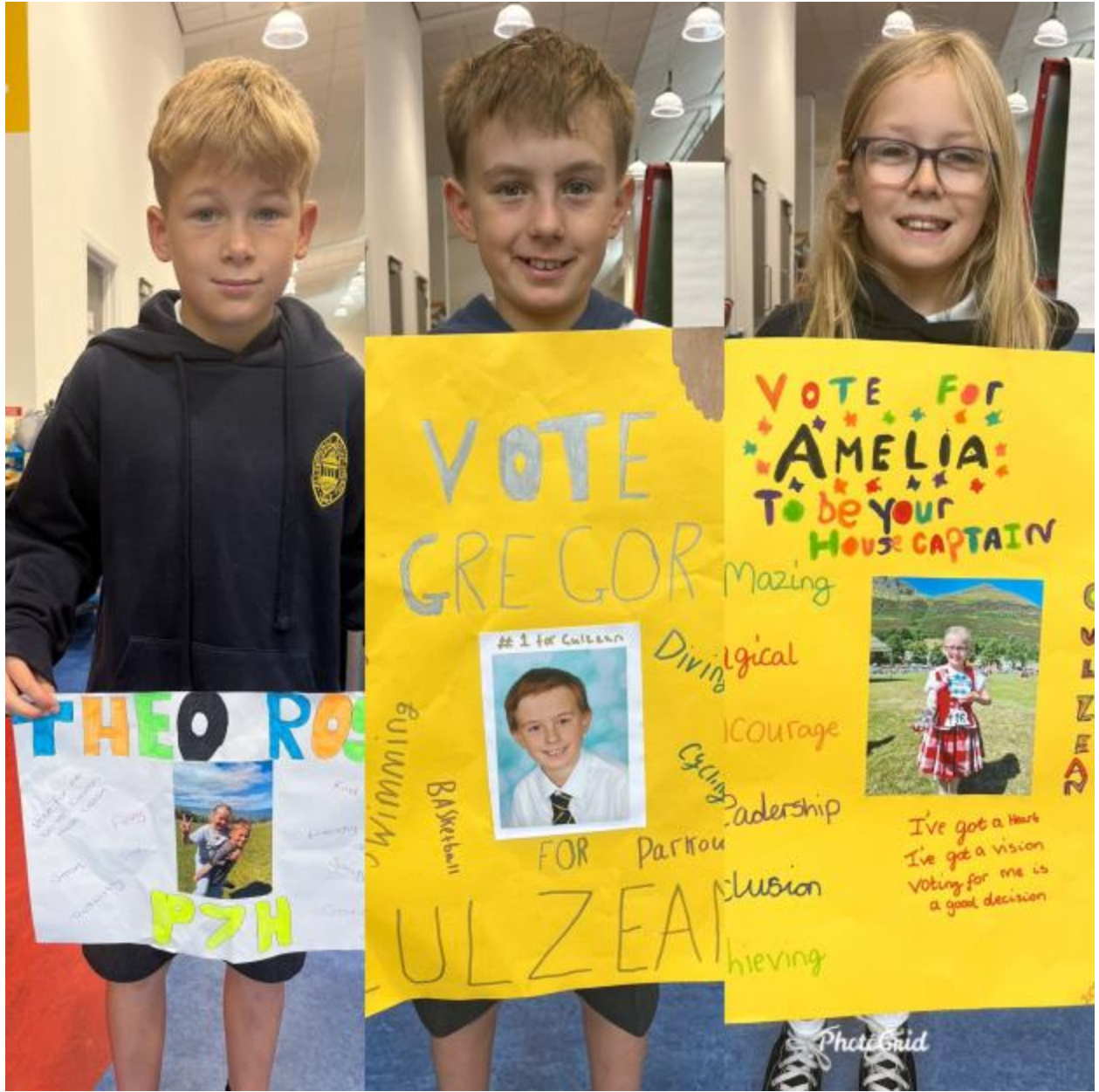
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VOTE FOR  
Mia  
FOR House C  
GO GREEN

