

Baltasound Junior High School

Newsletter - October 2021

A *Peerie School Big Dreams* Newsletter for EVERYONE!



SCHOOL UPDATE

As we approach the last week of term, this provides a good opportunity to share a BJHS snapshot with parents and the community.

This term has seen a bit of disruption with self-isolation and COVID-19 testing across many families and staff. This, combined with a local stomach bug, has led to some creative staffing arrangements and alternative timetables; although it now looks like this has settled down before the holidays. This is a good reminder for us all to keep up our hand sanitising, the wearing of face coverings and making the best use of our outdoor space to prevent viruses and bugs from spreading - especially as we head into the winter months.

Our School Improvement Plan for the session is now available on our school website which details our priorities going forward. These are shown in the diagram below.

**RAISING
ATTAINMENT IN
LITERACY (WRITING)**

**OUTDOOR AND PLAY
BASED LEARNING**

**RECOVERY &
RESILIENCE**

Our school working groups are in place now to take these forward where we will look at excellent practice in other schools, possible training opportunities for staff, national research/guidance and what our pupils would like to see. We would love for parents and members of the community to be part of these working groups - if you would like to be part of this or contribute in any way to one of these priorities, then please contact the school.

Mr P. Thomson (Head Teacher)

PARENT COUNCIL

We are in the process of forming our new Parent Council and our AGM, for new members to join, is on Wednesday 6th October @ 6pm. The meeting is online - the link will be emailed out to all parents and on our Facebook page.

This is your chance to be part of the team who help improve **our** school - working together so our **peerie school** makes **big dreams** come true.

TERM DATES

OCTOBER HOLIDAYS: MON 11th OCT - TUE 26th OCT (first day back Wed 27th Oct)

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS: WED 22nd DEC - WED 5th JAN (first day back Thu 6th Jan)

EASTER HOLIDAYS: MON 4th APR - MON 18th APR (first day back Tue 19th Apr)

SUMMER HOLIDAYS: MON 4th JUL (last day on Fri 1st July)

OCCASIONAL HOLIDAYS: FRI 25th FEB, MON 28th FEB, FRI 3rd JUN (Queen's Platinum Jubilee) + 1 additional day to be set by the BJHS Parent Council at our AGM.

BJHS VALUES: READY | RESPECTFUL | SAFE

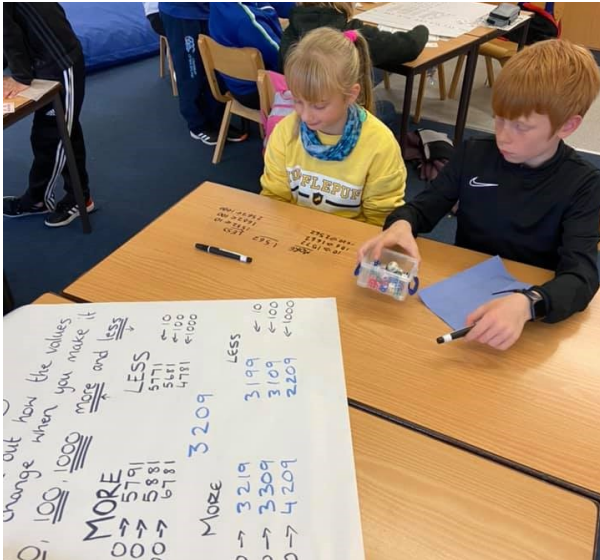
EARLY YEARS

Our super active EY pupils and staff have been busy learning about boats (it's never a poor weather day in EY!), making pizza with our home grown tomatoes, making loose part funny faces and lots more...



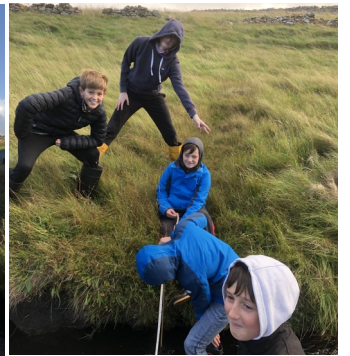
PRIMARY

Even though we are only 6 weeks back, our Primary is in full swing with learning about making dens, human growth and development, numbers and place value (including Maths Week activities) and Talk 4 Writing activities (ask about the Unicorn poo at the front door!).



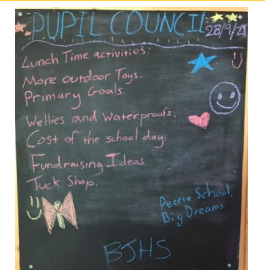
SECONDARY

Our S1 and S2 class shared an Internet Safety presentation on our school Facebook page - with the pupils describing the different apps they use, the benefits of using them, the dangers that may arise and what to do if you feel unsure or upset online. They have also been busy completing SHANARRI audits to gauge our health and wellbeing and even finding time for a river field trip to the Alma burn.



PUPIL COUNCIL

Our new Pupil Council has formed, assigned roles and responsibilities and started looking at school improvements - our pupils taking an active role in improving **our** school. They have been discussing how much a school day costs and how we can improve our outdoor areas.



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