Be Happy  
positive







THEO ROSE  
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VOTE  
GREGOR

#1 for Captain



Swimming  
Basketball

FOR PARTROW

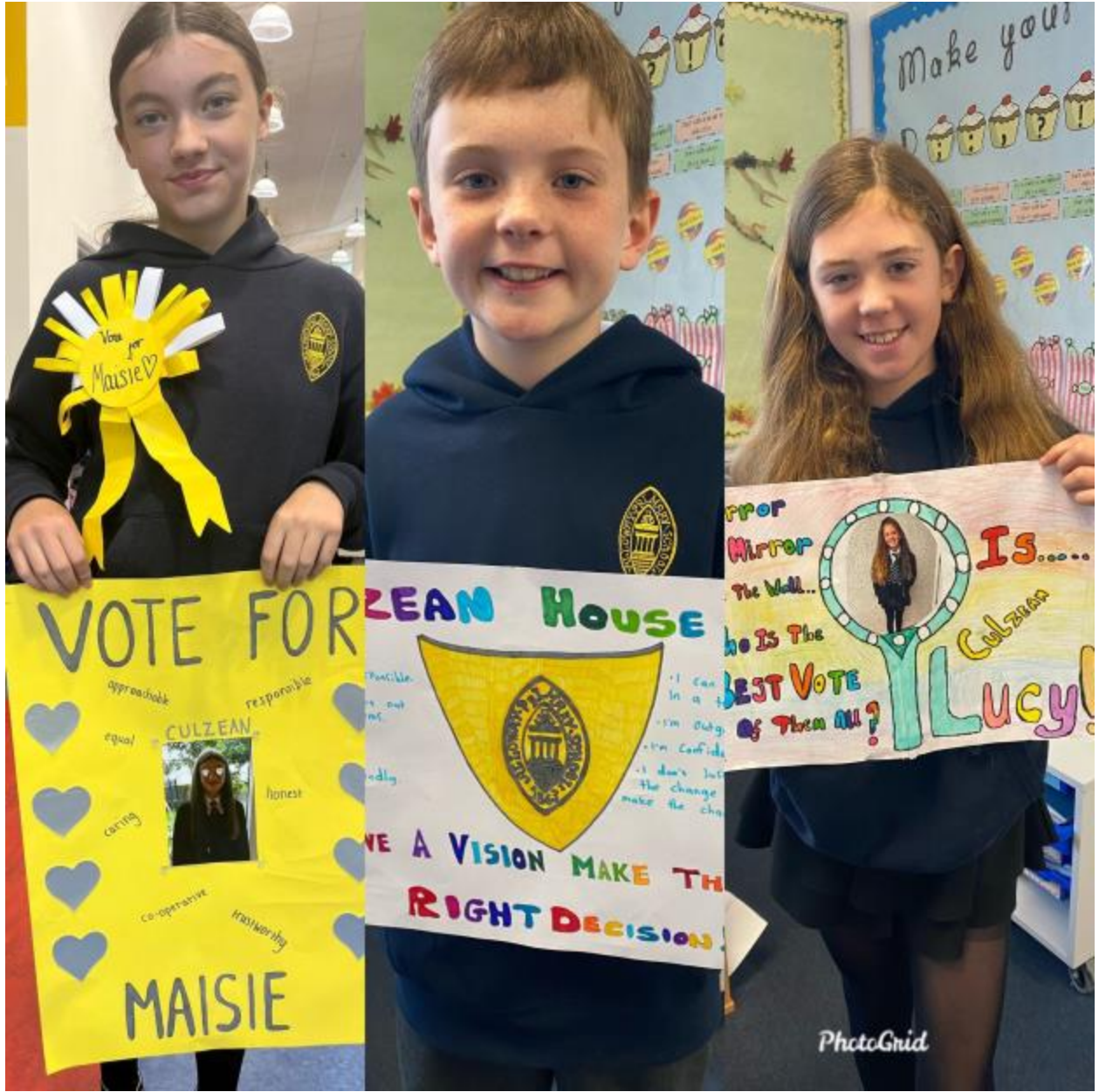
ULZEAN

VOTE FOR  
AMELIA  
To be your  
HOUSE CAPTAIN



I've got a heart  
I've got a vision  
Voting for me is  
a good decision

PhotoGrid



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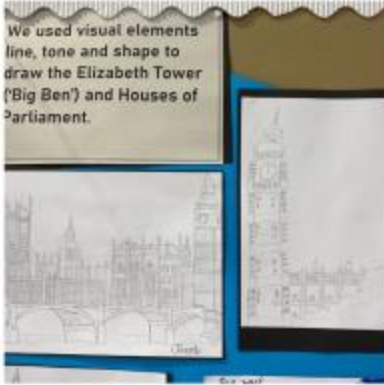
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**Landmark Light Shows**

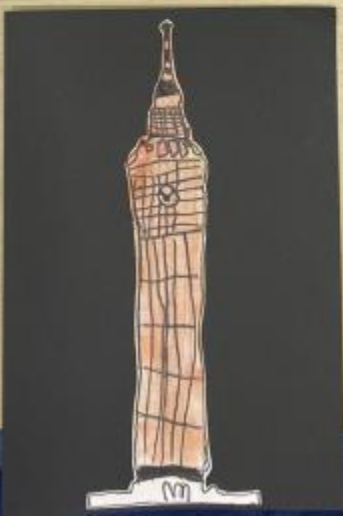
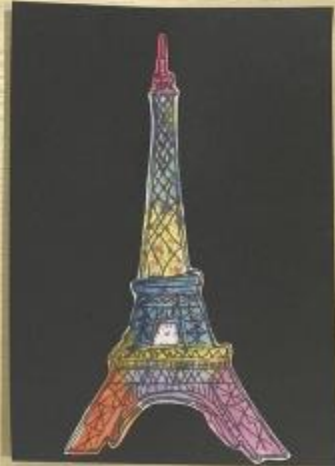


As part of our World's Fair exhibit, we featured a series of watercolor light shows that we hope you'll enjoy. These landmarks around the world are here to inspire you and to create the atmosphere of a light show. From the watercolor light shows with watercolor, we've had an artwork with a light show in mind to help you before starting in a light show to represent the light show.

Artist: [Name] - [Year]

Jessica







PLEASE help yourself  
To some Juicy delicious  
apples from our  
eco garden orchard

JUICY  
APPLES

Please help yourself  
to some delicious  
apples from our  
Eco Garden orchard

JUICY  
APPLES



## Communication

Our school website<sup>2</sup> and Twitter<sup>3</sup> pages are both regularly updated. These are really quick and easy ways to keep up to date with school life.

Newsletters also help you keep up to date and our Blog is also very current.

Class teachers have offered use of the Seesaw app also. Staff will issue some class information using the Seesaw communication app. This is only in use from 8.30-4.30pm and we would ask that parents do not post out with these times. Staff will only respond during working hours.

We continue to use the Expressions App for communication, and we will regularly email you, but we do depend on you supplying us with the correct, up to date contact details and numbers.

We are a Rights Respecting School and do not appreciate discussions around any of our children, staff or parents on any social media platforms.

We do **not** have a Facebook Page.

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<sup>2</sup><https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/sa/allowaypsandeyc/>

<sup>3</sup><https://twitter.com/AllowayPrimary>

We ask that photos and videos posted on any of our digital platforms are not shared.

